

City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
01.08.20

The 01.08.20 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by Mayor Preiner at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Jeff Duraine, Shelly Logren, Janet Hegland, and Denny Peterson; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, City Attorney Bill Griffith, City Engineer Dennis Postler, and Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes.

Also in attendance were: Kris King, Paul Peskar, Cindy Angel, Barb Bobick, and John Young.

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

- 1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting – 7:55 P.M.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions**
- 4. Motion – Approval of the 09.11.19 City Council Closed Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Motion – Pay Bills as Posted**

Motion by Duraine to approve Consent Agenda items 3-5. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PRESENTATIONS

7. Planning Commission Report

Mursko explained that the Planning Commission would like to hold a joint meeting with the City Council on 01.15.20 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss property uses and zoning districts. The City Council will also hold a final budget meeting that evening at 6:00 p.m. Mursko added that City Planning Technician Ben Gutknecht has a list of seventy uses for the City, and encouraged the Council to consider creating a list of uses themselves to bring to the meeting.

Motion by Logren to hold a joint meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission on 01.15.20 at 7:00 p.m., and to hold a City Council budget meeting the same day at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Public Open Forum

Mark Daly – 4141 165th Avenue NE

Daly wanted to address the intersection of Camp Three Road and Kettle River Blvd., particularly the short section of road between Kettle River Blvd. and Lake Drive. He is aware that many people have come close to getting into bad accidents at this intersection and wanted to discuss what the City is doing to address the problem.

Daly suggested that the short section of road should be closed because it is a safety concern. Hegland said that others have expressed the same concern within the past few months as well. City Engineer Dennis Postler said that Anoka County installed additional stop signs and cleared brush in the area, but that does not seem sufficient to address the safety concerns. Logren

expressed concern about closing the short section of road because that would only leave a hairpin turn option to get back to Kettle River Blvd. from Lake Drive.

Hegland followed up by asking if the next move should be approaching Anoka County again to see if they can do anything else? Postler said the County already completed the additional signage they were requested to do and they submitted diagrams for potential refiguration of the intersection. Mursko said at this point the City would need to consider doing a full partnership with the County to work with them on this issue. Postler suggested asking a County traffic engineer to come to a future meeting to discuss further options. The Council agreed this was a good idea, and Mursko said she will request that the County send someone to the 01.22.20 City Council workshop.

8. 2020 LBAE dates for Anoka County

Mursko requested that the Council decide on two possible dates for the 2020 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. The dates have to fall between 04.15.20 and 05.11.20 and cannot be 04.23.20. The Council chose 04.21.20 as their first choice and 04.20.20 as their second choice, both at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Duraine to approve the Columbus Local Board of Appeal and Equalization proposed dates as 04.21.20 for a first choice and 04.20.20 for a second choice, both at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Logren. Motion carried unanimously.

~~9. Columbus Final 2020 Budget Resolution 20-01~~

This item will be considered at a future meeting.

10. Columbus Organizational Chart

The Council continued by designating positions on the City's organizational chart.

Mayor Preiner said that Hegland has done a good job as Deputy Mayor, and she is happy to continue in that role.

Motion by Logren to nominate Hegland as Deputy Mayor. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

As City Engineer Dennis Postler is moving to a new position at TKDA, the Personnel Committee held interviews for the new City Engineer position. Three firms were contacted, and interviews were held with representatives from two: TKDA and Bolton & Menk.

After completing interviews, the committee agreed to recommend contracting with Bolton & Menk for their depth of experience and team members.

Hegland wanted to acknowledge Postler and the team at TKDA for their great work and thanked them for their instrumental contribution to the City of Columbus. City Staff and Council will miss working with this group, and they will always be welcome back in Columbus.

Motion by Hegland to name Kevin Bittner from Bolton & Menk as City Engineer. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hegland to direct City Staff to negotiate the contract for City Engineering services with Bolton & Menk. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

Mursko continued to report that Planning Commission member Jody Krebs has submitted a letter of resignation from the Planning Commission.

Motion by Duraine to accept Planning Commission member Jody Krebs' resignation letter. Seconded by Hegland. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission members Kris King and Ron Hanegraaf have submitted letters indicating their intent to be reappointed to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Duraine to approve Kris King and Ron Hanegraaf's reappointment to the Planning Commission for three years. Seconded by Logren. Motion carried unanimously.

Park Board members Sandra Wood and Bob Bodine have also submitted letters indicated their intent to be reappointed.

Motion by Duraine to approve Sandra Wood and Bob Bodine's reappointment to the Park Board. Seconded by Hegland. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council continued to consider appointments to various committees.

Peterson would like to serve as the Building Inspector and office liaison. Duraine indicated he would prefer to continue serving on the Fire Board. The Council agreed that the Personnel Committee assignments would remain the same as 2019.

One change previous requested was to eliminate the position of Park Board liaison. Instead, a Park Board representative will attend each City Council meeting after a Park Board meeting to give a report.

The recommended Public Works' Advisory Board assignments were Peterson as main and Duraine as alternate. Cable Commission appointments were recommended to be Duraine as main and Peterson as alternate. The transportation meeting appointments were recommended to be Mayor Preiner as main and Logren as alternate. The Fall Fest committee appointments were recommended to be Logren and Hegland. The Rice Creek Watershed District appointments were recommended to be Hegland as main and Mayor Preiner as alternate. The Sunrise River Watershed Maintenance Organization appointments were recommended to be Logren and Hegland. The Coon Creek Watershed District does not have any appointments.

Motion by Hegland to approve committee appointments as described. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

12. Engineer Report

City Engineer Dennis Postler thanked the City for his time working here, as TKDA has been working with the City of Columbus for forty years.

13. Attorney Report

Zurich Street Extension

City Attorney Bill Griffith asked the Council if they are interested in continuing meetings with the property owner of 9155 Lake Drive for right-of-way acquisitions for the extension of Zurich Street to the north. He noted that the law requires the City to offer fair market value for the land to be acquired, so comparable sales are being analyzed to determine that amount. Griffith added that the City would prefer to do this work on a willing party basis and would prefer not to use condemnation. Although, the Council has the option to use that approach if a purchase agreement cannot be executed otherwise. The Council expressed their agreement for moving forward with negotiations.

Mursko noted that one question has been posed to her; what funds would be used to purchase the property. She said that there are three areas where the money could come from: the EDA fund, grant opportunities, and general fund reserves.

Mayor Preiner asked how the City will recoup the money for building the road? Griffith said that some type of assessment would be recommended in combination with a City contribution. An assessment is appropriate because the road will enhance the development opportunity for property owners on that road, and a City contribution is appropriate because it will be a City road. The development agreement with Viking Industrial includes an amount not to exceed for assessments. The Council does not have to make a decision today about whether to assess property owners for the new road, but they will in the future.

Logren asked if the City will need to acquire the entire property at 9155 Lake Drive? Griffith said that the amount of land required for the right-of-way does not leave much left over. The remaining land would be considered a non-economic remnant, and it would not make sense to leave such a small amount remaining. He added that in addition to the land required for right-of-way, there will also need to be acreage dedicated to ponding.

Hegland asked when the City will know if the grant opportunity is a possibility for funding this project? Mursko said that she should know in the next week or so if the project meets criteria for the grant.

Motion by Logren to authorize negotiations for the acquisition of 9155 Lake Drive NE for right-of-way needed for the extension of Zurich Street to the north. Seconded by Hegland. Motion carried unanimously.

Arnt v. City of Columbus

Griffith reported that the Court of Appeals dismissed this suit for lack of jurisdiction, and the other party has not yet refiled.

14. Mayor and Council Members Report

Council Member Logren

Logren asked the Council members to encourage business owners they know in Columbus to attend the networking event at Running Aces Harness Park on 01.23.20.

Council Member Duraine

No report.

Mayor Preiner

No report.

Council Member Hegland

Hegland reported that she attended a Sunrise River Watershed Maintenance Organization (SRWMO) meeting about the proposed budget for 2021. The budget presented includes an increase in Columbus’ contribution from 14% to 16% based on an increase in property values in the City.

Columbus representatives had concerns about this formula, because the contribution amount is based on land mass located in the SRWMO and a large portion of SRWMO land in Columbus is the Carlos Avery. Hegland requested that the public lands in Columbus be removed from the formula for calculating the contribution amount.

Hegland continued by asking the Council if they would like her to continue fighting to remove public lands from the equation for the 2021 budget? She noted that the current expense for Columbus’ contribution is roughly \$10,000. Mayor Preiner and other Council members agreed that she should continue pursuing this goal.

Council Member Peterson

No report.

15. Public Works Report

Public Works Building Floor Drain

Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad reported that the floor drain in the Public Works building is currently being replaced. After beginning the process he realized it will be more complicated than originally thought. However, the cost for the project will be roughly what Windingstad had originally expected.

16. Public Communications Coordinator Report

No report.

17. City Administrator’s Report

No report.

Treasurer’s Report

Receipts:	\$	0.00
Disbursements:	\$	59,119.04
Balance:	\$	10,271,955.62

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

18. Calendar of Meetings.

The City Council budget meeting is on 01.15.20 at 6:00 p.m.

The joint Planning Commission and City Council is on 01.15.20 at 7:00 p.m.

The next City Council workshop is on 01.22.20 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The next City Council meeting is on 01.22.20 at 7:00 p.m.

The next Planning Commission meeting is on 01.29.20 at 7:00 p.m.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hegland to adjourn. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Hughes, Public Communications Coordinator

**Final Organizational Chart
2020 CITY OF COLUMBUS**

Deputy Mayor	Janet Hegland				
Depository	Wells Fargo*				
Investments	Wells Fargo Advisors				
Legal Paper	Forest Lake Times				
Engineer	Bolton & Menk, Kevin Bittner				
Planner	Resources Strageties, Dean Johnson				
Civil Attorney	Larkin Hoffman, Bill Griffith				
Criminal Attorney	Carson, C&R, Joseph Murphy				
City Auditor	2019 Tautges Redpath				
City Assessor	Smith Appraisal Service, Todd Smith				
Animal Control	North Metro Animal Care & Control, Mark Anderson				
City Council Workshop Meetings	4th Wednesday 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm				
Data Practices (Responsible Authority)	City Administrator				
Data Practices (Compliance Official)	City Administrator				
Petty Cash Custodian	Deputy Treasurer				
Planning Commission Members:	YEAR TERM ENDS				
Open	2021				
Barbara Bobik	2022				
Pam Woloski	2022				
Kris King	2023				
Ron Hanegraaf	2023				
Park Advisory Board:					
Sandra Wood	2023				
Kris King	2021				
Andrea Messina	2022				
Mark Daly	2022				
Bob Bodene	2023				
Public Works Advisory Board:					
Paul Peskar					
Mike Boland					
Jerry Auge					
Dan Mike					
Lloyd Rehbein					
Dave Schueler					
Russ McPherson					
Forest Lake Cable Commission:					
Doug Wood					
*City Check Signers: Jesse Preiner, Denny Peterson, Shelly Logren & Elizabeth Mursko					

**Final Organizational Chart
2020 CITY OF COLUMBUS**

City Council Committee Assignments					
	Jesse	Denny	Jeff	Shelly	Janet
Building Inspector Liaison	A	M			
Issues with builders					
Office Liaison	A	M			
Issues in the office					
Joint Fire Board (Mtgs as needed)					
	M		M		
Personnel Committee (Mtgs as needed)	M	A			M
Park Board (Attendance as requested)					R
Public Works Advisory Board (Mtgs. as needed)		M	A		
Met Council (As Needed)					
	M				
FLCC - Cable TV (Semi-Monthly)		A	M		
Transportation Sponsors (Interchange)	M			A	
Fall Fest City Council Representative (6-8 Meetings)				M	M
Watersheds:					
Rice Creek	A				M
Coon Creek					
Sunrise (Monthly Meetings):				M	M
M = Primary Representative					
A = Alternate Representative					