

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,  
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2006 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 7:01 PM.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row.

Absent: Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, and Huch.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Clerk Wes Hoeffken, City Attorney Tom Adams, City Administrator Anthony Traxler, Fire Chief Mike Roediger, Engineering Consultant Ken Vaughn, and Director of Community and Economic Development Mike Hemmer.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, March 20, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, March 20, 2006, as on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, March 20, 2006 were submitted for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to Mr. Hoeffken. Alderman Unnerstall stated that he wanted a comment added to section VI-A stating that Mr. Hoeffken stated that the motion to reconsider in this situation was different than the previous situation. Mr. Hoeffken stated that he did not make that comment. Mayor Hutchinson then stated that he commented that he would allow a motion to reconsider prior Mr. Hoeffken being able to respond.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Row, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, March 20, 2006, as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

**III. DELEGATIONS**

Mayor Hutchinson presented Certificates of Achievements to the Columbia High School Scholar Bowl Team.

**IV. REPORT OF OFFICERS**

A. Community and Economic Development

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

1. Mark Kurtz - Monroe County Economic Development Coordinator  
Mike Hemmer introduced Mark Kurtz, the Monroe County Economic Development Coordinator. Mr. Kurtz addressed the Council briefly.
2. Sign Code Changes Ordinance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to forward the draft of the proposed sign code changes ordinance to the City Attorney for review prior to presentation to the Council for action. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

B. Fire Department

The monthly report of the Fire Marshall was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

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

C. Administration Department

1. Budget Transfers

Alderman Unnerstall stated that he would be voting no since the Library Board does not approve of the transfer of funds from the Library Fund.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Row, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to direct the City Treasurer to transfer \$50,000.00 from the Garbage Fund to the General Fund and to transfer \$40,000.00 from the Library Fund to the General Fund. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Alderman Unnerstall voted nay. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2454 - Fee Ordinance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to pass Ordinance No. 2454, an ordinance amending Title 18 of the City of Columbia, Illinois Municipal Code to enact the Fees and Charges to be assessed for City Services and Business Licenses in the City for the City's Fiscal Year commencing May 1, 2006 and until said Title 18 of the City's Municipal Code is again amended by Ordinance of the City enacted to change the fees and charges. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

3. 2006-2007 Budget

Alderman Niemietz inquired about the cost to proceed with the initial Creekside Park improvements before the current agreement opportunity is lost. Mr. Vaughn stated that he has estimated the cost to be approximately \$100,000.00. Mayor Hutchinson stated that \$100,000.00 could be added to the Capital Development fund for the Creekside Park and Land Fund. Alderman Unnerstall stated that the Library Board has requested the opportunity to discuss salaries for library personnel.

Mayor Hutchinson stated that this will be addressed at the April 10, 2006 Committee meeting. Alderman Niemietz stated that a Parkland Set Aside ordinance would help create funds or land for future parks and should be discussed in the near future. Alderman Koesterer inquired about the budget item for a new fire truck. Mayor Hutchinson stated that there is a line item in the Capital Development Fund for the fire truck and the only issue left is to identify the funding source for the purchase.

Mr. Schorb informed the Council that he has reviewed several options for funding various purchases for the City for the next fiscal year, including a new fire truck, new ambulance, public safety complex expansion, and stop light for the YMCA. Mayor Hutchinson questioned some of the funding sources and recommended that a Finance meeting be scheduled to discuss these options.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to schedule a Public Hearing for the purpose of public comments regarding the proposed 2006 - 2007 Fiscal Budget of the City of Columbia, Illinois at 6:45 PM on Monday, April 17, 2006. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

4. Illinois Fire Chief's Association Response Time Study

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to contract with the Illinois Fire Chief's Association for a Response Time, Staffing, and Equipment study at a cost not to exceed \$9,860.00. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

5. Ambulance Bid

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to accept the low bid of \$109,475.00 submitted by Emergency Services Supply for the purchase of a new ambulance. Upon Voice vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

D. Plan Commission

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

MOTION:

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

E. City Attorney

1. Charter Entertainment I, LP Franchise Renewal

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to forward, by certified mail, an invitation to Charter Entertainment I, LP to submit a Franchise Renewal Proposal and to publish a public

notice requesting public comment regarding the franchise renewal. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

2. Ordinance No. 2455 - Auto Pulse Lease Purchase

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to pass Ordinance No. 2455, an ordinance authorizing a Lease Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia, Illinois and National City Commercial Capital Corporation of Cincinnati, OH for the lease-purchase of an Auto Pulse System and System Appurtenances for the Columbia Emergency Medical Service. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

F. Building and Zoning

The monthly report of the Zoning Administrator was presented to the Council.

MOTION:

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

G. City Clerk

Mr. Hoeffken presented his report to the Council.

H. City Engineer

The report of the Engineering Consultant was presented to the Council.

1. Trost Development - Final Plat Approval

Mr. Vaughn informed the Council that he, Mr. Adams, Mr. Kremmel, and the Mayor met with the Illinois Department of Transportation and had a productive discussion regarding the Valmeyer Road Rt. 3 intersection. Mr. Vaughn stated that the only issue that needs to be resolved regarding the bridge is how to handle handicap accessibility for the sidewalk. Mr. Vaughn then stated that IDOT stated that the sidewalk must lead somewhere such as a parking lot or another sidewalk. Mr. Brad Albrecht stated that is not the same impression he got from IDOT. Mr. Vaughn then stated that at the Council meeting held December 20, 2004, the Council revisited the issues for the Trost Development and made a motion to conditionally approve the preliminary plat based on several requested variances. Mr. Vaughn stated that the motion failed and the Council subsequently went through each issue item by item. Mr. Vaughn then stated that at the Council meeting held February 21, 2005, the Council conditionally approve, by Order, the preliminary plat for the Trost Development with the construction of the sidewalk along the south side of Valmeyer being deferred until final plat approval. Mr. Vaughn stated that depending upon what the engineers determine for the existing bridge, the only option for the sidewalk might be to create a crosswalk and continue the sidewalk along the north side of Valmeyer Road to the Market Place development or Edelweiss Road.

Alderman Niemietz stated that it appears as if everyone is being saddled with a problem created by the School District. Mr. Wegman stated that he fears that he is going to be saddled with the expenses. Alderman Niemietz stated that part of this development agreement would

allow the school to use the new park but thinks the City needs to rethink the process. Alderman Row stated that all of the engineers need to get together to get this issue resolved. Alderman Row then stated that the entire location of the bridge was a bad idea but thinks minimally, there needs to be a bridge along Valmeyer Road. Alderman Unnerstall stated that the sidewalk is critical to this development, especially with its immediate location to the Middle School and would like to see an escrow account for construction of a sidewalk along the remaining length of Valmeyer Road. Mr. Wegman stated that he agreed with Alderman Unnerstall and would construct the sidewalk if it is required, but added that he traded the Valmeyer sidewalk for paving the 8' pathway to the park. Alderman Row stated that he would rather have the sidewalk along Valmeyer Road. Mr. Wegman stated that at the time he exchanged the sidewalks for the pathway, it was understood that an urban sidewalk could not be constructed, but now that is an option. Mayor Hutchinson stated that Mr. Wegman needs an answer as to what the City expects of him. Mr. Wegman stated that he would construct the sidewalks along Valmeyer Road and still cut in the path to the park, but not pave it. Mr. Hoeffken informed Mayor Hutchinson that per the Order passed at the February 21, 2005 meeting, Mr. Wegman did not exchange the Valmeyer sidewalk for the pathway. Mayor Hutchinson stated that there appears to be a conflict over the intent of the Order and needs to be addressed at an Ordinance, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting.

#### **V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Hutchinson informed the Council that he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Row, to direct the Mayor to go into Executive Session at 10:37 PM for the purpose of discussing Personnel. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to return to the Regular Session of the City Council at 11:00 PM. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

Upon return to Regular Session, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, Row and Mayor Hutchinson were present.

Mayor Hutchinson inquired if there was any business to be brought before the Council as a result of the Executive Session. There was none.

#### **VI. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hutchinson deferred his report until the next meeting of the Council.

#### **VII. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS**

##### **A. Vouchers**

##### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through March 31, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is one hundred twenty-three thousand, nine hundred fifty-three dollars, and forty-one cents (\$123,953.41). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

#### **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Ordinance No. 2456 - Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement  
Mayor Hutchinson stated that he would like the Council to reconsider the proposed Facility Planning Area Cooperative Agreement and stressed the importance to enter into some form of an agreement. Alderman Row stated that the City presented a better case to the AMCB and will recommend that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency grant the petition as submitted by the City. Mayor Hutchinson expressed concern about the long term impact this might have on securing future state and federal grants. Alderman Unnerstall stated that the area immediately north of Rt. 255 will be reflective of the City regardless of whose corporate limits it is in and this might be the only tool the City has to control that growth. Alderman Agne stated that he would like to control the aesthetics in that area but does not see how controlling a sewer line would facilitate that. Mayor Hutchinson then stated he would entertain a motion to reconsider the Cooperative Agreement.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to pass Ordinance No. 2456, an ordinance authorizing an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between the City of Columbia, Illinois, the Village of Dupo, Illinois, and the Township of Sugar Loaf, Illinois with regard to their Facility Planning Area boundaries in Monroe County, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Aldermen Unnerstall and Row voted nay. Motion Carried.

1. Ordinance No. 2456 - FPA Cooperative Agreement

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to pass Ordinance No. 2456, an ordinance authorizing an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between the City of Columbia, Illinois, the Village of Dupo, Illinois, and the Township of Sugar Loaf, Illinois with regard to their Facility Planning Area boundaries in Monroe County, Illinois. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Koesterer, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Aldermen Unnerstall and Row voted nay. Motion Carried.

#### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Temporary Banner Request

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to approve the Temporary Banner Request for the Monroe Actors Stage Company as submitted and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Koesterer, and Row voted yea. Motion Carried.

#### **X. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee  
Minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 were not available for approval.
- B. Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest Committee  
Minutes of the Finance, Claims, Bonds and Interest Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

C. Personnel Committee

Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting and the Personnel Committee Executive Session held Monday, March 27, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Koesterer, to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee Executive Session meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, March 27, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

**XI. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Monday, April 10, 2006

7:00 PM - Personnel

7:01 PM - Finance, Claims, Bonds, and Interest

7:10 PM - Committee of the Whole

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Koesterer, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, April 3, 2006 at 11:34 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

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Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

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Mayor Kevin Hutchinson