

Columbia City Council
Pre-Council Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2007, 5:45 p.m.
Fourth Floor Conference Room, Daniel Boone Building

Council members present: Mayor Hindman, Almeta Crayton, Chris Janku, Karl Skala, Jerry Wade, Laura Nauser and Barbara Hoppe.

Absent: None

Mayor Hindman reviewed the process for interviewing Planning and Zoning Commission candidates. Interviews will be held on November 19, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the fourth floor conference room. Dinner will also be served at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Hindman previously forwarded to Council a list of the nominations for the Citizen Oversight Board. He indicated that he intended to make a motion at the end of the Council meeting that would appoint those individuals to the committee.

Ms. Nauser indicated she planned to bring up at the end of the meeting the animal control issue and the possibility of using discretionary funds for this issue.

Mr. Skala discussed the process for the Forum/Stadium intersection improvements. An e-mail from David Heise was provided to the Council members.

Council confirmed the November work session date of Monday, November 26. Topics include snow priorities, work plans B/C and PZ process changes.

Mr. Watkins reviewed the following agenda items: Scheduled public comment, Chip Cooper withdrew request; fire station 7 appropriation ordinance – addition to the agenda under introduce and first read.

The City Manager provided the Council with a copy of a budget memo sent to department heads.

The City Manager reviewed the hiring process/timeline for filling the Water and Light Director position. He suggested that the city hire a consultant to conduct a nationwide search and he explained the benefits of doing so. Council is supportive of the CM negotiating a contract with a consultant. He indicated that he intends to form a screening committee to assist in the selection process. He anticipates the position being filled around July 1st.

The Council was provided a memo from Toni Messina, Director, Public Communications, regarding the allocation of new revenue from video service provider fees. The memo was prepared to guide the Council's discussion on how to proceed in the short-term (CAT3 gap in funding) and long-term process for allocating the additional funds. Council asked that the city, CAT3 and the Columbia Public Schools provide them with additional information, including one time capital and operating costs. Ms. Hoppe suggested that the city retain the services of Sue Buske to serve as a guide/resource for how other cities handle this. Staff will bring back to Council a contract with CAT3 in the next couple of weeks. The contract will include funding for CAT3 to bridge the gap for the next 9 months. A proposal to address long term funding allocations which should include how a committee could be formed to review the applications, similar to CVB and OCA process will also be prepared for Council review next summer.