

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, JULY 3, 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, and Huch.

Absent: Aldermen Koesterer and Row.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Clerk Wes Hoeffken, City Attorney Tom Adams, Building Inspector Al 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 Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, June 19, 2006 were submitted for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council held Monday, June 19, 2006, as on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Agne was absent. Motion Carried.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, June 19, 2006 were submitted for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to Mr. Hoeffken.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held Monday, June 19, 2006, as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Agne abstained since he was absent during the discussion of the minute corrections. Motion Carried.

III. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations present.

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. Special Census

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl to authorize the additional expenditure of an additional \$23,596.00 over the budgeted amount for the Special Census. Upon Roll Call vote,

Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, 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. Plan Commission

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

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, 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.

C. Zoning Board of Appeals

The report of the Zoning Board of Appeals was presented to the Council.

1. Special Use Permit - Commercial State Bank

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Ebersohl, and seconded by Alderman Agne, to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals and grant a Special Use Permit to Commercial State Bank to allow the construction of a drive-in/drive-thru bank facility at 200 Quarry Road located in a C-2 (General Business) Zoned District. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Alderman Conrad voted nay. Motion Carried.

2. Front Yard Set-back Variance - Terry Peters

Alderman Conrad stated that the Council previously discussed variances for The Pines during the platting phase in an attempt to eliminate the need for variances. Mayor Hutchinson stated that developers need to do a better job at planning their subdivisions. Alderman Unnerstall stated that the variance is only for 2 feet and only impacts the centerline of the property. Alderman Huch stated that the only hardship is moving the house back further onto the lot. Alderman Niemietz stated that the City needs to get the message out to discourage variance requests.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Unnerstall, to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals and grant a front yard set-back variance to Terry Peters for his property located at 1207 Blue Spruce Lane (Lot 84) of The Pines III subdivision and located in an R-3 (Single Family) Zoned District, reducing the front yard set-back from 30 feet to 28 feet. Upon Roll Call vote, Alderman Unnerstall voted yea. Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, and Huch voted nay. Motion Failed.

MOTION:

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

D. City Attorney

1. Alternative for Seniors Subdivision Plat

Action on this issue was tabled because the City Attorney had not received the easements for the off-site water and sewer lines from the developer.

2. Ordinance No. 2476 - Christ Community Church Sign Variance

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to pass Ordinance No. 2476, an ordinance granting a sign variance to the Christ Community Evangelical Lutheran Church of Columbia, Illinois to allow the church to install and maintain a monument sign at the entrance to the church which will exceed the sign area allowance prescribed by the City's Sign Code. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

3. Ordinance No. 2477 - Amend Ordinance No. 2393

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass Ordinance No. 2477, an Ordinance to amend City of Columbia, Illinois Ordinance No. 2393 which changed zoning code yard setback requirements in certain residential zoned districts in the City in order to make the application of Ordinance No. 2393 prospective and not applicable to subdivisions that had received preliminary or final plat approval from the Columbia, Illinois City Council prior to the enactment of the ordinance. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

4. Ordinance No. 2478 - Cahokia Waterline Easement

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Conrad, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to pass Ordinance No. 2478, an ordinance approving a Deed for a waterline easement from Robert V. Snyders Living Trust on property adjoining Mississippi Avenue (A/K/A Illinois Route 3) in the Village of Cahokia, St. Clair County, Illinois and to authorize the Mayor to execute and deliver the same for and on behalf of the City. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, Huch, and Mayor Hutchinson voted yea. Motion Carried.

MOTION:

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

F. City Clerk

Mr. Hoeffken presented his report to the Council.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Hutchinson inquired if there was a need for an Executive Session. There was none.

VI. CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS

A. Vouchers

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Huch, and seconded by Alderman Conrad, to authorize the payment of vouchers received through June 30, 2006; the total amount of the vouchers to be paid is three hundred nineteen thousand, three hundred eighty-nine dollars, and forty-two cents (\$319,389.42). Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Valmeyer Road

Mayor Hutchinson updated the Council on the Valmeyer Road project.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Healthcare Contract Renewal

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Unnerstall, and seconded by Alderman Huch, to renew the City's Medical and Prescription Drug Program contract with the Steelworkers Health and Welfare Fund. Upon Roll Call vote, Aldermen Conrad, Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Unnerstall, and Huch voted yea. Motion Carried.

IX. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee

Minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, June 12, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

Corrections were forwarded to the City Administrator.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne, and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to approve the minutes of the Ordinances, Planning, and Zoning Committee meeting held Monday, June 12, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

B. Personnel Committee

Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, June 12, 2006 were presented to the Council for approval.

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to approve the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held Monday, June 12, 2006 as amended and on file at City Hall. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

X. CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

There was no Call for Committee Meetings.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Niemietz, and seconded by Alderman Ebersohl, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, July 3, 2006 at 7:47 PM. Upon Voice vote, all Aldermen present voted yea. Motion Carried.

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Wesley J. Hoeffken, City Clerk

Mayor Kevin Hutchinson