

**City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
July 22, 2015**

The July 22, 2015 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Denny Peterson at City Hall. Present were Peterson, Council Members Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine, and Bill Krebs; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko; Engineer Larry Bohrer; Attorney Bill Griffith; and Public Information Coordinator Bronwyn Pope.

Absent: Mayor Dave Povolny

Also in attendance were: Pam Wolowski, Dennis Postler (TKDA), Pat Preiner, Jesse Preiner, Mary Preiner, Jody Krebs, Kris King, Paul Peskar, Linda Larson, Loran Larson, Kyle Young, Connor Young, Lee Lillquist, Joe Palumbo, Roberta Gronquist, Keegan Young, Jami Young, Paul Rignell (Forest Lake Times) and Terri Hodges (Forest Lake Cable Commission).

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

1. Call To Order - Regular Meeting – 7:01 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance

B. CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes 06/24/15
4. Agenda Approval with Additions
5. Pay Bills as Posted

Motion by Duraine to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

C. PRESENTATIONS

6. Planning Commission Report

9331 W. Broadway - Variance

Wolowski reported on behalf of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission found the variance request for 9331 W. Broadway Ave. did not demonstrate a hardship for the property owner and recommended to deny the request. Palumbo, owner of 9331 W. Broadway Ave., explained his variance request and alternatives options for adding a new building on his property to store personal items. Council discussed the request, Planning Commission's finding, the current CUP for the property, letters provided by neighbors, and the current state of the property. Council expressed support for Palumbo to construct the new building within current city code, without the variance.

Motion by Krebs to direct the city staff and attorney to prepare a PLZ 02400 Resolution of denial based on the findings of the Planning Commission for a variance at 9331 W. Broadway Ave. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

At Palumbo's request, Council further discussed the parameters for construction of the new building at 9331 W. Broadway Ave. which would not be considered an expansion of his current business accessory building. Council stated that the new building would need to be constructed within current city code in regards to setbacks, fire code, etc., but could be attached directly to the outer wall of the existing business structure with a door adjoining the two buildings through a shared wall. Palumbo reiterated that the current building houses his business equipment and the new building will be exclusively for personal use. The additional space will allow him to move personal equipment out of his business building.

Call for Public Hearing for Lighting Ordinance 15-03

The Planning Commission has a draft lighting ordinance ready for Council and recommended a public hearing be scheduled.

Motion by Krebs to schedule a PLZ 02500 Public Hearing for Lighting Ordinance 15-03. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

The Planning Commission is continuing work regarding to update some zoning areas with the Met Council. Columbus city staff, City Council and Planning Commission members will participate in future meetings and workshops with the Met Council as work begins on the next comprehensive plan.

Peterson requested the Planning Commission gather background information to bring back to the Council regarding user and license fees which nearby communities charge their residents for IUPs for residential zoned businesses. Columbus does not currently charge a fee for IUPs. Council discussed the size of some residential zoned businesses in the City, current City codes, enforcement and the pros and cons of potentially charging fees for some IUPs. These IUP fees would likely not be charged to home occupation businesses.

7. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Roberta Gronquist, 9252 Lake Drive NE, was at the meeting to observe any rezoning discussion regarding the Freeway District on Lake Drive. Gronquist wanted to thank City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko for continuing to meet monthly with Freeway District residents who are struggling to sell all or portions of their property.

Mursko has been meeting monthly with these Freeway District residents whose property is currently zoned commercial retail with a residential overlay. Mursko suggested Council could set a fall workshop to hear directly from residents and consider new or additional zoning for the area to help increase sales based on the recent McCombs study findings. Council discussed the issues of the neighborhood and gave consensus for scheduling the workshop in late August or early September.

Lee Lillquist, 17434 Gehrig Street, thanked the Council for their attention to issues regarding businesses operating in residential areas, and encouraged the Council to continue to pay attention to issues that may affect ground water.

Planning Commission members Jody Krebs & Jessie Preiner – Krebs recently attended the East Metro Water Summit in Hugo and the Twin Cities Metro Area Master Water Supply Plan Open House where the Met Council reviewed criteria for the upcoming comprehensive water supply plan. Krebs also asked if the Planning Commission could explore other zoning criteria to include Planned Unit Developments (PUD) in the Freeway District. Council gave consensus for this research.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

8. ENGINEER REPORT

Rice Creek Watershed District Culvert Maintenance Agreement

Bohrer presented the Rice Creek Watershed District culvert maintenance agreement language and recommended approval.

Motion by Krebs to approve the CON 00050/PWE 01200 Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) Culvert Maintenance Agreement. Motion seconded by Duraine. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

Final Payment Allied Blacktop – Sealcoating

The 2015 sealcoat project has been completed by Allied Blacktop. Bohrer presented a change order and the final payment amount to Council for consideration. Although sealcoating required an additional 5,000 lbs. of sealant beyond the original estimate, the overall project was under budget for 2015 so the final bill falls within budgeted amounts.

Motion by Duraine to approve PWE 01200 change order #1 in the amount \$10,583.39 to Allied Blacktop for the 2015 sealcoating project. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

Motion by Duraine to approve the PWE 1200 final payment of \$16,641.83 to Allied Blacktop for the 2015 sealcoating project. Motion seconded by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

Bohrer received questions this week from MnDOT related to the grant application for the Hornsby Street realignment. This is a very competitive grant process and the City should hear a decision by the end of September.

9. ATTORNEY REPORT

City staff asked Griffith to clarify a change in state law regarding Sunday on-sale liquor sales (the “Bloody Mary Bill”) which now allows early Sunday morning sales of liquor. The law went into effect May 2. Running Aces would like to take advantage of this new law and have asked for an 8 a.m. start time. Council discussed the new law and the Running Aces request and determined there was no opposition and therefore will allow Running Aces to start serving liquor at 8 a.m. on Sundays.

10. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Council Member Daly – Complimented the completed Notre Dame project.

Council Member Duraine – Reported briefly on last week's Cable Commission meeting which included Columbus turning over the book-keeping to Scandia in 2016. Duraine was part of an event last week in Forest Lake with the Minnesota Public Health Commissioner representing both MOST FL and the City of Columbus. Duraine also praised Running Aces' success with their first outdoor concert last week. Duraine asked if the City would consider waiving the fireworks fee for Crossroads Church. The Church could come before the Council to make the request, but at this point they have not submitted a fireworks application.

Council Member Krebs – Requested that the Forest Lake Times devote some coverage to the various water issues impacting local communities. Krebs also complimented Running Aces on the successful concert earlier this week.

Deputy Mayor Peterson – No report.

11. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – No report.

12. PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR REPORT – No report.

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Public Works Tim Sawatzky Step Increase

After his first six months of employment Public Works employee Tim Sawatzky has been given a positive performance review and is recommended for a scheduled step increase in salary. Council discussed Sawatzky's work and concurred that he should be given the step increase as of July 24.

Motion by Duraine to approve Public Works employee Tim Sawatzky's HRS 04100 step increase (\$22.76) based on his six (6) month performance review effective July 25, 2015. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

Treasurer's Report – Receipts: \$1,572,167.98 Disburse: \$704,767.30 Balance: \$2,196,636.85

Tour dates have been scheduled for House (October) and Senate (December) members to look at projects under consideration for the next transportation budget. Columbus staff and Council members will meet to plan the presentation for the stop scheduled to look at the I-35 bridge request.

Mursko has been working to update all City staff job descriptions in 2015 to reflect current workload. Updates for both the Building Official and Deputy City Clerk job descriptions were presented to the Council for consideration.

Building Official Job Description Updates

Motion by Krebs to approve the HRS 02200 Building Official job description updates. Motion seconded by Duraine. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

Deputy City Clerk Job Description Updates

Motion by Krebs to approve the HRS 002200 Deputy City Clerk job description updates. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye. Motion Carries.

City of Ham Lake Letter re: Sunrise River Water Management Organization Joint Powers Agreement

Columbus received a letter from the City of Ham Lake regarding the allocation of fees for the joint powers agreement. Council directed City staff and attorney to draft a letter from the City in support of Ham Lake's letter.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Columbus Planning Commission Workshop 08/05/15

Calendar of Meetings

F. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion was made by Duraine to adjourn.
Seconded by Krebs.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bronwyn Pope, Public Information Coordinator