

**MINUTES OF THE STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRAINAGE AND  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS  
HELD MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Gene Ebersohl called the Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage and Public Utilities Committee 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 and Roessler.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Mayor Hutchinson and Aldermen Agne, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator James Morani, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp, Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens, Building Inspector and Interim Zoning Administrator Justin Osterhage, Director of Community and Economic Development Paul Ellis, and Deputy Clerk Donna Mehaffey.

Guests Present: Mr. Glenn Pfeffer, President of the Brellinger Subdivision Homeowners Association.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss Gedern Estates Streets and Brellinger Street Signs.

**II. GEDERN ESTATES STREETS**

This item was tabled.

**III. BRELLINGER STREET SIGNS**

Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens addressed the committee regarding the Brellinger Subdivision street signs. Mr. Glenn Pfeffer, President of the Brellinger Subdivision Homeowner's Association was also present. Mr. Ahrens referenced a handout he had distributed to the committee. The handout was a copy of the minutes of the Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage and Public Utilities Committee meeting from September 22, 2014 of which the Brellinger Subdivision Street Sign Maintenance was discussed with a recommendation that the City maintains the signage and poles in Brellinger Subdivision and replaces all posts with black posts and all street signage to correct standards. The handout also had a copy of a letter from Attorney

Mark Scoggins verifying there was no agreement with the City of Columbia to maintain the signs in the Brellinger Subdivision. Mr. Ahrens reviewed the minutes and the cost from the last committee meeting regarding the signage (approximately \$3,000.00). However, with City Engineer Ron Williams leaving his position with the City, this item did not get placed in the FY 2015-2016 budget. Mr. Ahrens stated that if the cost comes out of the street budget now, it will hurt their budget. Mr. Ahrens noted that the developer pays for the signs when initially installed in a new subdivision. However, these signs were not standard signage; they were more expensive signage and now are not up to standards to meet the signage mandate. It was noted the subdivision is 13 years old. It was the consensus of the committee that going forward, signage for a subdivision needs to be addressed in the subdivision plat approval so this type of situation does not happen again. The effective date for the signage mandate was not known at the meeting; Mr. Ahrens will have to check for the date as it was asked if the signage had to be repaired this year. Mr. Pfeffer added that he was told that the current poles cannot be painted as the paint will not adhere to the type of pole that is currently in place. The cost for all of the signage/poles was discussed and noted that it needs to be completed. The types of signage were also discussed as well as the poles for the street signs. There was also a short discussion about the street light poles in Columbia that have faded.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Roessler to recommend to the City Council that the City replace all stop signs and street name signs with hi-intensity reflective signs and to replace all street sign posts with black powder coated square posts in Brellinger Subdivision. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.** A straw vote of the other Aldermen; Aldermen Agne, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens voted yea.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to adjourn the Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage and Public Utilities Committee Meeting at 7:25 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

  
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GENE EBERSOHL, Committee Chairman

  
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Committee Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member

Minutes taken by:   
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DONNA MEHAFFEY, Deputy Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,  
MAY 11, 2015 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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**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 7:25 P.M.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Committee Members - Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens. Mayor Hutchinson was also present.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present:

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator James Morani, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Accounting Manager Linda Sharp, Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens, Building Inspector and Interim Zoning Administrator Justin Osterhage, Director of Community and Economic Development Paul Ellis and Deputy Clerk Donna Mehaffey.

Guests Present: Mr. Bob Freyman, President of the Historic Main Street Columbia Association, Inc.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing: (1) Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting; (2) Agreement with Historic Main Street Columbia, Inc.; (3) Sign Code Amendment (Park Athletic Fields); (4) Pine Creek Estates; (5) Safe Routes to School Grant Project: Bolm-Schuhkraft Park Connector Trail; (6) Bulk Water Rate; (7) Television and Monitor Recycling; (8) Citizen Comments; (9) Other items to be considered or discussed; and (10) Executive Session – 5 ILCS 120/2(c).

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 27, 2015 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

The minutes of the April 27, 2015 Committee of the Whole committee meeting were submitted for approval.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Huch and seconded by Alderman Holtkamp, to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2015 Committee of the Whole committee meeting. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**III. AGREEMENT WITH HISTORIC MAIN STREET COLUMBIA, INC.**

Director of Community and Economic Development Paul Ellis addressed the committee on the proposed Agreement with Historic Main Street Columbia, Inc. Mr. Bob Freyman, President of the Historic Main Street Columbia, Inc. was also present for the meeting. Mr. Ellis reported that the Historic Main Street Columbia, Inc. has been formed and a proposed agreement with the City of Columbia has been completed and asked the committee if there were any questions before it will be submitted to the next City Council meeting. Mayor Hutchinson asked about the City's obligations. Mr. Ellis reported that on page 3, Section 5 Consideration, Items A, B and C outline the obligations which is a two (2) year commitment, the benefits are for each year of the two (2) years, (A) \$8,000.00 cash contribution towards the salary for an Executive Director; (B) Assignment of the Director of Community and Economic Development or other City staff as may be appropriate, to serve as the Executive Director for one day each week or an equivalent period of time; and (C) office space, office equipment, utilities and supplies. Alderman Niemietz questioned the identity of the stakeholders and Mr. Ellis stated the stakeholders are the building owners, business owners and volunteers. Mayor Hutchinson suggested adding Items A, B and C in Section 5 together as one employee to do everything. Mr. Freyman pointed out that Section 5 is for two (2) different employees. Section 5-B was discussed by all in attendance and all were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments. Mr. Ellis added that IRS form 1023 (tax exempt status) has yet to be filed, but the group is incorporated. Alderman Niemietz asked what the Chamber of Commerce thought about the Main Street group and Mr. Ellis said they have talked to the Chamber of Commerce and they are not fighting it nor do they have any negative opinions about it.

It was the consensus of the committee to clarify the language of Section 5-B so that it reflects the responsibilities of the City as the time pertains to the Executive Director position of the proposed Historic Main Street Columbia Association, Inc. agreement.

Mr. Ellis will submit the proposed agreement with the clarification in Section 5-B for the next Council meeting, May 18.

**IV. SIGN CODE AMENDMENT (PARK ATHLETIC FIELDS)**

City Administrator James Morani reviewed the Proposed Amendment to the Sign Code with the committee. The revisions were shown in red. Mr. Morani said that he had sent the revisions to Columbia Khoury League President Jessica Whaley. Mr. Morani reviewed the changes with the committee and will bring back to the committee one more

time before finalizing. Mr. Morani reported that the CKL also asked about pole banners similar to the ones on Main Street and this item was scratched per the committee. Alderman Agne suggested that a person's name on a dugout, etc. would be better instead of a business name as he does not want the signage to be commercialized. Alderman Roessler asked if the Sign Code could be amended and Mr. Morani said that it could. Mr. Morani also reported that CKL President Jessica Whaley also asked about fees for the signs. Building Inspector and Interim Zoning Administrator Justin Osterhage stated that temporary sign permits cost \$5.50. Mr. Morani and the committee felt that a fee needs to be charged to at least cover the administrative cost of the temporary sign permit. Alderman Holtkamp suggested the maximum of the signage should be two (2) feet in either one (1) direction for banners. Mr. Morani will make Alderman Holtkamp's suggested change on item 1 of the Proposed Amendment to the Sign Code. Mr. Morani will bring the Sign Code Amendment (Park Athletic Fields) back to the committee one more time and request CKL President Jessica Whaley's attendance.

#### **V. PINE CREEK ESTATES**

Building Inspector and Interim Zoning Administrator Justin Osterhage addressed the Committee on the proposed Pine Creek Estates subdivision. The developer, Mr. Brian Thompson, through Mr. Osterhage, would like to know the feelings of the Committee to move forward on the proposed Pine Creek Estates subdivision as previously presented.

It was the consensus of the committee to present all items and issues first to the City Attorney before any kind of statement to the developer, Mr. Thompson.

#### **VI. BULK WATER RATE**

Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens addressed the committee on the bulk water rates. Mr. Ahrens referenced a worksheet showing bulk water rates for surrounding communities plus the totals for the year. The worksheet showed that Columbia was selling water the cheapest - \$0.25 for 65 gallons. After a brief discussion of bulk water charges, it was the consensus of the committee to charge \$0.25 for 35 gallons. It was added that the fee ordinance will need to be amended for the next City Council meeting. It was also discussed that possibly the new park fees could be amended in the same fee ordinance.

#### **VII. TELEVISION AND MONITOR RECYCLING**

City Administrator James Morani reviewed with the committee an email from Administrative Assistant Jackie Hausmann regarding the monthly recycling (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month) at the Department of Public Works parking lot regarding acceptance of Tube/Rear Projection TVs and CRT Monitors. RNA World Wide (the City's current recycling collection company) is no longer accepting the tube/rear projection TVs and CRT monitors. The email indicated two (2) other options for recycling; the Monroe County Recycle Center and MRC Recycling in St. Louis. There is

now a sign at the DOPW stating tube/rear projection TVs and CRT monitors are not accepted, but may receive some of the items not accepted before or after the event hours. The next RNA World Wide recycling event will be this Saturday, May 16. Mr. Morani reported that this will be discussed at a future committee meeting, but in the meantime, will see how this coming Saturday recycling works out. Mr. Morani also asked the committee for any ideas to solve this issue.

**VIII. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT PROJECT: BOLM-SCHUHKRAFT PARK CONNECTOR TRAIL**

Community and Economic Development Director Paul Ellis addressed the committee. Mr. Ellis distributed a draft letter from Dr. Gina Segobiano, Superintendent of Columbia Community Unit School District 4 addressed to IDOT regarding the Safe Routes to School Grant for the Bolm-Schuhkraft Park Connector Trail. Mr. Ellis gave an update on the project which entailed that Phase 1 is the grant that has already been received and Phase 2 is to finalize the connection on the school property. The draft letter of intent is for the school to submit a Phase 2 Safe Routes to School Grant upon the next grant cycle. Mr. Ellis has spoken to Dr. Segobiano and Asst. Supt. Dr. Beth Horner and they are both supportive of the connector trail. Mr. Ellis added there would have to be an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Columbia and the school district. Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens reported that he does not know if IDOT will even do the grant in phases and added that the project would cost approximately \$250,000.00. Mr. Ahrens added that the school has indicated that they can't make a monetary commitment. Mr. Ahrens also reported that the trail would benefit the entire community, not just the school. It was noted that Phase 1 of the project is on City property and Phase 2 of the project is school property with a little of the City property. Alderman Roessler wondered why the school could not raise funds like the football groups do for the football program – The Columbia Quarterback Club and the Columbia Eagles Athletic Booster Club – for a donation to the trail. Alderman Niemietz added that currently the City has several foundations and that possibly a donation could come from one of these foundations.

It was the consensus of the committee that Columbia CUSD 4 sends the letter of intent to IDOT for the Phase 2 Safe Routes to School Grant Project: Bolm-Schuhkraft Park Connector Trail.

**IX. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

**X. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED**

There were no other items to be considered or discussed.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5 ILCS 120/2(C)**

Chairman Ebersohl entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2(c) Collective Bargaining and Litigation.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Roessler to go into Executive Session at 8:35 P.M. to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2(c) Collective Bargaining and Litigation. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**XII. REGULAR SESSION**

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Agne to return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:05 P.M. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens 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 Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens.

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.

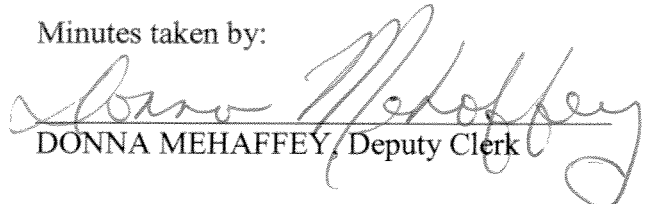
**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Holtkamp to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, May 11, 2015 at 9:06 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

  
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GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes taken by:

  
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DONNA MEHAFFEY, Deputy Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE AND RULES COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD  
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ebersohl called the Executive and Rules Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 9:06 P.M.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz and Roessler.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Others Present: Mayor Hutchinson and Aldermen Huch, Reis, Holtkamp and Martens.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator James Morani, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Interim Director of Public Works Tim Ahrens and Deputy Clerk Donna Mehaffey.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Ebersohl stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss Committee Assignments.

**II. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Chairman Ebersohl opened the meeting and gave the opportunity to each of the Committee members to state whether they would like to continue to serve on the same committees and in the same roles (i.e., chairman or committee member), or whether they would like to serve on other committees, for the city's 2015 – 2016 fiscal year. A general discussion then took place wherein it was the consensus of the Committee members that the council committees be composed of the same chairpersons and members that were serving a year ago with Alderman Martens assuming the roles (i.e., chairman or committee member), and serving on the same committees, as former Alderman Mathews. Therefore, the structure of the committees would remain the same for FY 2015 – 2016 as they had been prior to the April, 2015 election, except that Alderman Martens would serve on the following committees in the capacities shown:

- (1) Ambulance, Radio Communication and Dispatch – Committee Member (replacing Alderman Mathews);



- (2) License, Insurance Claims, CEMA and Contracts – Chairman (replacing Alderman Mathews);
- (3) Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation – Committee Member (replacing Alderman Mathews);
- (4) Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage and Public Utilities – Committee Member (replacing Alderman Mathews);
- (5) Water and Sewer – Committee Member (replacing Alderman Mathews); and
- (6) Education – Chairman (replacing Alderman Mathews).

**MOTION:**


It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Roessler to recommend to the City Council the FY 2015 – 2016 City of Columbia Aldermanic Committees, as discussed and determined in Committee. Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**III. ADJOURNMENT**


**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Agne and seconded by Alderman Roessler to adjourn the Executive and Rules Committee Meeting held Monday, May 11, 2015 at 9:08 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE AND RULES COMMITTEE


  
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GENE EBERSOHL, Committee Chairman

  
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Committee Member

  
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Committee Member

  
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Committee Member

Minutes taken by:

  
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DONNA MEHAFFEY, Deputy Clerk