

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
AUGUST 12, 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 7:02 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 Terry Bruckert, Chief of Police & EMS Director Joe Edwards and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: Tom Leigh, Director of Midwest Energy Sales for Good Energy (left at 7:38 p.m.); Tracy Butler, Executive Officer of the Home Builders Association of Greater Southwest IL (“HBA”) and HBA Representative Garrett Johnson of Johnson Real Estate & Development, L.L.C. (both left at 7:50 p.m.).

Chairman Ebersohl stated the meeting was called for the purpose of (1) receiving a presentation from Good Energy on (i) city electricity usage/rates; and (ii) Columbia’s electricity aggregation program; (2) receiving a presentation from the Home Builders Association of Greater Southwest IL; (3) receiving an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant application update; (4) discussing the Police Department concrete pad; and (5) discussing any other items to be considered.

**II. GOOD ENERGY PRESENTATION ON (i) CITY ELECTRICITY USAGE/RATES
AND (ii) COLUMBIA’S ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

Chairman Ebersohl opened the meeting and called upon City Administrator Al Hudzik to address the Committee/Council Members on the Good Energy presentations. Hudzik briefly reviewed the e-mail, dated August 2nd (which had previously been distributed to the Committee Members), from Philip Carr of Good Energy containing information on electricity aggregation program regional presentations held at the end of July with a majority of the 108 communities (representing approximately 400,000 households) represented by Good Energy in central and southern Illinois – the e-mail indicated that

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E-mail from Philip Carr to City Administrator Al Hudzik re: Follow Up/Next Steps in Muni-Ag Program-Renewal Requirements and attachments (13 pages)

E-mail from Tracy Butler to City Administrator Al Hudzik re: HBA event “Homes on Parade” request and attachments (3 pages)

Memo from City Engineer Ron Williams re: ITEP Submittal - Main Street Streetscape (2 pages)

Good Energy is in the process of evaluating options for soliciting bids from electric suppliers that will take effect when the current supplier contracts expire (June 2014). Hudzik then introduced Tom Leigh, Director of Midwest Energy Sales for Good Energy, who then addressed the Committee Members. Mr. Leigh briefly reviewed his employment history (he stated he previously worked for Ameren and Homefield Energy (the company currently supplying electricity for the city's electricity aggregation program)) and distributed/reviewed a document entitled "Mid-West Electric Market Trend for Wholesale 5x16 product at Indiana Hub - 08/12/13" projecting electricity pricing into the future based upon current rates – he also updated the Committee on information presented to community representatives at the regional meetings and informed them that Good Energy plans to solicit electricity supplier bids in September or October for aggregate program customers (who do not opt-out), which will become effective upon the expiration of the current supplier contract (i.e., June 2014) – Good Energy feels electricity prices may increase in the future and would like to lock in program rates in the next few months. Therefore, Good Energy is advising its municipal electricity aggregation program clients to adopt a resolution authorizing one or more city officials to enter into a service agreement (on behalf of the city) setting the rate and term of the city's electricity aggregation program when the current contract expires (i.e., June 2014). It was the general consensus of the Committee Members that such a resolution be presented at the August 19th City Council meeting for the council's consideration – City Administrator Hudzik indicated he would present the resolution with the authorized signers being the same as those authorized to sign the initial electricity supplier contract (i.e., either the Mayor or the City Administrator).

Mr. Leigh then indicated that he had reviewed and analyzed the electricity usage by the city on the accounts used for city operations (pursuant to an Agency Agreement executed by the City Administrator on June 25, 2013) – he also reviewed a document he distributed at this meeting with sample electricity rate bids (for 12, 24 and 36 months) based on today's electricity prices. He recommended that a resolution be adopted authorizing one or more city officials to sign an agreement with an electricity supplier to reduce the city's electricity costs on several of its larger accounts (as recommended by Good Energy) – he stated that the city currently receives franchise credits (in kilowatt hours ("kWhs")) from Ameren Illinois and that if an alternate electricity supplier is chosen, the city would be able to receive future franchise credits in the form of cash instead of kWhs. City Administrator Hudzik indicated he planned to coordinate the bid process, as well as review the franchise credit dollar amount(s), with Mr. Leigh to calculate the approximate electricity cost savings to the city if an alternate electricity supplier is selected for some city accounts – it was the consensus of the Committee Members that Mr. Hudzik work with Mr. Leigh on this issue and present the authorizing resolution to the council at the August 19th City Council Meeting – Hudzik indicated he would prepare and present the necessary documentation with the Mayor or the City Administrator designated as authorized signers.

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III. HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SOUTHWEST IL PRESENTATION

City Administrator Hudzik then briefly reviewed the e-mail, dated July 24th (previously distributed to the Committee Members) from Tracy Butler, Executive Officer of the Home Builders Association of Greater Southwest IL (“HBA”), and its attachments pertaining to HBA’s “Homes on Parade” event – he then introduced HBA representatives Tracy Butler and Garrett Johnson. Mr. Johnson addressed the Committee Members and described the “Homes on Parade” event – the 2014 event is scheduled to be held during the first two (2) weekends of June – it will be a “show of homes” built (in Columbia, as well as other participating communities), which are for sale, in an effort to promote the builders that are part of the event, as well as the local communities – HBA is asking that Columbia participate in this event by discounting building permit fees (recommended a discount of \$500/building permit) for a maximum of five (5) building permits. Mr. Johnson indicated that other communities (e.g., O’Fallon and Shiloh) have participated in the past, and HBA is now asking Columbia to participate in 2014. During Mr. Johnson’s presentation, all in attendance were given an opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, including (i) the number of discounted building permit fees (and their amounts) can be limited by the city; (ii) advertising promoting the city and its businesses may be left at the site of each participating home; (iii) the event may attract additional people to Columbia, leading to greater awareness of the city and the quality of life it has to offer; and (iv) future event participation would be a year to year decision. It was the consensus of the Committee Members that additional consideration be given to HBA’s request, and that it be discussed again at a future Committee Meeting.

IV. ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (ITEP) GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

City Engineer Ron Williams briefly reviewed his Memo, dated August 9th, re: ITEP Submittal – Main Street Streetscape (which was the same Memo, dated July 19th and reviewed at the July 22nd Committee Meeting) – Ron stated the estimated figures had been reviewed again and they were still appropriate. He also distributed additional documentation from Oates Associates, Inc. containing project Exhibits 1 – 8 entitled “Location Map”, “Vicinity Map”, “Aerial Map”, “Preliminary Plan Sheet”, “Ground Level Photos”, “Political Letters of Support”, “Public Coordination” and “Cost Estimate”. Ron indicated the ITEP application is being completed and he plans to present grant application approval documentation at the August 19th City Council Meeting for the council’s consideration (so the grant can be submitted by the August 20th deadline date).

V. POLICE DEPARTMENT CONCRETE PAD DISCUSSION

City Administrator Al Hudzik made brief comments and asked Police Chief Joe Edwards to address the Committee on this issue – Joe informed the Committee Members that (i) during this fiscal year’s budget process, he contacted several concrete companies to provide bids on replacing the concrete at the rear entrance to the Police Dept. building; and (ii) he received only one (1) bid (i.e., Huebner Concrete) – upon recent inspection of Committee of the Whole Meeting

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that bid, he noticed that an additional amount would be added (i.e., \$1,260) if eight (8) inches of concrete is needed rather than the six (6) inches of concrete bid; Joe indicated he felt the six (6) inch option would suffice for police department vehicles, but recommended that the eight (8) inch option be selected if larger fire district vehicles were driven over that area; Joe requested guidance on whether or not the fire district should be asked to pay the additional amount of the extra two (2) inches of concrete (if the fire district vehicles may be using that area). During Joe's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, which included (a) an assessment of the base of the pad, as well as its rebuilding, are important items to take into consideration when replacing the pad; (b) the additional amount attributable to increasing the pad's thickness by two (2) inches should be viewed in the context of the expected life of the pad (e.g., 20 years) -- if the \$1,260 increase in the pad's cost is accurate, that amounts to \$63/yr., which is an expense the city may be willing to absorb to (hopefully) ensure the integrity of the pad for any future uses; (c) city code parking lot standards should be followed in the replacement of the pad; and (d) Joe should coordinate the pad's replacement (including advertising for new bids) with City Engineer Ron Williams. It was the general consensus of the Committee Members that Chief of Police Joe Edwards coordinate the concrete pad's replacement with City Engineer Ron Williams – Williams suggested that DOPW personnel remove pieces of the current concrete pad to check it for thickness and base materials – he also offered assistance in drafting the bid advertisements and in the project's oversight.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ebersohl entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to (a) discuss lease renewal rate(s) on the cell tower lease to New Cingular Wireless; and (b) discuss and receive an update on the purchase of real property for use by the city.

MOTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to go into Executive Session at 8:26 p.m. to (a) discuss lease renewal rate(s) on the cell tower lease to New Cingular Wireless; and (b) discuss and receive an update on the purchase of real property for use by the city. 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 Huch and seconded by Alderman Holtkamp to return to the Regular Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:54 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.

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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.

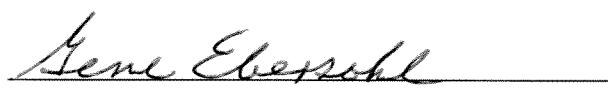
VII. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

During the meeting the following issues were briefly discussed: (A) the installation of the speed radar signs on Main St. near Parkview Elementary and Immaculate Conception Schools – City Engineer Williams stated the signs have been installed and will be programmed in the near future; and (B) the process to be followed in updating the city's Comprehensive Plan – it was the consensus of the Committee Members that said process be described at the next City Council Meeting (i.e., August 19th).

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Roessler to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois held Monday, August 12, 2013 at 8:55 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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**MINUTES OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY,
AUGUST 12, 2013 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Huch called the Personnel Committee Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 8:55 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

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

Absent: None.

Others Present: Mayor Hutchinson and Aldermen Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Chief of Police & EMS Director Joe Edwards and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

Chairman Huch stated the meeting was called for the purpose of (1) discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; (2) discussing and receiving an update on collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages; and (3) discussing any other items to be considered.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Huch entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to (1) discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and (2) discuss and receive an update on collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages.

MOTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Roessler to go into Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. to (1) discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and (2) discuss and receive an update on collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Huch and Aldermen Ebersohl, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION – REGULAR SESSION

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl and seconded by Alderman Roessler to return to the Regular Session of the Personnel Committee Meeting at 9:35 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote,

Chairman Huch and Aldermen Ebersohl, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to recommend to the City Council that Chief of Police Joe Edwards be authorized to recommend an individual to be hired as a part-time police officer (to replace one who recently resigned) pursuant to the city's established hiring standards for part-time police officers, as well as successful completion of a pre-employment physical and state and federal background checks. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Huch and Aldermen Ebersohl, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. OTHER ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED OR DISCUSSED

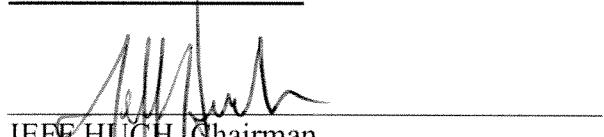
None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Roessler and seconded by Alderman Niemietz to adjourn the Personnel Committee Meeting held Monday, August 12, 2013 at 9:36 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Huch and Aldermen Ebersohl, Niemietz and Roessler voted yea.

MOTION CARRIED.


JEFF HUCH, Chairman
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Minutes Taken by:


SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant