

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
OCTOBER 14, 2013 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ebersohl called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis and Mayor Hutchinson.

Absent: Aldermen Agne, Huch and Holtkamp.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Community & Economic Development Director Paul Ellis (left at 7:25 p.m.), City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Chief of Police & EMS Director Joe Edwards (left at 9:43 p.m.), Deputy Chief of Police Jerry Paul (left at 8:43 p.m.), City Engineer Ron Williams (left at 7:45 p.m. and returned at 7:55 p.m.) and Accounting Manager Linda Sharp.

Guests Present: Police Department Sgt. Josh Bayer and Patrolman Brian Etherton (both arrived at 7:35 p.m. and left at 8:43 p.m.).

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of (1) discussing the marketing of the American Bottom area; (2) receiving a presentation on Police Department staffing; and (3) discussing any other items to be considered.

II. MARKETING THE AMERICAN BOTTOM AREA DISCUSSION

(Note: In addition to the individuals listed hereon in I., approximately eight (8) members of the public, who had been involved in the previously proposed Columbia Crossing Development in the American Bottom area were in attendance).

Chairman Ebersohl opened the meeting and called upon Community and Economic Development Director Paul Ellis to address the Committee Members on this issue. Paul informed the Committee Members that the last meeting held with American Bottom property owners occurred on February 27, 2012 – he then distributed a document entitled “Development Potential Discussion Concerning I-255 Development District (American Bottom)” containing a listing of various development opportunities identified at said February 27th Committee of the Whole Meeting. Mayor Hutchinson then informed those in attendance of the disposition (i.e, withdrawal/reaching a tentative settlement) of previous lawsuits involving the city pertaining to the Columbia Crossing Development Project; he stated that (with the resolution of said litigation) the city (a) is now ready to begin marketing the American Bottom area for development; and (b) is interested in obtaining input from the area’s landowners as to whether or not they are in favor of such

a regional/national marketing campaign. All in attendance were then given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, including (i) no developers have shown recent interest in developing the American Bottom area, but the lack of interest may have resulted from the litigation pending against the city (which has now been withdrawn/tentatively settled) – better development opportunities should now exist; (ii) since the February 27, 2012 Committee Meeting, city officials have approached Columbia Crossing, L.L.C. about the firm’s interest in developing the American Bottom area on several occasions without receiving a firm response of interest; and (iii) much of the engineering on the proposed Fish Lake interchange has been completed, although some of it would have to be updated. Mayor Hutchinson asked the American Bottom landowners to let city staff know if they are still interested in developing their property(ies), and if so, whether or not they are in favor of a regional/national marketing campaign by the city.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Roessler to recess the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 7:25 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to reconvene the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2013 at 7:45 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea.

MOTION CARRIED.

III. POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING PRESENTATION

Chairman Ebersohl called upon Police Chief Edwards to address the Committee Members on this issue. Edwards made introductory remarks and introduced Deputy Chief of Police Jerry Paul to begin the staffing presentation. Using a flipchart Jerry diagrammed the major streets of Columbia and informed the Committee members of the current staffing levels of the city’s police department on a daily basis (by shifts) and the average daily traffic counts on I-255 and Route 3; he also gave several examples of the department’s coverage levels and the assistance the city may receive from other local law enforcement agencies. Deputy Chief Paul then discussed scheduling difficulties in covering vacations, comp time, sick leave and training; he indicated officers are scheduled to work overtime in order to maintain coverage levels and police services for Special Events occurring in the city. Police Chief Edwards then made a PowerPoint presentation on the current and past staffing levels – it also contained charts comparing the department’s 2006 – 2012 Traffic Stops and Citations and included other information on (i) the Department of Justice’s recommended staffing levels; (ii) the city’s violent crimes experiences and resolutions (with various individuals identified along with the crime(s) they committed); (iii) the department’s staffing goal to assure proper coverage with a reduction of the overtime currently required of the city’s officers; (iv) overtime pay data for the past few years; and (v) possible funding sources to allow for an increase in staffing. During the Police Department staffing presentations, all in attendance were given to opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ebersohl entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to (a) discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use by the city; and (b) receive an update on collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages.

MOTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to go into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to (a) discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use by the city; and (b) receive an update on collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION – REGULAR SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Roessler to return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:35 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Upon return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting, Mayor Hutchinson and the following Committee Members were present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis.

Chairman Ebersohl asked if there was any action to be taken as a result of the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

MOTION;

It was moved Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to recommend to the City Council that city staff be authorized to make an offer for the purchase of the real property (for use by the city) in the amount and with the contingencies as discussed in Executive Session. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

V. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

(1) Chairman Ebersohl informed Police Chief Edwards that he has witnessed several vehicles cutting across the parking lot at the American Legion property and using the old railroad right-of-way to exit at Industrial Drive – Chief Edwards said he would install a monitoring device in that area to gather data to address this issue; (2) Mayor Hutchinson stated he would be presenting a Proclamation in support of Scott Air Force Base at a future council meeting; and (3) a discussion was held pertaining to the Brockland sign variances presented at the last city council meeting – during the discussion, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions as to why they voted as they did (at said council meeting) on the sign variances; the discussion included (i) the process followed in presenting the variances to the council members; (ii) whether the process should be changed or if more information may be needed (by the council members) when future variances are presented; and (iii) whether consideration should be given to amendments to signage regulations in various areas of the city.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Reis to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, October 14, 2013 at 10:22 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes taken by:



ALBERT G. HUDZIK, City Administrator

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2013 IN THE
COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mary Ellen Niemietz called the Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 10:23 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Niemietz and Aldermen Ebersohl and Mathews.

Absent: Alderman Agne.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Mayor Hutchinson and Aldermen Roessler and Reis.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams, City Attorney Terry Bruckert and Accounting Manager Linda Sharp.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Niemietz stated the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing (1) the (proposed) Sesquicentennial Pavilion; and (2) any other items to be considered.

II. SESQUICENTENNIAL PAVILION DISCUSSION

Chairman Niemietz opened the meeting and called upon City Engineer Ron Williams to address the Committee/Council Members on this issue. Ron began his presentation by projecting pictures of a few pavilions of different sizes and materials, including a 30' X 36' pavilion (with brown shingles similar in color to the other pavilions in Metter Park), as well as a 40' X 44' pavilion – pictures of some of the other structures located in Metter Park were also included. Ron informed the Committee/Council Members that pavilions are normally built from kits and he recommended advertising for bids on the more common sized 30' X 36' pavilion – he also informed the Committee/Council Members that the 40' X 44' pavilion was not a common size (for most companies) and he felt fewer companies would submit bids if that size pavilion was selected; additionally, most of the bids would be submitted as customized bids (thereby increasing the price of the pavilion). Ron also stated that (i) the concrete pad would extend 2½' on all sides of the pavilion to allow for proper drainage and clearance – that would result in pad dimensions approximating 35' X 41' for a 30' X 36' pavilion; (ii) the pavilion would be bid out on a turnkey basis; (iii) the materials lead time was estimated to be 8 – 12 weeks; (iv) a water line currently exists in the proposed area of the pavilion and an electrical service connection can be made at the Metter Park comfort station; (v) the concrete work should

be completed this fall and the pavilion may be built by this end of this year (depending on the weather); and (vi) the cost of the pavilion should fall within the city's budgeted amount of \$54,000. During Ron's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, including (a) a maximum amount of twelve (12) tables would fit in the 30' X 36' pavilion; and (b) additional costs (besides the table purchases) would be incurred for electrical and water services materials and installation, as well as for the pavilion lighting. It was the general consensus of the Committee/Council Members that Ron prepare the bid specifications, advertise them and conduct the bid letting for a 30' X 36' pavilion; the bid results are to be presented to the city council (for its consideration) at a future council meeting.

III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT


MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Mathews and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to adjourn the Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Committee Meeting held Monday, October 14, 2013 at 10:37 p.m. Upon Roll Call Vote, Chairman Niemietz and Aldermen Ebersohl and Mathews voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



MARY ELLEN NIEMIETZ, Chairman
PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Minutes Taken by:



ALBERT G. HUDZIK, City Administrator

**MINUTES OF THE AMBULANCE, RADIO COMMUNICATION AND
DISPATCH COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2013 IN THE
COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Reis called the Ambulance, Radio Communication and Dispatch Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:25 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Reis and Aldermen Niemietz and Mathews.

Absent: Alderman Huch.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Mayor Hutchinson and Aldermen Ebersohl and Roessler.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Chief of Police and EMS Director Joe Edwards, Deputy Chief of Police Jerry Paul and Accounting Manager Linda Sharp.

Guests Present: Paul Tipton, Monroe County Interoperability Communications Committee Member.

Chairman Reis stated the purpose of the meeting was to (1) receive a presentation on STARCOM 21 Communications Equipment Installation; and (2) discuss any other items that may need to be considered.

**II. STARCOM 21 COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION
PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

Chairman Reis opened the meeting and called upon Police Chief Joe Edwards to address the Committee/Council Members on this issue. Joe again informed the Committee/Council Members that the city has been experiencing radio communications problems when employees are in buildings, since the city sits in a low lying area compared to other areas of Monroe County. After discussing the transmission problems with Motorola personnel, Motorola has offered to supply the necessary broadcasting equipment (costing in excess of \$300,000) to the city (to be located on the city's tower) provided the city agrees to pay for the installation of said equipment. Joe then briefly reviewed Motorola Solutions documentation entitled "Installation Agreement – Installation of Starcom 21 Site at the Columbia Police Dept. facility" and "Statement of Work" (which documents had previously been distributed to the Committee/Council Members) – said documentation reflected Equipment Installation costs of \$55,000 and detailed the necessary work for the equipment to be installed on the city's transmission tower; it also

included the responsibilities of Motorola and those of the city (pertaining to the equipment installation). Edwards indicated the equipment is essential for the public safety of the city's employees and its residents, and Paul Tipton informed the Committee/Council Members that Motorola has the necessary equipment readily available. City Administrator Hudzik indicated the city's budget would need to be amended (including identification of funding sources) to allow the payment of the installation costs, since this expense was unknown at the time the budget was approved. During the presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions – Edwards stated that (a) St. Clair County addressed anticipated transmission problems in the building of its communications system; and (b) Madison County ran into similar transmission problems and ended up building several additional transmission sites – in each instance the costs incurred were far greater than the \$55,000 equipment installation fee requested of the City of Columbia. It was the general consensus of the Committee/Council Members that the necessary documentation be prepared and presented to the city council (at a future council meeting) to (i) amend the city's budget; and (ii) approve the signing of the Installation Agreement (in an effort to alleviate the transmission problems currently being experienced by city employees).

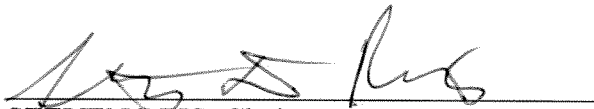
III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Mathews to adjourn the Ambulance, Radio Communication and Dispatch Committee Meeting held Monday, October 14, 2013 at 7:45 p.m. Upon Roll Call Vote, Chairman Reis and Aldermen Niemietz and Mathews voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



STEVEN REIS, Chairman

AMBULANCE, RADIO COMMUNICATION AND DISPATCH COMMITTEE

Minutes Taken by:



ALBERT G. HUDZIK, City Administrator