

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
701 E. BROADWAY, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI  
NOVEMBER 17, 2014**

**INTRODUCTORY**

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the roll was taken with the following results: Council Members MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER and HOPPE were present. The City Manager, City Counselor, City Clerk, Deputy City Clerk and various Department Heads were also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mayor McDavid explained the November 3, 2014 regular meeting minutes needed to be changed to read “The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 3, 2014, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri” instead of October 20, 2014.

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 3, 2014 was unanimously approved with the date change noted by Mayor McDavid by voice vote on a motion by Ms. Nauser and a second by Mr. Skala.

**APPROVAL AND ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA INCLUDING CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Nauser asked that B335-14 and B339-14 be moved from the consent agenda to old business.

Mr. Thomas asked that B334-14 be moved from the consent agenda to old business.

The agenda, including the consent agenda with B334-14, B335-14 and B339-14 being moved to old business, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Ms. Nauser and a second by Mr. Skala.

**SPECIAL ITEMS**

None.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Mayor McDavid asked staff to readvertise the Tax Increment Financing Commission vacancies.

Upon receiving the majority vote of the Council, the following individuals were appointed to the following Boards and Commissions.

**DISABILITIES COMMISSION**

Richards, Kirsten, 304 W. Texas Avenue, Ward 2, Term to expire June 15, 2016

**DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

Wilson, Scott, 101 S. Fifth Street, Apt. 6, Ward 1, Term to expire May 1, 2017

**MAYOR’S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND HEALTH**

Kloeppel, Terry, 111 W. Alhambra Drive, Ward 5, Term to expire November 30, 2017

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Kohlberg, Nicholas, 803 E. Green Meadows Road, Apt. 207, Ward 6, Term to expire October 31, 2017

**SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Paul Prevo – Mayor’s Task Force on Community Violence recommendations.**

Mr. Prevo noted the Council unanimously passed R149-13 on August 5, 2013, which established the Mayor’s Task Force on Community Violence, and explained the purpose of the Task Force was to address violence in the short- and long-term in the City of Columbia. Although violence and property crime were down, several high profile cases prompted the establishment of this Task Force. Over the last 15 months, the members of the Task Force had met with different organizations, such as the Columbia Public Schools, the Columbia Police Department, and private organizations and companies within Columbia, to try to get a grasp on local conditions. The Task Force had determined 12 local conditions contributed to crime, and those included drugs and alcohol, the negative perception of police by the community, the lack of economic opportunity as it led to lack of hope, the need for adult basic education, the lack of job skills by most perpetrators, the lack of quality early childhood education, the fact gangs existed in Columbia, the fact most perpetrators were men in their 20s, the fact most homicides involved conflicts between people who knew each other, anti-social attitudes around respect and justice, not instilling pro-social attitudes and values and the ability to obtain basic educational skills in children, and the fact a majority of violent offenders had previous and often extensive criminal histories. He pointed out they had reviewed national studies as well as programs in cities that were attempting to reduce crime, such as Kansas City. He thought Columbia was unique in its attempt to tackle a major issue like crime in this manner. The Task Force’s vision for crime reduction involved prevention, intervention, enforcement, and re-entry, and the members attempted to learn about programs that were currently available and where there were gaps. He noted the Task Force held three public forums as listening sessions in September that focused on the community at-large, parents and caregivers, and the youth, and the feedback from those forums weighed heavily on their recommendations. He pointed out Columbia was fortunate to have many programs that addressed parenting skills, early childhood education, and job training, and the Task Force saw a need for greater coordination and awareness of these programs as it could greatly reduce violence. Many organizations that presented to the Task Force had indicated their greatest challenge was making people who would benefit from their programs aware of their existence. He noted there was also a clear need to create youth facilities, train people, provide safe places and trusting people to turn to, and engage in community building programs that appealed to the youth. The facilities and people needed to be reflective of the community’s diversity so everyone felt comfortable and welcomed. He commented that trust between the community and law enforcement agencies was a clear theme throughout the process, and while the Task Force agreed the Columbia Police Department was headed in

the right direction, there was still work to do to build trust, especially within the African-American community. The Task Force agreed with the Columbia Police Department's push for more officers to pursue community policing, but emphasized greater cultural competency training would be needed to make community policing an effective tool in reducing violence. He pointed out about 40 ex-offenders returned to Boone County each month, and about 20 percent of those ex-offenders were violent offenders, who were considered to be at high-risk for future violent behaviors. A higher level of accountability for the highest risk offenders combined with greater access to support and resources could reduce the likelihood of those ex-offenders re-offending. He noted the Task Force's report included their 26 recommendations, responses from the public forums, and the information and resources they used to formulate the recommendations. He stated the Task Force had decided to continue to meet on a regular basis autonomously in order to monitor the progress of their recommendations and to be an ongoing resource for the City Council. They hoped more members of the community would join their efforts to reduce crime and continue to make Columbia one of the best places to live.

Mayor McDavid thanked Mr. Prevo and the other Task Force members for their time and commitment to this effort.

**Chris Haynes – Additional support for the Missouri High Steppers.**

Mr. Haynes commented that the Missouri High Steppers currently had no place to practice or support, and thought the community needed to ensure they had a place to practice. He noted he was a product of the Missouri High Steppers and had needed them to help him change. He believed the more opportunity young kids in the community had in terms of things to do, the more they would achieve. He stated the person that ran the Missouri High Steppers was a father figure and role model that pushed them to succeed. He pointed out he believed everyone that had been involved in the drill team when he was on it were doing something positive today. The Missouri High Steppers provided entertainment to the public and helped children by keeping them out of trouble. He hoped the Council would assist in finding the Missouri High Steppers a place to call home.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**B338-14 Authorizing construction of improvements at the Lake of the Woods Recreation Area to include a prefabricated shelter, concrete patio extension, connecting walkways, maintenance drive and additional golf cart parking adjacent to the golf course clubhouse; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.**

The bill was given second reading by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Griggs provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid opened the public hearing.

There being no comment, Mayor McDavid closed the public hearing.

Mayor McDavid commented that he thought the public should know this was user fee-supported, and not taxpayer-supported. He believed this was an excellent use of operational funds and commended staff in its management.

Mr. Skala commented that he believed this was a jewel in the community, and was supportive of this project.

Mr. Trapp stated he liked the fact they had changed the plans per comments to better meet the needs of those who were more aware of the needs. He noted had had welcomed a golf tournament at this course in the past and could see the economic impact it created as people came from all over the State and stayed in hotels and enjoyed restaurants and other amenities. He appreciated the Parks and Recreation Department for helping out in that front as well.

B338-14 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**(A) Construction of sidewalk improvements on the east side of Bernadette Drive between Ash Street and Tiger Lane.**

Item A was read by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid opened the public hearing.

Dawn Zeterberg, 608 Hunt Avenue, commented that she lived in the area and the sidewalk was needed. She noted she knew a guy whose wheelchair had turned over because he could not get on a sidewalk, and felt it was about time these improvements were made.

There being no further comment, Mayor McDavid closed the public hearing.

Mayor McDavid stated he was embarrassed there was not already a sidewalk in front of this City-owned property in a residential neighborhood. The City demanded people to build sidewalks in front of their homes even when it was difficult, so he agreed it was time this project was completed.

Mr. Thomas stated he agreed with Mayor McDavid. He thought this was a great example of the ordinance working that required a sidewalk to be built where one did not exist when there was a new building or major improvements. He believed there were about 600 miles of absent sidewalks within the City, and they were filling in some of the gaps, but they would likely never fill all of the gaps at the current rate at which they were moving. He understood there might not be a need to fill a gap on a low traffic street, but this was an area in which they wanted to fill the gap because it included a lot of pedestrian generators and destinations.

Ms. Nauser asked for clarification regarding the enterprise funds. Mr. Glascock replied the revenue for a utility was generated by the fees charged to ratepayers, and in this case, the funds were from the water utility ratepayers. Ms. Nauser understood these were some of the reserves accumulated within the utility for these types of projects. Mr. Johnsen explained this was part of a 2009 project, but it had been held off in order to coordinate with the widening of Stadium Boulevard. He noted the City had bid this project out and did not like the cost estimate so the Public Works staff had volunteered to complete it.

Ms. Chadwick made a motion directing staff to proceed with plans and specifications for the construction of sidewalk improvements on the east side of Bernadette Drive, between Ash Street and Tiger Lane. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**R198-14 Authorizing the Finance Director to write off certain uncollectible receivables.**

The resolution was read by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Matthes provided a staff report and recommended the Council withdraw the resolution.

Mayor McDavid made a motion to withdraw R198-14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp.

Mayor McDavid commented that he did not believe a lot of bills went unpaid as the numbers were low compared to the amount of revenue. Mr. Matthes stated that was true, and was a reason it tended to fall off of the priority list. It was a part of the City's fiduciary duties to write-off bad debt, but the level of detail that had been asked for was not yet ready. Mayor McDavid understood this would come back to Council at a later time. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct, and explained it would likely come back after the holidays, possibly in February.

Ms. Chadwick noted this involved \$500,000 and asked for the time period associated with these write-offs. Mr. Matthes replied it involved a number of years, and that information would be provided when this came back to Council. Ms. Chadwick commented that she wanted a commitment of February or March for this to be brought back with the necessary detail.

Mr. Skala understood some of these debts that were difficult to collect would continue to be increasingly expensive to collect because they would involve tracking people down. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. Mr. Skala understood this was across the board for all kinds of debt. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct.

Ms. Hoppe understood these uncollectibles would be broken down into categories and the Council would be provided amounts and what, if anything, had been done to collect the money. Mr. Matthes stated that was correct. He noted the age of the debt would also be included.

Mr. Thomas asked why the annual amounts were only a few thousand dollars until 2007 and were \$200,000 and \$300,000 in 2008 and 2009, respectively. Mr. Matthes replied he sensed it was due to a catch-up period and that there had likely been more out there. He noted that detailed information would be provided when this came back to Council. Ms. Chadwick understood some uncollectibles might have already been written off.

The motion made by Mayor McDavid and seconded by Mr. Trapp to withdraw R198-14 was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**B325-14 Granting a variance from the Subdivision Regulations regarding construction of a sidewalk along a portion of the east side of Greenwood Avenue (500 S. Greenwood Avenue).**

The bill was given third reading by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Teddy provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid asked when this street was improved. Mr. Teddy replied he did not know. Mayor McDavid stated he was surprised they would spend money to improve a street

without installing a sidewalk given the City's emphasis on sidewalks. He assumed this was a quiet residential area with a lot of pedestrian traffic. Mr. Teddy explained it might have been considered, and there could have been a cost or neighborhood factor involved.

Ms. Chadwick understood this was a central city street. Mr. Teddy stated he would consider it to be a central city street. Ms. Hoppe noted it was in the Historic Old Southwest neighborhood and assumed they likely looked at the historic nature of the area and the number of trees that might be affected.

Mr. Thomas asked for the staff recommendation. Mr. Teddy replied staff recommended denial of the variance because it did not meet the criteria in the subdivision ordinance for granting a variance. They did not feel there was anything unique to this property that would prohibit it from complying. With that said, he noted he did not believe a sidewalk system would be built on the street through subdivision alone because it was a mature area. Mr. Thomas understood there was an initial indication that staff supported the variance request. Mr. Teddy explained the individual that issue the right-of-way permit indicated support of the variance, but he had referred to the variance criteria in the policy resolution for unimproved streets. He apologized for the confusion and noted staff should not have sent a mixed message to the applicant.

Ms. Chadwick commented that the ordinance was established because the City believed sidewalks were necessary, and was concerned about the granting of some of the variances. She wondered if the ordinance could be changed to accommodate what they were trying to accomplish. Mr. Teddy stated he thought situations of incremental re-subdivision and infill construction could be added to the ordinance. He noted the City had 300 linear miles of streets without sidewalks so this issue would come up again, and pointed out the granting of a variance did not prevent the City from issuing a tax bill at a later date.

Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Teddy if he had a sense of the percentage of arterial and collector streets involved in the 300 linear miles of streets without sidewalks. Mr. Teddy replied he did not, but thought most would likely involve local streets.

Mr. Skala understood the future relief for situations such as this was taxbilling. Mr. Teddy stated it would either be from tax bills or street reconstruction. He noted he was not sure when this street would be due for reconstruction, but a design process likely involving sidewalks would be done. Mr. Matthes pointed out staff was looking into this issue further, and would bring it to Council at a future work session.

Mary Beck, 716 W. Broadway, provided a handout and explained she and her husband purchased the lot on Greenwood in the summer of 2013 to build the retirement home. As they contemplated the design of their house, they were fully committed to ensuring their home fit into the historic neighborhood, and this included the request for the sidewalk variance. She noted every existing lot on Greenwood Avenue, which was approximately one mile long, between Ash Street and Westwinds Drive, had a home and no sidewalk. She stated Terry McDonald, who currently resided at 404 S. Greenwood Avenue and had lived on South Greenwood for 30 years, was in support of the variance request. She read a letter from him, which indicated South Greenwood Avenue had a very low volume of automobile traffic and the neighbors could be seen walking in the streets. He felt the sidewalks would rarely be used if built and would not provide a significant impact to public safety. Ms. Beck

read the e-mail from City staff, which indicated staff would be supportive of a variance, and explained that was a reason this request was before the Council. She noted she and her husband understood the granting of the variance did not affect the power of the Council to later install a sidewalk adjacent to the property by levying a special assessment against the property. She asked the Council to grant the sidewalk variance for this property since there was a mechanism in place for payment when sidewalks were constructed in the entire neighborhood and because approval of the variance would maintain the character of the historic neighborhood.

Mr. Thomas commented that he believed this was a very valuable policy and staff had indicated the conditions in that ordinance did not pertain to this case. He also understood the Council had the power to require the sidewalk to be built at the homeowner's expense at a time when a sidewalk would be completed all of the way along the street. He wondered if there was a way to receive some equity from the homeowner as they were required to build the sidewalk, and redirect revenues to improve the sidewalk network on the nearest arterial or collector street, and asked if that was a possibility. Ms. Thompson replied it was not a possibility to redirect the funds to another piece of property. The City could require payment of the cost, but it had to go into a fund specifically for this piece of property and refunded to the property owner if the sidewalk was not built in a reasonable amount of time. Mr. Thomas understood if they were to make a change to the ordinance to require this, the City would be at risk of being sued. Ms. Thompson stated this property would not be subject to a change in the ordinance since the change was not in effect now. Mr. Thomas asked about future situations. Ms. Thompson replied the sidewalk policy would need to be discussed at a future work session with regard to these other issues. Ms. Chadwick asked if this issue could be tabled until it was discussed at a future work session. Ms. Thompson replied any change would not be applicable to this particular request.

Mr. Skala stated he was not surprised by that opinion since it was the opinion of the former City Counselor as well. He commented that with regard to this particular situation, he was inclined to grant the variance since it would be the only lot with a sidewalk on the street and because they could tax bill in the future.

Ms. Nauser noted this was an older neighborhood and she did not believe they were at the point where some of these homes would be torn down to build newer homes, so she did not foresee a situation where other lots would have sidewalks in the near future. She stated she would support the variance request because it would be an island of concrete at this time and in the near future.

Ms. Hoppe commented that the City's general policy for constructing sidewalks was good in terms of new development and the likelihood of redevelopment. She hoped there would not be redevelopment in this neighborhood for hundreds of years as there were many beautiful and historic homes. She felt this would be a sidewalk to nowhere, and noted the City could tax bill for a sidewalk on this street if it made sense to do so in the future. She stated she was in support of granting the variance.

Mr. Thomas asked the Council to consider the precedent they might set by granting the variance as there would be future requests.

Mayor McDavid commented that he did not like treating neighborhoods differently, especially an affluent neighborhood as the property owners could afford to construct the sidewalks. He also believed that if the sidewalks were a benefit to the people on South Greenwood Avenue, the property owners could install them fairly quickly, but at this time, they did not want them as they were not asking for them to be built, so he would support the variance request.

Mr. Trapp stated he thought the City had a good system as they had a general law that made sense most of the time and had a variance process when it did not make sense. He noted staff had to make a recommendation based upon the narrow confines of law, but the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council could take a wider view. He explained the street was built out with curb and gutters, and there were potentially only two lots that could be subdivided with one being on the opposite side of the street. He did not believe there was a remote possibility it would add any functionality since no other sidewalk would be built. He commented that he did not feel the system was broken because they reviewed variance requests closely, and reiterated he did not believe they should require this property owner to build a sidewalk due to the nature of this situation. He noted each situation would be reviewed, and on-going human judgment was needed to make the best possible decisions.

Mr. Skala stated he generally did not like exceptions and believed the City had things in place to try to avoid exceptions, but also noted that exceptions demanded justification, and felt this variance was justified in this case.

The vote on B325-14 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, TRAPP, SKALA, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: CHADWICK, THOMAS. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**B334-14 Repealing Ordinance No. 022226; authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of sidewalk improvements along Manor Drive, from Rollins Road to West Broadway.**

The bill was given second reading by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Mr. Thomas understood this involved an error. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct. Mr. Thomas commented that he had received a message from a constituent who did not want this sidewalk to be built for many reasons the City had already considered, so he wanted to ensure the repealing of this ordinance did not involve the request of the constituent. He understood it was only due to an error. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

B334-14 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**B335-14 Authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of the Scott Boulevard Phase 3 street improvement project, from Vawter School Road to State Route KK.**

The bill was given second reading by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Glascock provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid asked for the funding sources for this project. Mr. Glascock replied it would be funded by the 2005 capital improvement ballot and some Surface Transportation Program (STP) and enhancement funds.

Ms. Nauser stated she had asked for this to be moved to old business in order to provide the public an opportunity to speak.

B335-14 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**B339-14 Appropriating funds for the purchase of a replacement heater for the Hickman High School swimming pool.**

The bill was given second reading by the Deputy Clerk.

Mr. Griggs provided a staff report.

Ms. Nauser asked for the availability for the public to actually utilize the Hickman High School swimming pool. She noted she could only find pre-set hours for swim lessons and wanted to know if there was an open general session. She also wanted to know the benefit to the taxpayer of funding the pool. Mr. Griggs replied this was the only deep water pool the City could access so it was necessary for swim lessons. In addition, all of the lifeguard trainings had to occur at Hickman High School because the ARC pool was only three foot deep. He explained the availability of the pool was based on the season. Currently, it was heavily used for lessons because it was winter. The Columbia Public School swim teams also used it extensively until about 5:00 p.m. when the City took over with various classes and lessons. He pointed out not many people used it for recreational swimming so they reduced the times for recreational swim to times school was not in session. He noted the Columbia Swim Club, which involved about 200 swimmers, also used the pool early in the morning and late at night, so it was a community pool.

Ms. Chadwick commented that her children took lessons at the ARC, but had to continue those lessons at a deep water pool, so they went to Hickman High School. She noted they had also utilized it as part of the Columbia Swim Club.

Ms. Hoppe pointed out it was a longstanding program as her daughter had taught swim lessons at Hickman High School when she was a lifeguard through the Parks and Recreation Department about 20 years ago.

B339-14 was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following bills were given second reading and the resolutions were read by the Deputy Clerk.

**B331-14 Vacating a sanitary sewer easement located east of Scott's Boulevard, west of State Route K and north of Astoria Way, within Wyndham Ridge, Plat No. 3.**

- B332-14 Authorizing construction of a shared use path, pedestrian bridge and roadway improvements along Forum Boulevard, between Katy Lane and Woodrail Avenue; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.
- B333-14 Authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of a shared use path, pedestrian bridge and roadway improvements along Forum Boulevard, between Katy Lane and Woodrail Avenue.
- B336-14 Authorizing a right of use permit with Michael Urban for construction, improvement, operation and maintenance of a hood exhaust fan to extend in a portion of the alley right-of-way between 114 S. Ninth Street and 118 S. Ninth Street.
- B337-14 Authorizing a contract for sale of real estate with the Phyllis Ann Ward Trust to purchase property located south of West Burr Oak Road to be used for development of Alluvial Wells No. 17 and 18 in the McBaine Bottoms.
- B340-14 Declaring the need to acquire property located adjacent to Albert-Oakland Park to be used for public park and open space purposes; accepting the donation of two parcels within Oakland Park Estates Plat 2, located on Paw Print Lane, from P&S Development Group.
- B341-14 Authorizing an agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri, on behalf of its Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, for emergency veterinary services.
- B342-14 Authorizing a specifics of rotation agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri, on behalf of its School of Medicine, to provide infectious disease medical fellows and supervising faculty members educational experience in STD clinical services.
- B343-14 Authorizing a contract with the Missouri Department of Transportation - Traffic and Highway Safety Division to conduct special traffic enforcement of hazardous moving violations; appropriating funds.
- B344-14 Authorizing a contract with the Missouri Department of Transportation - Traffic and Highway Safety Division for occupant protection safety checkpoint relating to seat belt and child restraint violations; appropriating funds.
- B345-14 Authorizing a contract with the Missouri Department of Transportation - Traffic and Highway Safety Division for a DWI enforcement unit; appropriating funds.
- B346-14 Authorizing a contract with the Missouri Department of Transportation - Traffic and Highway Safety Division for DWI enforcement relating to sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols; appropriating funds.
- B347-14 Authorizing a range facility access and use agreement with Green Valley Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc. for official scheduled training by the Columbia Police Department.
- B348-14 Appropriating funds for the CoMo Energy Challenge.
- R210-14 Setting a public hearing: construction of improvements to the Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center located within Albert-Oakland Park.
- R211-14 Authorizing agreements for FY 2015 Signature Series Funding under the Tourism Development Program; transferring tourism development funds to the Parks and Recreation Department for the Heritage Festival.
- R212-14 Authorizing an agreement for professional engineering services with TREKK Design Group for surveying services for the construction of the

Thilly, Lathrop, Westmount PCCE #8 sanitary sewer, water line replacement and electric line burial improvement project.

- R213-14 Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with CBIZ Benefit & Insurance Services, Inc. for employee benefit consulting services.
- R214-14 Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with Allstate Consultants, LLC for additional design services relating to the Grindstone Creek Recreation Trail Phase I development project.
- R215-14 Approving the Preliminary Plat of Barcus Ridge located on the southwest corner of State Route K and Old Plank Road.
- R216-14 Approving the Preliminary Plat of Kitty Hawk Manor located on the west side of Parker Street, north and west of the western terminus of Kitty Hawk Drive.
- R217-14 Authorizing support of the Columbia Housing Authority's Affordable Housing Initiative and the prioritization of tax credits towards renovations of public housing in the central Columbia area.

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions were read with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: MCDAVID, CHADWICK, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS, NAUSER, HOPPE. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

The following bills were introduced by the Mayor unless otherwise indicated, and all were given first reading.

- B349-14 Approving the Final Plat of Linkside at Old Hawthorne Plat 2, a Replat of Linkside at Old Hawthorne Plat 1, located north of Route WW and on the west side of Old Hawthorne Drive East; authorizing a performance contract.
- B350-14 Amending Chapter 14 of the City Code relating to on-street parking enforcement hours.
- B351-14 Authorizing application for public transit planning, operating and capital assistance grants with the Federal Transit Administration.
- B352-14 Authorizing application to the United States Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration and the Missouri Department of Transportation for airport capital assistance grants.
- B353-14 Accepting conveyances for sewer, utility, drainage and temporary construction purposes.
- B354-14 Accepting a conveyance for Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Covenant purposes.
- B355-14 Accepting conveyances for utility purposes.
- B356-14 Authorizing construction of improvements to the Albert-Oakland Family Aquatic Center located within Albert-Oakland Park; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

- B357-14 Authorizing a cooperative agreement with the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri for the implementation phase of the “Our Natural Legacy: A Plan for Columbia and Boone County” open space/green infrastructure project.
- B358-14 Authorizing the acquisition of additional easements for construction of the Grindstone Creek Trail Phase I project between the Grindstone Nature Area and Maquire Boulevard.
- B359-14 Amending the FY 2015 Annual Budget to add and delete positions in the Human Resources Department and Employee Benefit Fund; amending the FY 2015 Classification and Pay Plan by adding and reassigning positions in the Human Resources Department and Employee Benefit Fund.
- B360-14 Amending the FY 2015 Annual Budget to delete positions in the Public Safety Joint Communications Department; amending the FY 2015 Classification and Pay Plan by closing classifications.
- B361-14 Amending Chapter 19 of the City Code to eliminate provisions specific to the Public Safety Joint Communications Department.
- B362-14 Establishing plan year 2015 active employee and COBRA medical, dental and vision premium rates, and non-Medicare medical, retiree dental and Medicare retiree medical and dental premium rates; providing for payroll withholdings; adopting the Choice Plus \$750 Plan, the Choice Plus \$1,500 Plan, the Choice Plus \$2,500 High Deductible Health Plan and the Group Dental Plan for the City of Columbia.
- B363-14 Amending Chapter 19 of the City Code as it relates to health care benefits.
- B364-14 Authorizing an amendment to the PCS Antenna Agreement and a Memorandum of Lease with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC relating to the lease of property and space on the Shepard water tower located at 1160 Cinnamon Hill Lane.
- B365-14 Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the program services contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Coalition Building and Support program; appropriating funds.
- B366-14 Authorizing a subrecipient monitoring agreement with Boone County, Missouri relating to acceptance of the FY 2014 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award to purchase equipment for the Police Department; appropriating funds.
- B367-14 Authorizing the Chief of Police to apply for grants and execute grant agreements for law enforcement activities.
- B368-14 Appropriating funds from the 2014 Poster Party for the Arts event.
- B369-14 Amending Chapter 28 of the City Code to add a new article pertaining to transportation network services.

**REPORTS AND PETITIONS**

**REP109-14 Environment and Energy Commission Recommendation to Include Home Energy Score on Online Utility Usage Map.**

Mayor McDavid asked if the recommendation applied to all homes or just rental properties. Ms. Chadwick replied she thought it was for all homes. Mayor McDavid suggested referring this to the Water and Light Advisory Board because the Council would

need to know the cost and if there might be any other issues since it broadened the scope of public information about Columbia citizens.

Mayor McDavid made a motion to refer the Environment and Energy Commission's recommendations to the Water and Light Advisory Board for an analysis and recommendation.

Ms. Chadwick asked if they needed feedback from staff as well. Mayor McDavid replied he thought the staff would be involved when it was reviewed by the Water and Light Advisory Board. Mr. Skala thought they could request a report as well.

The motion made by Mayor McDavid to refer the Environment and Energy Commission's recommendation to the Water and Light Advisory Board for an analysis and recommendation was seconded by Ms. Chadwick and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**REP110-14 Mayor's Task Force on Community Violence: Recommendations Report.**

Mayor McDavid stated his appreciation to Ms. Nauser and Mr. Trapp for their work as they had spent a lot of time with this Task Force.

Mr. Thomas commended the leadership and participation of the Task Force for systematically seeking to understand the problem and researching all possible approaches to solving the problem over a long period of time, and for compiling the information into a report.

Mr. Skala commented that he believed this was a good template to turn to with future issues due to the excellent work that had been done. He noted two Council Members had taken an active role in guiding the Task Force, and thought they might want to consider this type of involvement for other Task Forces as well. Mayor McDavid understood the Council Members were non-voting members. Ms. Nauser stated that was correct. Mr. Skala thought that was a good thing because they did not want any Council Member voting twice.

Ms. Hoppe stated she appreciated the extensive work of Ms. Nauser and Mr. Trapp in leading the group and the extensive work of the other Task Force members, which would continue since the group still planned to work towards the implementation of the recommendations. She noted she had attended a mobile workshop in Seattle about a year ago with regard to youth violence prevention and had shared that information with Ms. Nauser, but had not seen it referenced. She provided a handout of the first page of a website and explained one of the recommendations from that report was for monthly meetings with key groups as there were a lot of services, but not enough coordination. In addition, there was a case worker for each youth, which helped to coordinate services not only to the youth, but also to the family.

Ms. Nauser thanked the Task Force members for their participation and for providing the community a wonderful template that could be used moving forward. She explained there were a lot of varied opinions and viewpoints from people with different backgrounds, so the discussions were very informative as well. She stated she was proud to have been a part of the Task Force and noted she learned a lot. She commented that she would be asking for Council action on the recommendations at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Trapp stated he concurred with Ms. Nauser and noted he was proud of the final product and the process of getting to the final product. He thought one of the critical decisions made was to operate by consensus, which was difficult at times. He explained not

every Task Force member was supportive of every recommendation, but they could all live with these recommendations. The Task Force members were a broad cross-section of the community with varied perspectives, but had been able to find common ground, which was why he felt there would be widespread community support for the report. He also thanked Lelande Rehard for his work with the Task Force, and noted he truly exemplified servant leadership in his role and in writing the report.

Mayor McDavid explained this Task Force was established due to a few high-profile shots fired incidents, which resulted in media reports of how dangerous Columbia had become and that Boone County was even the most dangerous county in Missouri. Although the data did not support those comments, he and the Council felt a conversation was needed. He believed the Task Force allowed for broad and deep conversations by many constituents that needed and wanted to speak.

Mayor McDavid noted the report listed the lack of economic opportunity, which contributed to a lack of hope, and the need for job skills, and he did not believe the City or its citizens were focusing enough on the importance of jobs. He understood Columbia had recently been recognized as the number one in terms of job creation in cities under 200,000, but pointed out the jobs that were being created were PhD-level jobs. He noted Regional Economic Development Incorporated (REDI) had recruited a commercial laundry company to town that hired fifty people to include some with criminal backgrounds, but more work was needed. He explained Columbia had lost 25 percent of its manufacturing jobs over the last 15 years. Columbia was also down in construction jobs. He noted these were high paying jobs with benefits that were replaced with lower paying food service and retail jobs. There was high unemployment and substantial underemployment of individuals under the age of 25 nationally, and adults under the age of 35 made nine percent less than they did ten years ago. He stated this was a national and local problem, and those groups were at-risk. He explained he was concerned with a City-wide effort to slow economic growth in terms of fee increases as it would drive the building of homes to surrounding communities. He believed Columbia was an expensive place to create a business and noted start-ups were going to other communities. MedSocket and Immunophotonics had moved to St. Louis for \$50,000 grants, Modern Meadow had moved to New York because they had more tax incentives, and Enginuity moved to Mexico, Missouri because they provided incentives. In addition, Columbia had lost out on datacenter projects to communities with lower costs. He believed it was tough to recruit and keep jobs, and thought they should do what they could to keep MidwayUSA. He explained the citizens had voted to approve the Henderson Branch sewer project, and if the Council decided not to complete that sewer project, he felt Larry Potterfield might relocate his business as he had been contacted by other communities. He noted MidwayUSA would also come into the City limits if the sewer was extended, and this meant the City would receive two percent of their Missouri sales. He understood MidwayUSA intended to triple its customer base by 2020, and believed they should move immediately forward with this sewer project. He hoped the Council would not put 500 jobs at risk by not building this sewer, which would serve MidwayUSA.

Mr. Thomas asked if building the sewer extension would create new jobs at MidwayUSA. Mayor McDavid replied yes.

**REP111-14 Annexation Policy for Sewer Tap Fees.**

Mayor McDavid understood this property could not annex into the City because it was not contiguous, and the City's policy was to enter into a pre-annexation agreement and charge 1.5 times the rates and connection fees until the property was within the City limits. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

Ms. Chadwick understood this report only provided information on the policy, and the City was not making an exception to the policy for this developer. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

Ms. Nauser explained she had asked for this report because she had received a letter from the developer that indicated the development was for low-income affordable housing units and the recent increase in the sewer connection fees would likely cause these units to no longer be affordable. She wanted to know the City's policy and whether it was justifiable to charge 1.5 times the connection fee.

Mr. Thomas asked if the connection fee at the rate of 1.5 times was applicable when a building permit was issued on the property that had a pre-annexation agreement. Mr. Glascock replied it was applied when the property connected to City sewer.

Mayor McDavid understood if they had annexed into the City by the time they connected to City sewer, they would pay 100 percent of the fee, but if they were not contiguous, they would pay 150 percent of the fee. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

Ms. Nauser asked why they were required to pay 1.5 times the rates and fees. Mr. Glascock replied he was not with the City in 1997 when this policy was adopted, but assumed the City had to extend the sewer outside of the City limits and this fee paid for the extra length. Ms. Nauser thought it was the City's policy to pay for an 80-acre sewer. Mr. Glascock explained the policy was the 80-acre point or the property line, and he thought this sewer was likely taken to the property line.

Mayor McDavid commented that he believed this was a good policy because it encouraged and incentivized annexation, and thought they wanted to promote annexation because they then paid City services, fees, and property taxes. He did not believe they wanted another Country Woods subdivision, and felt this forced those that used City services to pay for those services.

Mr. Thomas thought the policy also discouraged development in areas where it might not be appropriate. Mr. Matthes agreed it discouraged sprawl to a certain extent.

Ms. Chadwick understood the developer was in control of when they built and did not believe the Council had heard from them when they were considering the rate increase.

Mr. Glascock thought the sewer connection fee was around \$200 in 2001 when the pre-annexation agreement was signed. Mr. Thomas understood the requirement was to pay the additional 50 percent of the connection fee at the time of connection. Mr. Glascock stated that was correct.

**REP112-14 Columbia Regional Airport (COU) Update.**

Mr. Matthes provided a staff report.

Mayor McDavid pointed out Columbia did not have any air service in 2008, and Delta had come to Columbia through an emergency air service grant from the federal government for \$2.3 million. Although Delta continued service in Columbia, it was in the process of reducing services at Memphis, and Columbia service had been reduced to two flights per day. He noted REDI and the University of Missouri had been in conversations with a large animal research firm from Barcelona, Spain, which involved 200 jobs and researchers, but they required a one hour drive to an airport with one-stop to Barcelona, Spain, so they chose Ames, Iowa. This resulted in a multi-jurisdictional and public-private effort to better air service in Columbia through a guaranteed fund. He listed some of the stakeholders and the amounts they contributed, and noted many people felt a successful airport was important to the University of Missouri and the economy.

Ms. Chadwick noted the report included the FAA grant amount, but did not include the City's contribution, and asked for that amount. Mr. Glascock replied most of those grants involved a 90 percent federal contribution and a 10 percent local contribution. Ms. Chadwick suggested future reports include City contributions.

Ms. Nauser commented that she was on the Council when the airport was failing and she believed a successful airport was key to economic growth and development in the community. Business was no longer confined to state boundaries or regions as business was conducted worldwide, so it was important to have easy access to the world. She believed there was potential for growth at the airport as they had seen growth in the past, and noted 11,500 passengers were estimated for 2007 while the estimate for 2014 was 53,500 passengers. She felt this helped when recruiting new businesses to Columbia for employment opportunities for their citizens.

Mayor McDavid explained Northwest Medical Isotopes, which was a company that produced a lot of medical scanning isotopes, was coming to Columbia because of the University of Missouri Research Reactor. He noted the products they produced needed to be at a hospital in another community the next day so they demanded cargo service to a FedEx hub, which was a challenge. This was another of example of how a high level of air service could accelerate the local economy.

Mr. Skala commended everyone that had worked to improve the airport system in Columbia. The bulk of the 10 percent match for the airport came from the half-cent transportation sales tax, which also funded transit and roads, so there was a huge contribution from the public. He noted the City had a limited amount of money, and this needed to be considered when leveraging one kind of transportation system over another. He commented that he was in favor of pursuing improvements at the airport for economic development, but noted they had lots of responsibilities and had to make these choices carefully.

**REP113-14 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.**

Mayor McDavid understood this report had been provided for informational purposes.

## COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Katie Essing explained she was the Executive Director of The District with offices at 11 S. Tenth Street and that she was speaking on behalf of the Downtown Community Improvement District (CID) Board of Directors in expressing the need to continue focusing on parking for downtown Columbia. Convenient and close parking to downtown shops, restaurants, and businesses was imperative to the success of downtown as it offered ease of access for their customers. They understood parking issues were on-going and increasingly in complex, and wanted to be a part of the solution. They asked for the creation of a standing parking advisory regulatory commission to oversee and study parking issues, its funding, and its operations, and for that commission to include Downtown CID members and other downtown stakeholders.

Poneet Kant stated he was the General Manager for Expansion with Uber Technologies and explained Uber was a technology company as it provided an app that connected riders and drivers. He commented that the ordinance that had a first reading tonight was a good first step toward establishing a permanent regulatory framework for companies like Uber. He also thought the City and Uber shared the same goal of public safety, and explained their business relied upon people feeling comfortable enough to choose to ride with Uber. As a result, they had a stringent background checking process and insurance process. The issues they had with the proposed ordinance dealt with their ability to bring driver partners to the Uber platform. He noted the Uber system worked by partnering with independent contractors who were providing services through the Uber platform, and some of the provisions of the ordinance would make it more difficult to bring on driver partners and make it cost prohibitive to continue to operate a business through this model. He explained they had provided City staff with a number of amendments for their consideration, and with a few small changes, he believed the ordinance could be a model for other college towns and municipalities.

Mayor McDavid asked that the suggested changes be e-mailed to the Council so they could consider those prior to the next Council meeting. Mr. Kant replied he would e-mail that information to the Council.

Phillip Chisholm, 4510 Weybridge Drive, commented that he believed Columbia needed to transform the way it thought about new and innovative services, and that the City should allow the market to decide whether products and services were successful without creating barriers to organic growth and entrepreneurship. He stated the invention of an app-based service, such as Uber, was no longer a novel idea. He noted he was an independent contractor and driver partner with Uber, and noted Uber had become a standard of easy transportation in many cities around the world for all types of riders. He explained his riders were typically students that had used Uber previously, and prior to becoming an Uber driver, he noted he had undergone a thorough background check that included a driver history and verification of personal auto insurance. He pointed out drivers chose their own hours of availability and there was no minimum amount of driving required. In addition, all transactions were done electronically or cashless with no point of sale equipment in the car,

which ensured driver safety. He commented that Columbia was known for its support and development of small business and start-up companies, and wondered why the City would limit or deter new opportunities. He did not believe Uber was a threat. He believed it was another way doing business as it provided flexibility to its drivers and riders, and he asked the City to support small businesses and its residents through its support of Uber operations.

Mr. Thomas commented that he believed the request of Katie Essing to form a parking commission was a good idea as residential development had rapidly densified the downtown and had created challenges for adjacent neighborhoods. He noted he personally believed parking, automobile transportation and transit were integrally connected and felt the parking policies needed to be reviewed. He explained the City had applied for a grant-funded consultant workshop from Smart Growth America, and it would provide a great opportunity for someone from the outside to review the parking demand and supply, parking policies, etc., and provide recommendations. If they did not receive the grant, the City still had the opportunity to purchase the workshop, which he would recommend.

Mr. Thomas made a motion directing staff to provide Council a proposal for a permanent parking commission. The motion was seconded by Mayor McDavid.

Mayor McDavid explained he believed the establishment of a permanent parking commission was a great idea and noted it was a complicated issue that needed stakeholder involvement.

Mr. Thomas stated he believed there were ways the City could use parking a part of an integrated transportation management system that would preserve the vibrancy of the downtown while getting everyone where they needed to go in an efficient way.

Ms. Hoppe suggested they ensure representation of the Downtown Columbia Leadership Council (DCLC) and surrounding neighborhoods in addition to the Downtown CID.

Ms. Chadwick commented that she believed this was a good idea as parking was an issue, and thought it might also be a good idea to have a neighborhood commission, which would consist of different neighborhood association representatives to provide recommendations.

Mr. Skala commented that he believed this commission could assist with the parking permit programs, and thought all of the respective urban interface neighborhoods should be included in this proposed commission.

The motion made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mayor McDavid directing staff to provide Council a proposal for a permanent parking commission was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Thomas commented that the idea of working with the Downtown CID to provide reduced cost parking permits in low usage areas and reduced cost bus passes to downtown employees had been discussed a couple of times at previous Council Meetings, and he had thought they had asked staff to develop a program. Mr. Matthes explained a motion by the Council was needed to proceed.

Mayor McDavid asked for clarification on the proposed program. Mr. Matthes replied the idea was to use parking spaces that were not heavily used to create a parking program to

lure downtown employees to park in those areas at a cheaper rate. Mr. Thomas stated the second piece was to provide the employees a free or extremely low cost bus pass. Ms. Chadwick pointed out the Downtown Parking Task Force had recommended this proposal. Mr. Matthes explained the critique of the program was with regard to how many parking spaces were open at all times.

Mayor McDavid asked if this should be referred to the Downtown Community Improvement District (CID) and Downtown Columbia Leadership Council (DCLC). Mr. Thomas replied the Downtown CID was supportive. Mayor McDavid suggested they obtain a formal recommendation from the Downtown CID and DCLC. Mr. Thomas explained this would be a pilot program, and it had been discussed since July so he had hoped the program would begin in January.

Mr. Skala stated he thought a report should be provided to assist them in making a decision. Mr. Thomas thought the report would be the recommendation from staff with regard to the details of the proposal. Mr. Matthes explained staff needed direction with regard to whether Council wanted them to provide a report with the details of a proposed program. Mayor McDavid stated he wanted the recommendations of the Downtown CID and DCLC prior to moving forward. Mr. Matthes understood Council wanted staff to develop a proposal for a pilot program, and present it to the Downtown CID and DCLC prior to bringing it to Council. Mayor McDavid stated that was correct. Mr. Thomas pointed out the Downtown CID had voted on the proposal at their last meeting. Mayor McDavid understood it would not take the Downtown CID any time to provide its recommendation to the Council since they had already discussed the issue. Mr. Thomas stated he was not sure the DCLC had reviewed it. Ms. Chadwick thought the DCLC had reviewed and given its support to the Downtown Parking Task Force report. Ms. Hoppe noted a motion for staff to proceed might be sufficient then.

Mr. Glascock pointed out the City staff that would be asked to work on this program was the same staff that was working on parking permit programs for East Campus and on Stewart Road, and asked for clarification as to which programs were priority. Ms. Chadwick commented that the Downtown Parking Task Force had recommended this long before these other issues had arisen. Ms. Hoppe asked how long it would take to prepare this proposal. Mr. Thomas replied he did not feel it would take very long as it was a pilot program. Mr. Glascock explained the program had to be developed and a corresponding ordinance would have to be written. Mr. Matthes noted they had to address who would monitor whether someone was considered an employee, the cost, etc. Mr. Thomas explained he and Ms. Chadwick had discussed the details with staff.

Mr. Skala stated he was reluctant to pre-empt programs already in the pipeline as he understood staff was working on parking permit programs in East Campus and would soon look at the Benton Stephens neighborhood. Ms. Hoppe commented that the East Campus neighborhood was waiting on staff to proceed. Mr. Matthes noted they were in the process of finding a mediator as had been requested in order to get the neighborhood to communicate.

Mayor McDavid suggested staff provide the Council with a recommended process. Mr. Matthes asked for consensus prior to moving forward. Mayor McDavid stated he did not believe anyone was in opposition.

Mr. Thomas understood the City already had an ordinance prohibiting smoking in bus shelters and asked if stickers could be placed at the bus shelters because some people were still smoking in them.

Mr. Thomas asked if staff would consider a bus stop at the corner of Hitt Street and Paquin Street for the 2A and 2B routes for the residents of Paquin Towers so it would be closer to Paquin Towers.

Mr. Skala commented that he had campaigned for vocational educational training when running for the City Council and recommended the Council review a report generated by a citizen task force on July 28, 2009 entitled *Planning Initiatives for Postsecondary Adult Career and Technical Education and Training: Creating Workforce Training and Economic Development Opportunities for the Citizens of Columbia and Boone County, Missouri* as he believed it might help with issues related to economic development.

Mr. Skala stated he believed they had learned some lessons from the November election in terms of the tolerance of the citizenry. He did not believe they were tolerant of large increases in property taxes or increases in sales taxes, and they did not favor the trip generation model for road infrastructure. One of his takeaways from the vote on Proposition 2 was that they had not solved the problem of the proper proportion in terms of a public/private partnership. He commented that he believed economic growth would come to a halt without adequate infrastructure, and if the public decided to not extend the capital improvement sales tax next year, he thought it would be a disaster for economic development. He believed the City needed to figure out a way to pay for growth. He stated many felt the idea that growth generated tax dollars was a Ponzi scheme, and that a contribution from either the taxpayer or the private sector was necessary. He agreed MidwayUSA was a great economic development operation for jobs in Boone County, but the Comprehensive Plan had identified urban service areas, and although that did not preclude anyone from developing outside of that area, there was an associated higher cost. He commented that he did not believe they would have had infrastructure exigency problems if the growth strategy had been so successful over the past 20-30 years. He thought they needed to determine a better way to deal with these issues, and challenged Mr. Potterfield to help in terms of a public/private partnership.

Mr. Skala asked for a report with regard to downtown infrastructure in terms of cost, the projects and funding that had been shifted to accommodate growth, and the potential deferment of the Midway and Upper Hinkson Creek sewer projects so they knew how they wanted to proceed in terms of the Comprehensive Plan. He thought they needed to know the cost of infrastructure within the urban service area and the options in terms of tax increases or other ways to incrementally deal with annexation issues. He wanted a report with an informed view to allow them to discuss the potential deferment of sewer extensions due to the exigencies of some of the infrastructure needs they had now.

Mr. Skala commented that with regard to Regional Economic Development Incorporated (REDI), the taxpayers paid for the Economic Development Director and two other staff members, and the budget suggested a contribution of about \$500,000. He felt the Economic Development Director and his two staff members should be ensconced in City Administration, and should be a City Department that worked in cooperation with REDI, but he did not feel taxpayer funds and private contributions should be blended. He asked for a report to look at the possibilities of moving the office in the context of purview to the City Manager, and any corollary discussions necessary to make that happen.

Ms. Hoppe suggested the report include information on other comparable cities as to whether they had a separate economic development department.

Mr. Skala stated the issue of whether the REDI public/private partnership arrangement was legal had come up when the Enhanced Enterprise Zone (EEZ) issue was being discussed, and he understood a letter had been written to the Attorney General. It became an issue again in the context of the letter of concern written by REDI with regard to Proposition 2. He agreed any individual from REDI was entitled to write any letter, but since REDI was a public/private hybrid organization, he felt it was inappropriate for them to write a letter.

Mr. Skala thanked staff for following up on nuisance issues involving the Evergreen property as he was seeing great progress with the issue.

Ms. Nauser commented that it appeared that many more people had to stand outside in inclement weather to catch the bus with these new routes. If the goal was to expand transit services, she did not believe they should require people to stand in cold, rainy, or other inclement weather. She understood bus shelters were expensive and that the City was trying to fund them through grants, but felt other options, such as public/private partnerships should be considered. She suggested contacting retailers to place shelters in front of their businesses and allowing advertisements. If the will of the community was to invest in transit, she thought they needed to make it as successful as possible, and she did not believe people would ride the bus if they had to stand outside in inclement weather waiting for the buses.

Ms. Nauser asked staff to review the recommendations of the Mayor's Task Force on Community Violence to determine what items might be quickly actionable, and for this information to be provided to Council at its Retreat scheduled for March 10 and 11. She suggested a plan of action and to determine how these recommendations might be funded and incorporated into the Strategic Plan as she understood that would be reviewed then as well.

Ms. Hoppe explained she and Mr. Thomas had been working with the Columbia Public Schools to establish a City youth commission this past year, and a student at Battle High School by the name of Sloan Scott, who had helped with the recent Youth Summit, wanted to attend the Youth Commission meeting at the National League of Cities Conference and had asked for a City contribution of \$500 to help with expenses. She suggested they provide

\$500 from the council reserve fund to help reimburse some of her expenses because she believed it would be beneficial for Ms. Scott to communicate with other youth commissioners.

Ms. Hoppe made a motion to provide up to \$500 from the council reserve fund to Ms. Scott to reimburse some of her expenses involved in attending a Youth Commission meeting at the National League of Cities Conference. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Hoppe asked for a report on the City's standards regarding landscaping in yards after sewer work was completed and whether there were options in terms of the type of grass used as she understood the same type of grass was used, which might not always fit with the rest of the grass in the yard. She also wanted to know the process for oversight if the work was contracted and how any information was conveyed to the property owner or by the property owner if there were concerns. She asked staff to provide information regarding the current policy and recommendations to improve on the policy.

Ms. Hoppe understood there was an issue with regard to staffing in terms of establishing parking programs, and felt the lack of sufficient staff was a result of growth. She believed one of the citizen survey questions should address paying for infrastructure for new development, and infrastructure would include fire, police, staff, roads, sewers, electric, etc. as this was all needed due to growth. She suggested a question with options on how to pay for those items so they had an idea of how the citizens felt. Mr. Matthes stated he thought the survey had been mailed out at this point, but believed something could be included in the follow-up by phone or it could be included in the next survey.

Ms. Hoppe understood many youth under the age of 18 did not realize transit was free to them, and asked what the City was doing to convey this information. Mr. Matthes replied he thought staff planned to relay the information through Instagram as it was the social network they primarily used. Ms. Hoppe suggested it be placed on the City's website where new information scrolled as well. Mr. Matthes stated they could do that. Mr. Thomas suggested the City continue to communicate with the Columbia Public Schools so they could also remind their students.

Mr. Trapp commented that B343-14, which had been approved as part of the consent agenda, involved a traffic enforcement grant, and he believed the area where a traffic fatality involving a pedestrian had recently occurred would be a good location to do some extra enforcement. He noted infrastructure improvements to the area had made it safer than before, but there were still some safety challenges, so he felt it was a good use of police resources.

Mr. Trapp asked for a legal opinion as to whether the Council had the authority to raise the age to purchase tobacco products to 21 years old since the issue would soon come before them.

Mr. Trapp commented that he believed there was value to the Missouri High Steppers as it could help keep kids away from violence by getting them involved in pro-social activities and instilling pro-social attitudes and beliefs. He noted the lack of pro-social networks and pro-social beliefs were the two main drivers of violent crimes, so he suggested the City offer up to \$5,000 from the council reserve fund to be paid to a host site that would be willing to host the Missouri High Steppers for one year. He stated he would commit to meet with the Executive Director of the Missouri High Steppers if they were able to find a site, and assist him in recruiting a stronger Board of Directors to deal with some of the long term issues. He noted his concern was they would lose the human capital that made the Missouri High Steppers possible without this assistance, and explained it had been a strong recommendation of a wide swath of the members of the Task Force on Community Violence since it resonated with the community that was most at risk for violence.

Mr. Trapp made a motion to provide up to \$5,000 from the council reserve fund to a host site that would be willing to host the Missouri High Steppers for one year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nauser.

Mayor McDavid stated he would not vote in favor of this as he was uncomfortable allocating public money without oversight. He noted he loved the organization and wanted to see them succeed, but did not feel this was the right way to proceed. Mr. Trapp stated he felt that was a fair point and noted that was the reason the funds would not go to the organization. He had suggested the funds go to the host site. He explained it was an extremist move to ensure they did not lose this capacity in the City.

Mayor McDavid asked if this could be tabled to allow people in the community to interact. Mr. Trapp replied he would be agreeable.

Mayor McDavid made a motion to table the motion made by Mr. Trapp and seconded by Ms. Nauser to provide up to \$5,000 from the council reserve fund to a host site that would be willing to host the Missouri High Steppers for one year to the December 15, 2014 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nauser.

Ms. Hoppe stated she would like to know whether the Columbia Public Schools had been contacted with regard to available space. Mr. Trapp explained a school was a less ideal space because kids from other schools felt less welcomed when hosted at one school.

Mr. Skala explained he was reluctant to commit to an amount of funding without knowing what the market would bear.

Mayor McDavid stated he would be interested in knowing if any City assets could be used. Mr. Trapp replied they had looked at City facilities previously.

The motion made by Mayor McDavid and seconded by Ms. Nauser to table the motion made by Mr. Trapp and seconded by Ms. Nauser to provide up to \$5,000 from the council reserve fund to a host site that would be willing to host the Missouri High Steppers for one year to the December 15, 2014 Council Meeting was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Trapp stated he believed public attention to the issue would only help, and tabling it provided another chance for the community to step forward. He noted they were looking for something in the central city area for the 3:00-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday time frame with permanent storage space.

Ms. Nauser pointed out the tabling would also provide the organization time to provide data that would be helpful as well.

Ms. Chadwick understood staff would review the legality of the ordinance to raise the age to purchase tobacco products to 21 years old when drafting it. She noted she had reached out to the nationwide experts with regard to Tobacco 21, and their legal experts had indicated they thought a more stringent ordinance could be established.

Ms. Chadwick commented that there was a great need for infrastructure repair in Ward 1, especially in the downtown area, and the City needed to find ways to fund it. She noted she had also asked staff to consider a delay in the Upper Hinkson Creek and Midway sewer projects in order to fund other infrastructure problems.

Mr. Skala explained he wanted staff to identify any of the smaller projects that were shifted to accommodate recent downtown developments so the Council had a better handle on the maintenance needs with respect to downtown infrastructure pressure as well as the surrounding areas within the urban service area.

Mr. Matthes explained staff was working on a report, but it would take time because there were many potential scenarios.

Ms. Chadwick agreed REDI was an important entity, but questioned whether an organization that received public funding should publically speak against a City ballot issue, and agreed they should consider the suggestion of Mr. Skala or restricting their ability to take a stance on City issues.

Ms. Chadwick stated she planned to support the suggestion of Mr. Trapp with regard to the Missouri High Steppers as it was an important alternative activity for the youth in her ward.

Ms. Chadwick understood the Black Route – 1A did not stop at College Avenue and Anthony Street, which was across from Paquin Towers, and suggested a stop be considered at that location as well as the locations on the Gold Route previously suggested by Mr. Thomas.

Ms. Chadwick asked how Council felt about a neighborhood commission. Mr. Matthes replied some cities that had created a neighborhood commission had established a 501(c)(3) umbrella organization that was made up of each neighborhood organization and financially supported by the neighborhood organizations. He noted they could do more research and report back on what other communities have done as well.

Ms. Hoppe understood the purpose would be for the various neighborhood organizations to get together to discuss issues. Ms. Chadwick stated it would allow a voice to the Council from the neighborhoods, and would allow them to make recommendations like other boards and commissions.

Ms. Hoppe stated she was uncertain as neighborhoods were very diverse. She noted the central city neighborhoods would likely have a lot of things in common, but other

neighborhoods might not. Ms. Chadwick explained her goal was to show the neighborhoods the City supported neighborhood associations.

Mr. Skala suggested a report be provided by staff. Mr. Matthes stated staff could report on how other cities handled this. He pointed out Portland, Oregon had six neighborhoods because they had designated them. He noted the Columbia had over 80 since they allowed self-selection, which also allowed for a one block by one block neighborhood association.

Mayor McDavid commented that REDI was a public/private partnership, and the City did not have any jurisdiction over it. The City could defund it, but that was all they could do. He explained the Mayor of Columbia, the City Manager of Columbia, the University of Missouri, the Boone County Commission, the City Manager of Hallsville, the City Manager of Ashland, the City Manager of Centralia each had one vote, and there were multiple votes from the large swath of private investors that had put money into REDI. He stated he believed REDI had been a remarkably successful organization, and the most successful part of City government he had been involved with over the time he had been Mayor. He noted he felt the IBM deal was a monumental moment, but understood others on the Council did not feel the same way, which meant they viewed economies differently. The entrepreneurial work and start-ups within the City had been managed by REDI. He pointed out the Milken Institute had ranked Columbia number one in terms of job creation for communities under 200,000, and this was a major accomplishment. He reiterated Columbia was a small player in this community-wide organization with multiple stakeholders and constituents and the only jurisdiction the City had was to defund it. He stated manufacturing and construction jobs were down and there was too much poverty in Columbia, so REDI had more work to do, and he believed the City needed to focus on job creation. He commented that the letter had emphasized the fact the REDI Board understood the relationship of their staff as City employees and as such could not advocate for or against ballot issues and was only providing the letter as a statement of concern from the Board.

Mayor McDavid recommended the Council visit MidwayUSA and stated he would fight for the Midway sewer project and the 500 jobs associated with MidwayUSA because those jobs were precious and other communities and other states wanted those jobs. MidwayUSA had \$11 million in revenue last year, and Columbia would receive two percent if the facility was within the City. The City would also receive seven percent for electricity from the gross receipts tax, etc. He commented that they did not have another job prospect on the horizon in Boone County like this, and it would be sad if they left.

Mayor McDavid commented that he believed there were citizens that did not want to pay additional taxes, felt the City had enough police officers, or did not trust City government financially with regard to the 60-40 defeat of the public safety ballot issue. He stated he felt the City needed to move \$9 million in excess reserve funds into the pension plan deficit because they were only receiving one percent on the \$9 million while the pension deficit was growing at 7.5 percent. By his analysis, the savings would be enough to fund two public safety officers. He noted budgets were hard to understand so he wanted an understandable

report to Council clarifying all of the unassigned funds as they needed to know there was not a large pot of money that had been hidden by at least three City Managers. He stated he also wanted citizens to have the opportunity to review their discretionary spending as many people feel the City's discretionary funds were not managed correctly. He understood this was summarized on page 88 of the budget, but wanted a line by line analysis presented in a way that was understandable to the citizens and the Council so the information could be relayed to others. He noted he wanted a report on each of these three items requested.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheela Amin  
City Clerk