

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2006 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hutchinson called the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:00 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: Deputy Clerk Donna Mehaffey, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, City Attorney Tom Adams, Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer, Building Inspector Alan Holden, Acting City Engineer Larry Kremmel, Plan Commission Chairman Edith Dean and Plan Commissioner Caren Burggraf.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, September 18, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, September 18, 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.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, September 18, 2006 were submitted for approval.

A correction was forwarded to Ms. Mehaffey.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, September 18, 2006, as amended and 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. Humane Society Dog Walk/Run

Sue Phillips and Celeste Knierim representing the Humane Society of Monroe County, Illinois explained to the City Council the proposed "Me and My Mutt" One Mile Competitive Run and Fun Walk to be held on Saturday, November 4th, 2006 at 9:00 AM at Metter Memorial Park in Columbia. The proposed route was explained with a map and registration sheet distributed to the Council. This event will be a fundraiser for the Humane Society of Monroe County. The event will be coordinated with Chief Edwards of the Columbia Police Department and Mayor Hutchinson informed the Humane Society representatives that banners are now approved by the Building Department at City Hall and applications are available at the City Clerk's Office. Several Aldermen suggested that dog waste cleanup bags be required for the dogs.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to approve the Humane Society of Monroe County, Illinois fundraiser, "Me and My Mutt" One Mile Competitive Run and Fun Walk event to be held Saturday, November 4th at 9:00 AM at Metter Memorial Park as coordinated with the City Clerk's Office, the Department of Public Works and the Police Department with dog waste cleanup bags required for the dogs. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

IV. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT/OFFICERS

A. Director of Community and Economic Development

The September 2006 report of the Director of Community and Economic Development was presented to the Council by the Director of Community and Economic Development, Mike Hemmer.

1. Fish Lake Overpass

Mayor Hutchinson inquired if the City could change the name of the Fish Lake Overpass to Columbia Crossings. It was the consensus of the City Council to discuss this more in depth at a committee meeting.

2. Ordinance No. 2495 - Metro Chrysler Sign Variance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne and seconded by Alderman Koesterer to approve Ordinance No. 2495, An Ordinance to grant a sign variance to Metro Chrysler of Columbia, Illinois to allow the car dealer to install and maintain signs which exceed the number of signs allowed per street frontage and the sign area allowance prescribed by the City's Sign Code. Upon Roll call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

3. Ordinance No. 2496 - St. Elizabeth's Hospital Sign Variance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne and seconded by Alderman Row to approve Ordinance No. 2496, An Ordinance to grant a sign variance to St. Elizabeth's Hospital of unincorporated Monroe County, Illinois to allow the hospital to install and maintain a sign which exceeds the sign area allowance prescribed by the City's Sign Code. 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 Koesterer and seconded by Alderman Huch to accept the September 2006 report of the Director of Community and Economic Development as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Plan Commission Report

The September 25, 2006 Plan Commission Report was presented to the City Council by Chairman Edith Dean. Ms. Dean informed the Council of a correction. Copies of a handbook from Ms. Dean entitled "Conservation Subdivision Design Handbook" will be distributed to the Aldermen in their weekend packets.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Row, to accept the September 25, 2006 Plan Commission Report as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Administration Department

1. City Hall Auditorium or Community Room Reservation Discussion
City Administrator Anthony Traxler informed the Council that a church from Waterloo has applied to use the City Hall Community Room on Sundays and the reservation form shows that no meetings are allowed on Sundays. It was not clear as to why no meetings are allowed on Sundays. It was the consensus of the City Council that a committee meeting be called to review the rules regarding the City Hall Auditorium and Community Room.

MOTION:

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

D. Building and Zoning Department

The September 2006 report of the Building and Zoning Department was presented to the Council by Building Inspector Alan Holden.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to accept the September 2006 report of the Building and Zoning Department as presented. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

E. Public Works/City Engineer Department

Acting City Engineer Larry Kremmel presented the September 2006 report of the Public Works/City Engineer Department.

1. Village of Wernings - Improvement Plans

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl and seconded by Alderman Huch to approve the Village of Wernings Improvement Plans as recommended by Acting City Engineer Larry Kremmel. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Horner & Shifrin, Inc. Task Order for Cherry Street

After a discussion regarding the Horner & Shifrin, Inc. Task Order for Cherry Street, it was the consensus of the City Council that this item be tabled.

3. Appointment of New City Engineer/Director of Public Works Department

A. Ordinance No. 2497 - Re-Create Position of City Engineer

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Koesterer to approve Ordinance No. 2497, an ordinance to Re-Create the Position of City Engineer with the City of Columbia, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Ordinance No. 2498 - Appoint Ron William to Position of City Engineer/Director of Public Works Department

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz and seconded by Alderman Koesterer to approve Ordinance No. 2498, an ordinance to appoint Ron Williams to the position of City Engineer/Director of Public Works Department with the City of Columbia, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. MOTION CARRIED.

City Administrator Anthony Traxler introduced Mr. Williams who was in attendance to the Mayor and City Council.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to accept the September 2006 report of the Public Works/City Engineer Department. Upon Roll Call vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. MOTION CARRIED.

F. City Attorney

City Attorney Tom Adams presented his report to the Council.

1. Ordinance No. 2499 - Painting of Mule Road Water Tank

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad and seconded by Alderman Agne to pass Ordinance No. 2499, an ordinance to authorize an agreement to employ Custom Coatings, Inc. of St. Charles, Missouri to prepare and exterior surface paint the Mule Road Water Tank in the City of Columbia, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. PERSONNEL

None.

VI. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS

A. Vouchers To Be Paid

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through September 22, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is three hundred twenty thousand, eight hundred twenty-one dollars, and twenty-seven cents (\$320,821.27). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

IX. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

None.

X. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, October 23, 2006
7:00 PM - Fire and Ambulance

Monday, October 23, 2006
7:10 PM - Municipal Buildings, Property and Capital Improvements

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Row, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, October 2, 2006 at 8:00 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

Mayor Kevin B. Hutchinson