

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014 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 7:05 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 Alderman Roessler, Huch, Reis and Holtkamp.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams, City Attorney John Long, Chief of Police and EMS Director Joe Edwards, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: Columbia Khoury League President Dan Voelkel, Aaron and Amanda Schnaus, Suzanne and Joe Siburt and Kathleen Kutterer (said guests were residents of property adjacent to American Legion Memorial Park – all left at 7:53 p.m. (at the conclusion of the fence portion of the meeting)).

Chairman Niemietz stated the meeting was called for the purpose of (1) receiving a presentation from the Columbia Khoury League concerning the construction of a fence at the American Legion Memorial Park; and (2) discussing any other items to be considered.

II. KHOURY LEAGUE PRESENTATION – FENCE AT AMERICAN LEGION MEMORIAL PARK

Chairman Niemietz opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, made opening remarks and called upon Columbia Khoury League (“Khoury League”) President Dan Voelkel to address the Committee/Council Members and the residents in attendance on this topic. He distributed and reviewed a copy of a drawing of the proposed fence to be constructed at the American Legion Memorial Park (previously distributed at the May 27th committee meeting for review) and stated that the Khoury League was ready to proceed with the construction of the proposed fence as soon as city approval is granted. A general discussion took place in which all in attendance (including the residents) were given the opportunity to ask questions, make comments and express their opinions, which included: (a) that residents have been involved in the discussions of where the proposed fence will be located (property lines have been surveyed and are staked); (b) clarification that the fence will be constructed (on city property) approximately six (6) inches from the property line; (c) that the fence line will be the Khoury League’s responsibility to

maintain year round (including keeping the grass mowed and trimmed); (d) comments on the location of the two (2) gates and the (approximately) 40' section located on the east side of diamond #1 (as shown on the drawing distributed); (e) that the fence will hopefully provide a barrier to prevent/reduce trespassing on adjacent owners' properties by the general public; (f) comments concerning the trail right of way near diamond #3; (g) that a fence permit will be required by the city; (h) the Khoury League will advise coaches and players not to trespass on residents' properties; (i) liability issues created for property owners whenever the public, the coaches and the players are on their properties; (j) that it would be beneficial for the fence to be constructed prior to the playoffs (beginning in early July); (k) fence line maintenance suggestions (e.g., possibly using chemicals, mulch or rock); and (l) the difficulty of maintaining the fence/fence line without trespassing on adjacent owners' properties. After additional discussion (on when the fence construction could begin), it was the consensus of the Committee/Council Members that once council approval and the fence permit were received, construction of the fence could begin. Mr. Voelkel and the Committee/Council Members thanked the residents for their attendance and cooperation on this issue.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Mathews and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to recommend to the City Council that the Columbia Khoury League be given permission to construct a fence on city property at the American Legion Memorial Park, contingent on meeting city requirements/policies, as presented and discussed in Committee. Chairman Niemietz and Aldermen Ebersohl, and Mathews voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.** A straw poll was taken: Aldermen Roessler, Huch, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea.

III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

Chairman Niemietz distributed a copy of the program and the plaque for the Metter Park Sesquicentennial Pavilion dedicated on June 22, 2014. Chairman Niemietz (i) thanked City Engineer Ron Williams and the DOPW employees for their assistance in the construction of the Sesquicentennial Pavilion; and (ii) confirmed that the Clerk's Office would book future reservations for the Sesquicentennial Pavilion.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl and seconded by Alderman Mathews to adjourn the Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Committee Meeting held Monday, June 23, 2014 at 7:55 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:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014
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 7:55 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

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

Absent: Alderman Agne.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams, City Attorney John Long, Chief of Police and EMS Director Joe Edwards (left at 9:15 p.m.), Accounting Manager Linda Sharp and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing: (1) the City's 2008 G.O. Capital Projects and Refunding Bonds Callable in December 2014; (2) Municipal Sales Taxes; (3) Upgrading the Network Between City Buildings; (4) Water and Sewer Recoupment issues; and (5) any other items to be considered.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ebersohl entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use by the city, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

MOTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Roessler to go into Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use by the city, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel

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June 23, 2014

Memo from Accounting Manager Linda Sharp re: Hypothetical Illustration for Refunding GO Bonds (ARS), Series 2008 (7 pages)

Memo to City Administrator Al Hudzik re: Use of Municipal Funds to Support or Oppose Matter Submitted to the Electorate (4 pages)

Memo to City Administrator Al Hudzik re: Municipal 'Sales' Tax Application and Expenditure Guidelines (2 pages)

Network Upgrade Information from HTC (5 pages), Wisper ISP (1 page) and Charter Business Communications (58 pages)

Memo from Accounting Manager Linda Sharp re: Sewer Recoupment Interest Recalculation and Reimbursement (5 pages)

should be acquired. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp 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 8:09 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp 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, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp.

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. There was none.

III. 2008 G.O. CAPITAL PROJECTS AND REFUNDING BONDS CALLABLE IN DECEMBER 2014 DISCUSSION

City Administrator Al Hudzik reviewed the financial information contained on the documentation attached to Accounting Manager Linda Sharp's Memo (of June 18th) prepared by Robert W. Baird & Co. and entitled "Hypothetical Illustration for Refunding GO Bonds (ARS), Series 2008" (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members). Hudzik's review was on a page by page basis and included a "Potential Net Present Value Benefit" (i.e., savings to the city) of refunding the bond issue based on assumed interest rates and the same final maturity date (of December 1, 2027), and included documents entitled "Debt Service Comparison", "Sources & Uses", "Hypothetical Debt Service Schedule", "Pricing Schedule" and "Important Disclosures". Hudzik also distributed and reviewed current U.S. Treasury Bond Rates for U.S. Treasury securities with maturity dates of 3 months, 6 months, 2 years, 3 years, 5 years, 10 years and 30 years – he also presented the tax equivalent yields of the same securities assuming a federal income tax rate of 25% (this information was presented for informational purposes). During Hudzik's presentation, all in attendance were given an opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions – Hudzik indicated that work would continue on compiling information pertaining to the refunding of the city's 2008 bond issue and again asked the Committee Members to give consideration to the total amount of bonds to be issued, and what projects to add to the bond refunding.

IV. MUNICIPAL SALES TAX DISCUSSION

City Administrator Hudzik then reviewed two (2) Memos (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members) from attorney Tim Palen pertaining to sales taxes

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with subject lines of (i) “Use of Municipal Funds to Support or Oppose Matter Submitted to the Electorate”, which addressed the use of public funds to support or oppose a matter submitted to the city’s electorate; and (ii) “Municipal ‘Sales’ Tax Application and Expenditure Guidelines”, which addressed exemptions from a non-home rule municipal sales tax, as well as how revenue received by the city from the imposition of the tax may be utilized. During Hudzik’s review, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, which included (a) any increase in sales taxes should be dedicated to public safety expenses; (b) the need to increase revenues to support the city’s public safety services (increased property taxes vs. increased sales taxes to support those services); (c) the percentage increase to be requested must be in .25% increments; and (d) updated financial information on the city’s EMS Department should be compiled and reviewed – Hudzik indicated this topic would again be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

V. **UPGRADE OF NETWORK BETWEEN CITY BUILDINGS DISCUSSION**

City Engineer Ron Williams addressed the Committee Members on this issue. Ron reviewed the “Network Upgrade Information” documentation (previously distributed to the Committee Members) received from Harrisonville Telephone Company (“HTC”), Wisper ISP (wireless internet) and Charter (Business) Communications (“Charter”) – both HTC and Charter offered fiber network solutions and Wisper offered a wireless network solution (Wisper’s documentation indicated in the long term the company would be interested in working with the city to run fiber between the city buildings). Ron then reviewed the pricing submitted by the companies: (A) Wisper’s pricing required an up front payment of \$11,200 to upgrade the link between the Police Dept. and (i) City Hall; and (ii) the DOPW building to 1 GB, as well as a monthly fee of \$700 for 30Mbps of symmetrical internet speed – this was for a three (3) year term (for internet services) and the company indicated it would need to survey the sites to confirm the line of sight between the City Hall and the tower at the Public Safety complex; (B) Charter’s pricing was \$1,668/mo. for use of the fiber network and \$800/mo. for 30Mbps of symmetrical internet speed (for a five (5) year term); and (C) HTC’s pricing was \$1,114/mo. for use of the fiber network and \$739/mo. for 30 Mbps of symmetrical internet speed (for a five (5) year term). Ron indicated that it was the recommendation of the Department Heads that HTC’s fiber network be used since it is approximately \$600/mo. less expensive than Charter’s fiber network and the Department Heads felt the fiber network option was preferable to the wireless option offered by Wisper (Note: Wisper indicated on their pricing documentation that in the long term they would be interested in working with the city to run fiber between the city buildings to provide these services) – he also informed the Committee Members he has discussed changes to the fiber solution agreements to incorporate (a) opt-out language in the event the company does not provide services at the levels called for in the agreement; (b) priority of servicing the city’s network due to

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the public safety aspect of city services; and (c) language providing for the internet pricing to decrease whenever HTC adjusts its pricing (lower) for 30 Mbps of symmetrical internet speed to its other customers. During Ron's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions. It was the consensus that Ron present the necessary documentation for the city to use HTC's fiber network/internet, including any changes deemed necessary and after review by the City Attorney, to the city council for its consideration at a future council meeting.

VI. WATER AND SEWER RECOUPMENT UPDATE/DISCUSSION

Accounting Manager Linda Sharp reviewed her Memo re: Sewer Recoupment Interest Recalculation and Reimbursement (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members) and indicated that the sewer recoupment interest charged on (Trunk Line G (i.e., D.R.D. Eckert and Co., Inc. ("DRD Eckert"))) sanitary sewer recoupment payments had been miscalculated (i.e., doubled) from 2002 to 2012 due to an error in the creation of the original formula calculating the interest – this has resulted in refunds due the companies/individuals listed on the four (4) page document attached to Linda's Memo. The aggregate amount of the refunds approximates \$22,450, which was overpaid (and recovered) from DRD Eckert in the past (after a meeting was held with Randy Eckert to discuss the interest miscalculation/sewer recoupment overpayments). Linda stated (i) this information was presented for the Committee's information and that the refunds did not require city funds (to be used), since they were being paid from funds recovered pursuant to past overpayments of sewer recoupment funds; and (ii) water recoupment payments had been properly calculated and there were no adjustments necessary.

VII. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

Accounting Manager Linda Sharp then distributed and reviewed a proposed "Engagement Letter" from the firm of Schorb & Schmersahl, LLC, the city's auditor, pertaining to the city's audit for its fiscal year ending April 30, 2014. Linda indicated the proposed engagement letter contained standard language (virtually the same as that presented in past years) with a cost not to exceed \$18,000 plus out of pocket costs (approximately the same as last year's fee). It was Ms. Sharp's recommendation that the audit engagement letter, as presented, be approved, and she informed the Committee Members that she planned to present it for their consideration at the July 7th council meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Reis to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois

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held Monday, June 23 2014 at 9:23 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**



GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes taken by:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant

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