

City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
01.09.19

The 01.09.19 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:08 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: Tom & Gerrie Olson, Kris King, Paul Peskar, Ron & Betty Hanegraaf, Maxine Merrigan, Patricia Boesch, Dan Mike, Barb Bobick, Bill Bobick, Myron & Cindy Angel, Arlen Logren, Ron Barnes, Bruce & Cindy J., Jim Watson, and Julia Parent (Forest Lake Times).

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

- 1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting – 7:08 P.M.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. ~~Motion—Approval of the 12.27.18 City Council Meeting Minutes~~**
- 4. Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions**
- 5. Motion – Approval Internal Fund 480 Allocation**
- 6. Motion – Pay Bills as Posted**

Motion by Peterson to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Hegland. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PRESENTATIONS

- 7. Planning Commission Report**

The Planning Commission did not meet, as such there is no report.

- 8. Public Open Forum**

No report.

- 9. 2019 Organizational Appointments**

Mursko explained that the first meeting of the year always includes appointments to various City related organizations and boards. The first order of business is to nominate a Deputy Mayor. Logren nominated Council Member Hegland for Deputy Mayor.

Motion by Logren to appoint Council Member Hegland as Deputy Mayor. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Hegland – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mursko continued to explain various appointments that the Council is required to make.

The Council must designate a newspaper as the City's Legal paper. The Forest Lake Times has historically been the City's Legal paper, and they submitted a letter requesting to continue that service. Mursko noted that they recently changed their format to be a paid-only newspaper. The Forest Lake Times quote added printing Columbus' legal notices in The Peach at no cost, to ensure circulation throughout Columbus.

Mursko continued to say that contracts for animal control and accounting services need to be approved. Mursko recommended renewing the 1-year animal control contract with Dover Kennel Animal and Impound Services. She also recommended that the Council approve a contract with Rebecca Peterson for accounting services.

Motion by Duraine to approve the 2019 contract with Dover Kennel Services. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Duraine to approve the 2019 contract with Rebecca Peterson for accounting services. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Duraine asked if Dover Kennel Services provided a report of activity in 2018? Mursko replied that he did not, but she will ask for one and bring it to the next Council meeting.

Logren asked if an animal control contract is required? Mursko said that it is not required, but the City does not have any other way to handle animal control. In the past the City had a contract with Hillcrest Animal Hospital which said the Sheriff's Office could bring lost animals to be held until their owners were located. However, Hillcrest discontinued that service, so the City entered into a contract with Dover last year. Hegland said that the services Dover provides are very affordable, and Mursko agreed.

Motion by Duraine to approve the 2019 organizational chart. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Duraine to appoint Mursko to the data practices position and Bill Werner to the petty cash custodian position. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Mursko continued to say that the Council would like to add regular workshop meetings for more in depth research on certain topics. The proposal is to hold these workshops on the first Wednesday of the month from 4:00 - 6:00 pm, before the Planning Commission meetings begin. These meetings would be less formal than regular Council meetings. Griffith noted that the expectation is that Council Members would attend as their schedule permits, treating these workshops as they would regular Council meetings.

Mursko said that attendance at each workshop, for those not on the Council, would be topic dependent. For example, if the topic is something that the City Engineer is an expert on, then the Council could request their attendance.

Council Members agreed that this would be a good idea and suggested taking informal notes rather than minutes. Duraine and Peterson said they will be out of town for the first workshop on 02.06.19.

Motion by Hegland to hold City Council workshop meetings on the first Wednesday of each month from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers. Seconded by Logren. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Planning Commission, Boards, Committees

Next the Council considered membership on the Planning Commission and other boards and committees. Two Planning Commissioner terms ended this year. The Council was presented with letters from those Commissioners indicating they would like to be reappointed. Mursko noted that there is a total of three openings on the Commission; Mayor Preiner's vacancy and the two Commissioners who are seeking reappointment.

Mursko indicated that the Personnel Committee would like to hold interviews for the three vacancies and suggested holding them from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm next Wednesday 01.16.19. She said that those seeking reappointment and any other new applicants will be interviewed at that time.

The Council next considered the Park Advisory Board. There is currently one vacancy on the board, for which Mark Daly has submitted an application. One of the current members, Andrea Messina, is up for reappointment and also submitted a letter indicating her intent to continue serving.

Mayor Preiner asked if the Council could forego the Park Advisory Board liaison position, and simply have board members report to the Council on a quarterly basis? The Council agreed this was desirable.

Mayor Preiner nominated Andrea Messina for a vacancy on the Park Advisory Board.

Motion by Duraine to appoint Andrea Messina to the Park Advisory Board. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Preiner nominated Mark Daly for a vacancy on the Park Advisory Board.

Motion by Duraine to appoint Mark Daly to the Park Advisory Board. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

The next advisory board discussed was the Forest Lake Cable Commission (FLCC). FLCC is a body that makes its own decisions and has its own budget. They meet once every other month. The City is able to appoint two members; one at-large and one from the Council. At-large member Doug Wood has indicated that he would like to continue serving on the FLCC, and

Duraine was the most recent Council member to serve. The Council agreed they would like Wood and Duraine to continue serving, and appointed Peterson as an alternate.

City Council Liaison Assignments

The last assignments to be considered were City Council liaison positions. The first is the Building Official liaison. This position gives the liaison a chance to talk with the Building Official about issues or concerns they are dealing with. Historically Peterson has held this position, in part because it is easy for him to get to City Hall from his office. The Council agreed to keep Peterson as the Building Official liaison and designate Mayor Preiner as the alternate liaison.

The next board is the Joint Fire Board, which has two Council members on it. The Council agreed Mayor Preiner and Duraine would serve on this board.

The Personnel Committee was considered next, which also has two Council members. This committee is used for interviewing purposes and any personnel issues. The Council agreed that Mayor Preiner and Hegland would serve as the main committee members and Peterson would serve as an alternate member.

Next was the Public Works Advisory Board, which the Council agreed Peterson should serve as main liaison and Duraine as the alternate liaison.

The City Council also has a Metropolitan Council liaison position as needed. Mursko explained that they have historically not needed this position and recommended that she ask the Council on a case by case basis whether someone would like to act as liaison for a particular situation.

The next liaison position is for Transportation Sponsors. In previous years the Columbus City Council had a goal to raise money for the bridge project because at the time there was no available funding mechanism. So they appointed two City Council members as Transportation Sponsors who would be available to meet with legislators and ensure Columbus' interests were heard at the Capital. Mursko said that there has been some discussion with surrounding municipalities about securing funding for a new interchange on I-35 between TH 14 and TH 97. Columbus' Transportation Sponsors could take on this project and work with surrounding communities to send a strong message about the desire to build a new interchange. Mayor Preiner volunteered to be a Transportation Sponsor and said that he thinks the initiative to add a new interchange is important.

Continuing on, Mursko explained that historically there has been a City Council liaison on the Fall Fest committee. The Fall Fest committee always meets on a Wednesday at 5:00 pm. The Council agreed that Logren will serve as the main Fall Fest liaison and Hegland will serve as an alternate.

Moving on to the City's watershed districts, Mursko explained that there are three watershed districts in Columbus; Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD), Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization (SRWMO), and the Coon Creek Watershed District. She continued to say that there is a vacancy on the SRWMO board for an at-large member, and one does not

need to live in the SRWMO to serve. Logren said she would like to serve as the Council liaison to the SRWMO, and Hegland said will try to find someone else to fill the at-large vacancy. Hegland continued to say that she would like to serve as the liaison to the RCWD. Mursko added that she typically goes to the Coon Creek Watershed District meetings, adding that a very small portion of Columbus is within this watershed district.

Motion by Peterson to approve the 2019 City Council Committee Assignments. Seconded by Duraine. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

10. 2019 Columbus Recycling Program and Dates

Mursko presented a memo from Deputy City Clerk Lorie Spangler detailing her plans to meet the City’s recycling goals in 2019. She is looking for feedback on the plan. Spangler has proposed three recycling dates for the City. Depending on what the Council prefers, these dates could provide curbside pick-up services or drop off services for large recyclables such as appliances.

Hegland said that she would like at least one of the dates to offer curbside pickup services. Mursko said that she will have Spangler update the brochure with that change and bring it to a future Council meeting for approval.

11. 2019 Fall Fest Event

Deputy City Clerk Lorie Spangler put together a second memo requesting feedback and suggestions for the City’s Fall Fest event. Mursko explained that there are four different committees that come together to put on the event; the Senior Center, the Lions Club, the City, and the CPTO (Columbus Parent Teacher Organization). She added that historically the budget from the City has been set at \$1,000. The next Fall Fest meeting is on 01.23.19.

Peterson said that he would like to do the car show again. Logren asked if there have been efforts to bring local businesses to the event? Mursko said there has, but the focus has shifted in recent years because the businesses that were in attendance were putting items up for sale at the event which was not the Fall Fest committee’s intention, as the Senior Center typically holds a large craft sale during the event.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

12. Engineer Report

Intersection Sight Distance on TH 97 and Hornsby South Intersection

Based on direction from a previous meeting, Postler met with MnDOT to discuss adjusting the barricades placed on TH 97 near the intersection with Hornsby South. There is concern from the public that these barricades are interfering with sight lines and creating a dangerous situation.

MnDOT’s position is that they don't see an issue with the location of the barricades and do not plan to adjust them in any way. Postler asked the Council if they would like to continue asking for the barricades to be moved? If not, he explained, the barricades will be up for another 3-4

months. Postler said that because the bridge project is design build plans can change from original expectations.

Dan Mike, from the audience, said that there is no way to check for oncoming cars when turning onto TH 97 from Hornsby Street unless you creep forward into the intersection, which is dangerous. He added that if they could lower the barricade 2 or 3 rungs it would give motorists a better chance to see oncoming traffic. Postler replied that MnDOT is against altering the composition of the barricades.

Mayor Preiner said that he is not comfortable making a decision on this topic without visiting the site in question. Peterson agreed to go with Mayor Preiner to look at the site before the next Council meeting.

Sherco Construction Letter of Credit Reduction Request – Thurnbeck Preserve

Postler is recommending reducing the letter of credit by roughly \$183,000 and retaining \$150,000 to put the final lift of bituminous on Furman Street and to handle some erosion and sediment issues. He is also recommending requiring that the City keep 20% for another year to handle any unforeseen issues that may come up.

Motion by Preiner to approve the Sherco Construction Letter of Credit Reduction Request – Thurnbeck Preserve. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Preiner asked Postler if he could check with Anoka County for the schedule of paving Kettle River Blvd north of Broadway Avenue? Postler replied that he would.

13. Attorney Report

Griffith said that he will be leaving business cards with all Council Members and encouraged them to call if they have questions, part of his legal services to the City is answering any questions the Council may have.

14. Mayor and Council Members Report

Council Member Logren

No report.

Council Member Duraine

No report.

Mayor Preiner

No report.

Council Member Hegland

No report.

Council Member Peterson

Council Member Peterson noted that he is happy with the shoulder clearing that Anoka County has done on Lake Drive and Kettle River Blvd, as that it has made intersections safer.

15. Public Works Report

No report.

16. Public Communications Coordinator Report

No report.

17. City Administrator's Report

No report.

Treasurer's Report

Receipts:	\$	0.00
Disbursements:	\$	1,411,567.92
Balance:	\$	9,055,714.04

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

18. Calendar of Meetings.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on 02.06.19.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Preiner to adjourn. Seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows; Peterson – aye; Hegland – aye; Preiner – aye; Duraine – aye; Logren – aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Hughes, Public Communications Coordinator

Final Organizational Chart
2019 CITY OF COLUMBUS

Deputy Mayor	Janet Hegland
Depository	Wells Fargo
Investments	Wells Fargo
Legal Paper	Forest Lake Times
Engineer	TKDA/Dennis Postler
Planner	Interim TKDA/Meritt Clapp-Smith
Civil Attorney	Larkin Hoffman/Bill Griffith
Criminal Attorney	Joseph Murphy
City Auditor	2018 Tautges Redpath
City Assessor	Ken Tolzman
Animal Control	Dover Animal Control
City Council Workshop Meetings	1st 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
Jody Krebs	2021
Open	2022
Pam Woloski	2022
Open	2020
Ron Hanegraaf	2020
Park Advisory Board:	
Sandra Wood	2020
Kris King	2021
Andrea Messina	2022
Mark Daly	2022
Bob Bodene	2020
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 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 (Mtgs 3rd Thurs. Quarterly)					
Public Works Advisory Board		M	A		
(Mtgs. as needed)					
Met Council (As Needed)					
FLCC - Cable TV (Semi-Monthly)		A	M		
Transportation Sponsors (Interchange)	M			A	
Fall Fest City Council Representative				M	A
(6-8 Meetings)					
Watersheds:					
Rice Creek	A				M
Coon Creek					
Sunrise (Monthly Meetings):				M	M
Sunrise 2nd Member: Vacant					
M = Primary Representative					
A = Alternate Representative					