

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD  
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

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**I. Call To Order**

Mayor Hutchinson called the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 P.M. Upon roll call, the following were:

|          |         |          |         |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Ebersohl | Present | Agne     | Present |
| Niemietz | Present | Roessler | Present |
| Huch     | Present | Reis     | Present |
| Holtkamp | Present | Martens  | Absent  |

Quorum present. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administrative Staff present:

|                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| City Clerk Wes Hoeffken              | City Administrator James Morani    |
| City Attorney Terry Bruckert         | Chief of Police Jerry Paul         |
| City Engineer Chris Smith            | Accounting Manager Linda Sharp     |
| Dir. of Community Dev. Scott Dunakey | EMS Chief Kim Lamprecht            |
| Head Librarian Annette Bland         | Assistant City Engineer Tim Ahrens |
| Deputy Chief of Police Jason Donjon  | Labor Attorney Corey Franklin      |

**II. Delegations and Citizens' Comments**

- A. Daughters of the American Revolution – Whiteside Station – Constitution Week  
Ms. Florence Mulligan of the Daughters of the American Revolution addressed the Council regarding Constitution Week, which will be celebrated September 17 – 25, 2018.
- B. Oath of Office for Officer Andrew Krump  
Mayor Hutchinson administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Andrew Krump.
- C. Oath of Office for Officer Tyler Gallaher  
Mayor Hutchinson administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Tyler Gallaher.
- D. Sunset Overlook Noise Issue  
Ms. Kris Brower, of Grandview Bluffs Subdivision, addressed the Council regarding the noise that is drifting up from Sunset Overlook. Ms. Brower stated she would like someone from the City to review the noise ordinances and determine if anything can be done about the noise from Sunset Overlook. Ms. Brower added that while the music is not blaring, it, along with conversation chatter, drifts up the bluff and is very disruptive. Ms. Brower then explained she has discussed this with the owners and the Police Department but thinks the City needs to verify if there are

any code violations. Ms. Brower then suggested the owner contact Gaus Acoustics in St. Louis to conduct a study to identify possible solutions.

Mr. Morani stated he will work with the City Attorney to review the current code and present any options for the City.

E. United Steelworkers Local 9189

Mr. Jason Chism, representative for the United Steelworkers Local 9189, addressed the Council regarding the current bargaining unit contract and negotiations. Mr. Chism highlighted the following:

- There is a positive history of the Steelworkers union with the City.
- The union worked with the City to replace the Steelworks health care plan with the City's plan, subsequently saving the City money.
- The bargaining unit wants to maintain the current benefit structure.
- The bargaining unit has requested a modest pay increase.
- The City has implied there is an abuse of time off.
- The City's insistence for changes to health care premium cost sharing, a two-tier structure for new DOPW employees, and a surcharge for spouse insurance coverage is unfair.
- It appears as if the City is looking for a fight.
- The bargaining unit has been more than reasonable with their requests.
- Cautioned the City that a Tier 2 structure is reckless and does not fare well with the union.

Mr. Cole Dreher, shop steward for the bargaining unit, inquired as to why the DOPW is being singled out and stated the group is not being treated fairly. Mr. Dreher added the City's requests are going back to the way things previously were and as a group, the DOPW is not happy.

Mr. Brian Stemler, a former President for a local Steelworkers union, stated a two-tier wage structure is designed to break the union and this does not makes sense since Columbia is one of the richest communities in Illinois.

Alderman Roessler, speaking on behalf of the Council, stated the following:

- A better part of the negotiations deal with fringe benefits, including sick leave, callout pay, uniform allowance, and weekend pay.
- Health care costs have skyrocketed and something needs to be done to get that under control.
- The "total package" costs need to be addressed and the bargaining unit needs to understand that a \$1.00 increase in pay equates to \$2.50 with associated benefit costs.

- The change in health care plans was driven by the proposed “Cadillac Tax” that would have been assessed on the City had they continued to offer the previous Steelworkers health plan.
- The City is trying to manage overhead costs and the negotiations are not one-sided.
- Mr. Morani does defend what is unfair for the DOPW while trying to balance what is equitable for the City.

Mayor Hutchinson stated that he wants the bargaining unit to understand that Mr. Morani does keep the Council updated about the negotiations and there is no intent to separate the members of the bargaining unit.

**III. Read and Approve Minutes**

**A. Regular Session**

The minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, August 6, 2018 were submitted for approval.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Alderman Roessler, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, August 6, 2018 as on file at City Hall. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |         |         |         |          |     |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Abstain | Agne    | Yea     | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea     | Huch    | Abstain | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea     | Martens | Absent  |          |     |

Aldermen Ebersohl and Huch abstained because they were not present for the August 6, 2018 meeting.

**B. Executive Session**

The minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, August 6, 2018 were submitted for approval.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Alderman Holtkamp, and seconded by Alderman Reis, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, August 6, 2018 as on file at City Hall. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |         |         |         |          |     |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Abstain | Agne    | Yea     | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea     | Huch    | Abstain | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea     | Martens | Absent  |          |     |

Aldermen Ebersohl and Huch abstained because they were not present for the August 6, 2018 meeting.

**IV. Report of Departments and Officers**

**A. Library**

The report of the Library was presented to the Council.

**B. Police and Communications**

The reports of the Police and Communications Departments were presented to the Council.

**C. Emergency Medical Services**

The report of the Emergency Medical Services was presented to the Council.

**D. Community Development**

The report of Community Development was presented to the Council.

**1. Resolution No. 2018-11 – Redevelopment Agreement with Budnick Converting, Inc.**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Alderman Reis, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to approve Resolution No. 2018-11, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Redevelopment Agreement with Budnick Converting, Inc. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

**Roll Call vote results:**

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

**2. Ordinance No. 3423 – Zoning Code Variance – 624 Lakefield Drive**

Alderman Huch stated there has been positive feedback from the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Lakefield Place Home Owners Association, and the subdivision residents regarding this variance and even with the addition, there will still be 40 feet between the addition and the neighboring structure. Alderman Huch added the new addition will be built on top of the existing driveway and he does not understand how the Council can oppose the request. Alderman Niemietz stated that after some additional research, she is now going to vote in favor of the variance after determining the real hardship is the inability to construct a two-

car garage within the current setback requirements. Alderman Agne stated he previously proposed a deed restriction with the adjoining neighbor and would still like to see this option considered.

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Reis, and seconded by Alderman Roessler, to approve Ordinance No. 3423, An Ordinance to Grant a Zoning Code Variance for Property Located at 624 Lakefield Drive in the City of Columbia, Illinois from Section 17.16.050(B) of the City of Columbia Municipal Code. Motion Passed 5 to 2.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Nay |
| Holtkamp | Nay | Martens | Absent |          |     |

3. Ordinance No. 3424 – Zoning Code Variance – 2359 Lake Shore Drive

Mr. Bruckert informed the Council action on this ordinance would be postponed until after Executive Session.

4. Knights of Columbus Donation Drive

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the request by the Knights of Columbus George R. Kutterer Council 6165 for their 2018 donation drive for those with intellectual disabilities scheduled to be held the weekend of September 21 and 22, 2018. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Voice vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

E. City Engineer

The report of the City Engineer was presented to the Council.

1. Engineering Agreement with Oates and Associates – Main Street Streetscape – Phase 3

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Holtkamp, to authorize the Mayor to enter into an Engineering Agreement with Oates and Associates for professional services for the Main Street Streetscape Phase 3 project. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

F. Finance

1. Vouchers To Be Paid

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through August 16, 2018 in the amount of three hundred twelve thousand, eight hundred nine dollars and seventy-four cents (\$312,809.74). Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

2. Statement of Funds

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler, and seconded by Alderman Reis, to approve the Statement of Funds through June 30, 2018 as presented and on file at City Hall. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

G. City Clerk

The City Clerk presented his report to the Council.

H. City Attorney

The City Attorney presented his report to the Council.

I. City Administrator

The report of the City Administrator was presented to the Council.

1. Ordinance No. 3425 – Regulations for Right-of-Way Management

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Reis, and seconded by Alderman Roessler, to approve Ordinance No. 3425, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 12.04 of the Columbia Municipal Code Related to Regulations for Right-of-Way Management. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

J. Mayor

The report of the Mayor was presented to the Council.

V. Old Business

There was no Old Business brought before the Council.

VI. New Business

There was no New Business brought before the Council.

VII. Report of Standing Committees

There were no Reports of Standing Committees.

VIII. Call for Committee Meetings - August 27, 2018

Committee of the Whole

IX. Executive Session - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)

Mayor Hutchinson informed the Council that he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, collective bargaining, and probable or imminent litigation as permitted under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), (2), and (11).

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Holtkamp, to direct the Mayor to go into Executive Session at 7:50 P.M. to discuss personnel, collective bargaining, and probable or imminent litigation as permitted under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), (2), and (11). Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Reis, to return to Regular Session of the City Council at 8:33 P.M. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Yea | Agne    | Yea    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Yea | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Yea |
| Holtkamp | Yea | Martens | Absent |          |     |

Upon return to Regular Session, Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp, and Mayor Hutchinson were present. Mayor Hutchinson inquired if there was any action to be taken as a result of Executive Session.

1. Ordinance No. 3424 – Zoning Code Variance – 2359 Lake Shore Drive

Motion:

It was moved by Alderman Reis, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to approve Ordinance No. 3424, An Ordinance Granting a Zoning Code Variance for Property Located at 2359 Lake Shore Drive in the City of Columbia, Illinois from Section 17.20.050(A) of the Columbia Municipal Code and the Fox Run Estates Phase III Final Subdivision Plat. Motion Failed 5 to 2.

Roll Call vote results:

|          |     |         |        |          |     |
|----------|-----|---------|--------|----------|-----|
| Ebersohl | Nay | Agne    | Nay    | Niemietz | Yea |
| Roessler | Nay | Huch    | Yea    | Reis     | Nay |
| Holtkamp | Nay | Martens | Absent |          |     |



X. **Adjournment**

**Motion:**

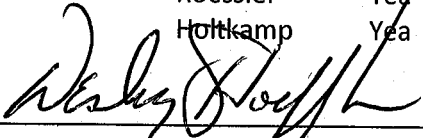
It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Reis, to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting held Monday, August 20, 2018 at 8:35 P.M. Motion Passed 7 to 0.

Voice vote results:

Ebersohl      Yea  
Roessler      Yea  
Holtkamp      Yea

Agne            Yea  
Huch            Yea  
Martens        Absent

Niemietz      Yea  
Reis            Yea



WESLEY J. HOEFFKEN, CITY CLERK



MAYOR KEVIN B. HUTCHINSON