

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2006 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hutchinson called the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:01 PM.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Clerk Wes Hoeffken, City Attorney Tom Adams, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, Building Inspector Alan Holden and Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, August 21, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, August 21, 2006 as on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

III. DELEGATIONS

A. Kids Day America Proclamation
Mayor Hutchinson signed the Kids Day America Proclamation.

B. Activate Monroe County Day Proclamation
Mayor Hutchinson signed the Activate Monroe County Day Proclamation.

IV. REPORT OF OFFICERS

A. Plan Commission
The report of the Plan Commission was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the report of the Plan Commission as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Community and Economic Development
The report of the Director of Community and Economic Development was presented to the Council.

1. Route 3 and EE Road Traffic Study

Alderman Unnerstall stated that while he will support this study, he remains aggravated that when the Council had the opportunity to require a similar traffic study at Route 3 and Gilmore Lake Road,

directly benefiting our residents at no cost to the City; it was rejected by this Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to direct Mr. Hemmer to proceed with negotiating a contract to conduct a traffic study at Route 3 and EE road in a 50/50 cost share joint effort with Monroe County at a total cost not to exceed \$6,000.00. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Koesterer and Row voted nay. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Row, to accept the report of the Director of Community and Economic Development as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Administration Department

1. EMS Department Employee Hires

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to employ Gordon "Greg" Freeland as a Paramedic, and to employ Tim May, Amanda "Mandy" Brandt, Michelle "Mickey" Sawyer, Nicholas Davis, and Shannon Bound as EMT-B's. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Library Employee Hire

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to employ Emmalee Shelton as a part time shelver for the Columbia Library. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

3. Administrative Department Employee Hire

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to set the employment pay range for a full time Administrative Assistant at City Hall between \$13.80 and \$14.55 per hour. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Row, to accept the report of the Administration Department as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

D. Street Graphics Advisory Committee

The report of the Street Graphics Advisory Committee was presented to the Council.

1. Metro Chrysler Sign Variance

Alderman Unnerstall stated he would not support the 2 requests for additional sign square footage. He stated the current square footage standards have served the city well and these requests are almost three times greater than our current standard.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to accept the recommendation of the Street Graphics Advisory Committee and approve the variance request of Metro Chrysler for additional sign square footage. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the recommendation of the Street Graphics Advisory Committee and approve the variance request of Metro Chrysler for additional signage. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. St. Elizabeth's LLC Sign Variance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the recommendation of the Street Graphics Advisory Committee and approve the variance request of St. Elizabeth's LLC for additional sign square footage. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the report of the Street Graphics Advisory Committee as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

E. Building and Zoning

The monthly report of the Building and Zoning Department was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to accept the report of the Building and Zoning Department as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

F. City Attorney

1. Ratify Ordinance No. 2489

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass an Order of the City of Columbia, Illinois City Council to ratify Ordinance No. 2489 to hire Walden Associates Associated Technologies, Inc. to install liners in thirteen (13) sanitary sewer manholes in the City of Columbia, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2494 - 1st Amendment to Haegele Annexation Agreement

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to pass Ordinance No. 2494, an ordinance authorizing the execution of a First Amendment to a First Amended Annexation Agreement for the annexation of two (2) tracts of real estate comprising 13.953 acres,

more or less, belonging to Raymond F. Haegele, Sr. et. al., which is located on Quarry Road and New Palmer Road in the City of Columbia, Monroe County, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to accept the report of the City Attorney as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hutchinson inquired if there was any business to be brought before an Executive Session. There was none.

VI. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS

A. Vouchers

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through August 31, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is one hundred thirty-two thousand, six hundred fifty-seven dollars, and fifty-six cents (\$132,657.56). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business brought before the Council.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bolm-Schuhkraft Park Request

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the request of Columbia Boy Scout Troop #320 to camp overnight at Bolm-Schuhkraft Park on September 8 - 9, 2006. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

IX. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Committee

Minutes of the Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation Committee meeting held Monday, August 28, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the minutes of the Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation Committee meeting held Monday, August 28, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

1. \$25,000.00 Park Grant

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to allocate the \$25,000.00 Park Grant budgeting \$10,000.00 toward Phase 1 of the railroad right-of-way trail and \$15,000.00

toward new restrooms at the Bolm-Schuhkraft Park. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

X. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

There were no meetings scheduled.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 8:22 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

Mayor Kevin Hutchinson