

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL
701 E. BROADWAY, COLUMBIA, MISSOURI
APRIL 8, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a special session at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 8, 2013, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri. The roll was taken with the following results: Council Members KESPOHL, DUDLEY, NAUSER, HOPPE, MCDAVID, SCHMIDT and TRAPP were present. The City Manager, City Counselor, City Clerk and various Department Heads were also present.

Comments of Outgoing Third Ward Council Member and Fourth Ward Council Member

Mr. Dudley thanked the citizens of the City of Columbia and commented that he had done what many had thought to be a good job, and had made a lot of new friends. He learned a lot about people in the last three years and thanked all of his supporters and detractors for their input during his time on the City Council as it helped in making decisions. He noted that early on, the discussions involving the Bonnie View and Audubon Nature Area were not going anywhere, and gentleman asked him if he knew what a compromise was and told him a compromise was something that made everyone equally angry, which he found to be good advice. He learned it was easier to try to satisfy everyone versus making everyone happy. He stated he had enjoyed his time on the Council and had been looking forward three more years. He had been able to complete some projects and had been looking forward to completing many others. He commented that he would like to think Columbia was a better place for what was accomplished in the last three years, and pointed out the budget was nearly balanced, employees had received raises, the bond debt had been reduced and a few hundred jobs were brought to town. He hoped many more jobs could be brought to Columbia in the near future and more safety officers could be put on the streets. He wished the incoming Council Members the best of luck and thanked the best City staff in Missouri for their help and guidance, especially those in the City Clerk's Office.

Mr. Kespohl thanked the citizens of Columbia and the Third Ward voters for allowing him to serve on the City Council. Columbia was a great town with many and varying interests and concerns. He commented that he believed they lived in a community to pool some of their assets to provide benefits to the entire community. As a community, they provided themselves public safety, streets and sidewalks, electric, water, trash, sewer services, parks and places to recreate. The City Council was made up of people who had different and varying ideas of how the community should look, and this Council was no exception. They had studied many issues and expressed their desires and concerns, but at the end of the day the Council had always come to consensus for the common good of the community. This Council had helped guide the City through recessionary times, and he was proud to say the 2014 budget would be the first balanced budget, not using reserves, in several years. He noted Columbia would face many challenges in the future, such as student housing, infrastructure upgrades, expanded City services, public safety, etc., and they would need an involved and dedicated Council to steer the City through these challenging times. He congratulated Daryl Dudley for his three years of service to Columbia, and explained he and

Mr. Dudley had become good friends through their service on the City Council. He congratulated Bob McDavid on his re-election and did not believe Columbia could have a Mayor that cared more deeply about Columbia, and congratulated Karl Skala for his winning the election as the Third Ward Council Member. He stated he was thankful for being able to serve the citizens of Columbia and wished only the best for the City.

Mr. Kespohl joined Mayor McDavid and Mr. Matthes at the podium.

Mayor McDavid presented Mr. Kespohl with a Resolution of Appreciation, a plaque recognizing his years of service on the Council and a certificate for a heritage tree to be planted in his honor in the park of his choice.

Mr. Matthes presented Mr. Kespohl with a glass tile with the City logo and a gift from the City staff.

Mr. Dudley joined Mayor McDavid and Mr. Matthes at the podium.

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Oath of Office for Newly Elected Mayor (Council Member At-Large), Third Ward Council Member and Fourth Ward Council Member

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to the Mayor Robert McDavid, and the City Manager presented him with a framed Commission of Office.

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Karl Skala, and Mayor McDavid presented him with a framed Commission of Office.

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Ian Thomas, and Mayor McDavid presented him with a framed Commission of Office.

Everyone then took their places at the dais.

Comments of Newly Elected Mayor (Council Member At-Large), Third Ward Council Member and Fourth Ward Council Member

Mr. Skala thanked the engaged voters of the Third Ward and his cadre of campaign volunteers, which included Betty Wilson, who served as his treasurer, Clyde Wilson, his mentor who was gone but not forgotten, everyone who contributed funds to the campaign, especially CIVIC and Mid-Mo Labor Club, Progressive Political Partners for its help, Mike Sleadd for managing the campaign website updates, all of the people who put up yard signs and sent out “Dear Neighbor” cards, all of the people who wrote letters to the editor and made phone calls, everyone who contacted their friends and neighbors in person, by e-mail or on Facebook to encourage people to vote, all of the volunteers who knocked on many doors, Peter Beiger, Kurt Albert, Kip Kendrick and others in the Benton-Stephens neighborhood, Marion Mace-Dickerson, Dee Dokken, Laird Okie, Peter Anger, Sam Allison, Ann Peters, Alyce Turner, Dean Anderson, Mike Trapp, Barbara Hoppe, Tootie Burns, and

his neighbor, Nancy Smith, who baked treats for the other volunteers. He thanked his wife, Mahree, his oldest daughter, who was in Columbus, Ohio, his youngest daughter who lived in the Sixth Ward, and his son who was on his second work related trip to Vienna, Austria. He stated details regarding his plans and proposals would be obvious and forthcoming after running all of them by his constituents. He commented that Columbia's issues were not unique as Columbia was not the only small city trying to operate a more robust transit system, attempting to maintain and expand air service, working to revitalize downtown, attempting to reduce crime and seeking better employment opportunities for youth. He thought the Council needed to be open to the approaches of others and use data to help develop effective policies. He often looked to others who succeeded in bringing their experience to bear on local issues and was not threatened by other solutions as that approach almost always resulted in taxpayer savings. As Harry Truman once said "it is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." He thanked everyone who sought to make Columbia a better place to live.

Mr. Thomas thanked everyone who helped him with his campaign, all of the Fourth Ward voters and the people he spoke to on their doorsteps. He commented that it had been a great experience to meet so many people and have so many meaningful conversations about important issues in the Fourth Ward and for the future of Columbia. He noted it had been a great pleasure to get to know Mr. Dudley and Mr. Weitkemper through the forums as it felt like they were a team working together to seek this office. He understood a Council Work Session would be held tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. and looked forward to getting started.

Mayor McDavid acknowledged those that encouraged him to become a politician and noted he suspected he would eventually forgive them. He thanked those that supported and advised him during this election process and thanked those Columbians that had voted for him. He thanked his wife, Suzanne, without whose support and understanding this type of position would not be possible. He commented that this Council would stand on the shoulders of generations of Columbians, citizens, public servants, workers, educators, laborers, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters, as it was those previous generations of Columbians that made Columbia the great town in which they lived today, and he believed it was the responsibility of this Council, as had many previous Councils, to carry on this legacy. He explained they would listen, challenge, disagree, do their best, be respectful, diligent and show dignity at all times in an effort to honor the previous generations going back to the 1800's that had made Columbia what it was today. He saluted Gary Kespohl and Daryl Dudley for giving their time and energy, and noted they had done a great job. He eagerly anticipated working with Karl Skala and Ian Thomas, the talented City staff and Columbia's engaged citizens, and commented that it was an honor and a responsibility to be on the City Council, and they would do their best.

Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

Mr. Schmidt made the motion that Ms. Hoppe be appointed Mayor Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Mr. Skala and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor McDavid reminded everyone of the reception being held in Conference Room 1A/1B immediately following the special meeting and noted it was open to the public.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheela Amin
City Clerk