

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois
Held Monday, October 04, 2021 in the Council Room of City Hall.**

A. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Hill called the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 PM.

B. Roll Call

Present: Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury.

Absent: None.

Quorum present.

Administrative Staff present:

City Clerk Andrew Hitzemann
City Attorney Terry Bruckert
City Engineer Chris Smith
City Treasurer Linda Sharp
IT Manager James Mitchell

City Administrator Douglas Brimm
Chief of Police Jason Donjon
Head Librarian Annette Bland
Deputy Chief of Police Karla Heine
Dir. Of Community Dev. Scott Dunakey

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Proclamations/Recognitions/Presentations

There were no proclamations, recognitions, or presentations.

E. Public Input

City Clerk Andrew Hitzemann reminded the public that they may address the City Council under the terms of Ordinance No. 3587.

Public Input - Donald Henson, Sr.

Mr. Henson addressed the Council with his concern regarding the leaf pickup program.

F. Comments & Announcements - Mayor

Mayor Hill recognized Sarah Clarke who is the current Vice Chairman of the Plan Commission. Sarah was recognized in the St. Louis Business Journal's "40 under 40" class of 2021.

G. Comments & Announcements - Aldermen

There were no Aldermen Comments & Announcements.

H. Comments & Announcements – Department Directors

Head Librarian Annette Bland provided an update on the Library. The Library on average has between 20 and 30 programs per month for all ages. They also have yearly Paper Shredding Events, Career Fairs, and more. They also have items other than books like WIFI Hotpots, Tennis Rackets, Educational Games, STEAM kits, Puzzle Exchanges, Exhibits, Displays/Information for Current Events, Fax, Scanning, Notary Services, 9 Public Computers, and Community Meetings. They offer materials for individuals who are Visually Impaired and Veteran Assist Programs. On average, they have 100 people daily and in the summer they are close to 200.

Mr. Brimm provided an update on the Department of Public Works hiring 4 additional employees. Interviews have been conducted and offers have been extended. They have accepted the positions. Once the pre-employment drug test, physical, and back ground checks are completed, they will be introduced to the City Council.

The staff has also been working on Memorandums of Understanding with the Monroe County EMA in regards to the Mobile Data Terminals as well as the air cards used by the Columbia Police Department and EMS.

In addition, Columbia is one of two municipalities in Monroe County which has yet to approve the Monroe County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Police Chief Donjon has been working with Monroe County to address some concerns regarding this plan.

Mayor Hill questioned where the city is regarding the part-time employment for DOPW.

Mr. Brimm stated that a candidate has been selected. There were three applicants.

I. Consent Agenda

City Clerk Hitzemann read the Consent Agenda.

1. Motion to Approve Minutes of the September 20, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting
2. Motion to Approve Payment of Vouchers for the Period of September 17, 2021 through September 30, 2021 in the Amount of \$181,252.01
3. Motion to Approve Statement of Funds for August 30, 2021
4. Motion to Approve Special Event Permit for RCasa Witches Night (October 14, 2021)

Mayor Hill inquired if the Council wished to remove any items prior to a motion. There were none.

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Holtkamp, and seconded by Alderman Khoury, to approve the Consent Agenda as read.

Motion Passed.

Roll Call Vote results:

8 Aye: Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury

0 Nay:

0 Absent:

0 Abstain:

J. Unfinished Business

1. Resolution No. 2021-22 Approving a Contract for the Purchase of Real Estate from Shaun and Calista Hannah (482 Wilson Drive)

Mr. Brimm stated that the purchase price of the property was \$165,000. It provides an alternative entrance for the planned Creekside Park which eliminated the planned entrance at Rueck Road. It will reduce the project cost by \$301,000.

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Martens, to pass and approve Resolution No. 2021-22 Approving a Contract for the Purchase of Real Estate from Shaun and Calista Hannah (482 Wilson Drive)

Motion Passed.

Roll Call Vote results:

8 Aye: Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury

0 Nay:

0 Absent:

0 Abstain:

2. Ordinance No. 3589 Dissolving the Admiral Parkway Special Tax Allocation Fund and Terminating the Admiral Parkway Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area within the City of Columbia

Dir. of Community Dev. Scott Dunakey explained this is mostly clerical. It technically expired at the end of 2020. This will close it down so they can do the final reporting before year end.

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Martens, to pass and approve Ordinance No. 3589 Dissolving the Admiral Parkway Special Tax Allocation Fund and Terminating the Admiral Parkway Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area within the City of Columbia

Motion Passed.

Roll Call Vote results:

8 Aye: Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury

0 Nay:

0 Absent:

0 Abstain:

K. New Business

1. Discussion of a Memorandum of Understanding with Prairie DuPont Water District

Mr. Brimm provided the Council history on the topic. Columbia and Cahokia Heights comprise the Metro East Municipal Joint Action Water Agency (MEMJAWA). One of the satellite entities is the Prairie DuPont Water District. Staff has been working to resolve a billing dispute with Prairie DuPont resulting from the conversion of the master meter register from analog to digital.

There are two options to proceed. The first option through the MEMJAWA agreement is to file for arbitration. Each party would pay half the cost of the arbitrator. The second option would be to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Prairie DuPont Water District where Columbia would install a new meter which is completely digital. Columbia would have oversight in this installation. Prairie DuPont would agree that they would not make any alterations to their system. Columbia would purchase and install the meter to ensure it is installed to the specification. If the reading is within 15% of the average usage produced by the digital components, then Prairie DuPont would fully reimburse the City of Columbia of cost incurred. Prairie DuPont would then agree to remit payment in full for all months where partial payments was received and also pay all subsequent bills in full going forward.

After discussion, the consensus of the Council was to proceed with the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Brimm stated he would have it on the October 18 agenda for approval.

L. Closed Session

Mayor Hill informed the Council that he would entertain a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Pending or Probable Litigation

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Garmer, and seconded by Alderman Martens, to direct the Mayor to go into Closed Session at 7:34 PM to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Pending or Probable Litigation

Motion Passed.

Roll Call Vote results:

8 Aye: Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury

0 Nay:

0 Absent:

0 Abstain:

Mayor Hill called the Regular Session of the City Council back to order at 7:51 PM. Upon return to Regular Session, Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer, Khoury, and Mayor Hill were present.

M. Announcements

There were no announcements.

N. Adjournment

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler, and seconded by Alderman Riddle, to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting held Monday, October 04, 2021 at 7:52 PM.

Motion Passed.

Roll Call Vote results:

8 Aye: Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer and Khoury

0 Nay:

0 Absent:

0 Abstain:



ANDREW HITZEMANN, CITY CLERK



MAYOR BOB HILL