

**Columbia City Council
Pre-Council Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2010 – 5:45 p.m.
Fourth Floor Conference Room, Daniel Boone Building
Columbia, Missouri**

Council members present: Mayor Darwin Hindman, Paul Sturtz, Jason Thornhill, Karl Skala, Jerry Wade, Laura Nauser, Barbara Hoppe

Absent: None

Sewer Rates

City Manager Bill Watkins introduced Sewer Maintenance Superintendent Bill Weitkemper so that he could discuss his billing ideas in advance of Council's consideration of ordinance changes that evening. Based on an audit of utility customer accounts, he said that many more units should be assessed a base charge, under current ordinances. He said that current billing practices create some customer inequities. Council and City discussed continuing concerns with the ordinance and proposed changes. Council is interested in billing system examples from other cities.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Chamber De-Commissioning

Council immediately reconvened in the City Council Chamber in the Daniel Boone Building to retire that room from service. Mayor Hindman spoke, followed by Bob Roper, chair of the City's Public Buildings and Finance Committee. Mayor Hindman read a decommissioning proclamation, the Columbia Fire Department Honor Guard struck the United States and Missouri flags and the Council and other attendees proceeded to the new City Council Chamber in the City Hall addition.

Upon arrival, the Honor Guard posted the colors in the new Chamber. Columbia Fire Chief Bill Markgraf provided an invocation. Kathy Cox sang the National Anthem. Chief Markgraf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Manager Bill Watkins presented a gavel made from wood from the dais in the old Chamber to Mayor Hindman. Mayor Hindman used the gavel to adjourn the pre-Council meeting at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Toni Messina, Director, Public Communications