

City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
01.22.20

The 01.22.20 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:02 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 Kevin Bittner, and Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes.

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

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

- 1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting – 7:02 P.M.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions**
- 4. Motion – Approval of the xx.xx.xx City Council Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Motion – Approval of the City Assessor 2020-2021 Agreement**
- 6. Motion – Approval of the Animal Control 2020 Contract**
- 7. Motion – Approval of Resolution Appointing Election Judges for Presidential Nomination Primary Election 03.03.20**
- 8. Motion – Pay Bills as Posted**

Motion by Hegland to approve consent agenda items 3-8 to include Resolution 20-02, a resolution appointing election judges for the Presidential Nomination Primary Election on 03.03.20. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PRESENTATIONS

9. Planning Commission Report

Kris King came forward to present the Planning Commission report for their 01.15.20 meeting. Their first order of business was appointing a Chairperson. All agreed to appoint Hanegraaf as Chair and Wolowski as Vice Chair.

Motion by Duraine to approve the Planning Commission’s nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Joint Planning Commission and City Council Meeting

King reported that after the appointments, a joint meeting was held with the City Council to discuss new zoning ordinances for the City. King said that there is still a lot of work remaining before the deadline, and they will hold another joint meeting next week to consider the topic further. The joint meeting is being scheduled for 02.05.20. Peterson noted that he is unable to attend.

Motion by Hegland to approve the call for a special joint meeting with the Planning Commission on 02.05.20 for a continued discussion of zoning districts and uses within the freeway district. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Public Open Forum

No report.

11. City Engineering Services Discussion

Mayor Preiner reported that new City Engineer Kevin Bittner from Bolton & Menk is in attendance.

Bolton & Menk Contract

Griffith continued discussion from the City Council workshop on the contract with Bolton & Menk for engineering services.

He reported that there are two changes to be made to the contract. The first is that there will be no charge for attending City Council meetings. The second is to add an item under general engineering services providing consulting services relating to the City's role as the Local Government Unit for the Sunrise River Watershed Maintenance Organization (SRWMO).

Motion by Hegland to approve the agreement for professional consulting/City engineering services with Bolton & Menk, including the changes noted above. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

TKDA Transition

Mursko reported that the City has been in discussions with TKDA about the transition to Bolton & Menk's engineering services. TKDA has submitted a schedule of 2020 billing rates, as there are some projects that TKDA will need to continue work on. For roughly three to six months the City will have both TKDA and Bolton & Menk working on items. TKDA is requesting Council approval on the 2020 fee schedule for their services.

Motion by Logren to approve the 2020 fee schedule for professional consulting/City engineering services from TKDA as presented. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Preiner asked if one of the projects TKDA will be working on is the NE quadrant? Mursko replied that it is. She added that TKDA will be sending an official letter detailing the work they will complete.

Hegland asked if someone from Bolton & Menk will be working with TKDA on their outstanding items? Griffith replied that if a project is almost complete TKDA will finish it independently and submit a report of what they did. Other projects will require more involvement from Bolton & Menk as they are transferred. He reiterated that the official letter from TKDA will have further information on these questions.

12. Preiner's Preserve Letter of Credit Reduction Request No. 5

Mursko reported that some streets in Preiner's Preserve were dedicated to the City in December. When roads are dedicated in this manner, there is a warranty period of one year. The warranty period for these roads terminated in December.

At that time, TKDA felt like they were unable to do a thorough inspection of the roads. Due to that, City Engineer Dennis Postler is recommending reducing the letter of credit to \$107,500, leaving time for the final inspection to be completed in the spring.

Motion by Duraine to approve the letter of credit reduction in the amount of 10% of the original surety amount (or \$107,500) for Preiner's Preserve, until a final inspection can be performed in the spring. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

13. 2020 City Wide Recycle Events

Deputy City Clerk Lorie Spangler submitted a memo proposing three City-wide recycling events. Hegland said that she received a post card from Anoka County recently about "Fix It" clinics that they hold. She is unaware how they are funded but recommended that Spangler consider adding such an event to Columbus' recycling schedule.

Motion by Hegland to approve the schedule of 2020 City-Wide recycling events as presented, with Deputy City Clerk Lorie Spangler considering the addition of a "Fix It" clinic. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

14. Engineer Report

Mursko began by saying that she would like to continue discussion from the previous City Council meeting on the Kettle River Blvd. and Camp Three Road intersection.

Since then, she asked Anoka County if they had cleared that intersection's right-of-ways to the optimal location for site distances, and they had. She is considering holding a workshop on this topic and asking an Anoka County traffic engineer to attend. City Engineer Kevin Bittner said that he will also ask a Bolton & Menk traffic engineer to attend.

The main question posed to the Council is whether they would be willing to dedicate funds to reconfiguring the intersection. If not, Mursko and Bittner will not request a traffic engineer's assistance.

Hegland replied that in the least a Bolton & Menk traffic engineer should provide their feedback. Bittner said there may be funding sources available if the City is able to prove certain safety issues. Overall the Council was in agreeance that they should take next steps toward reconfiguring the intersection.

Motion by Hegland to direct City Engineer Kevin Bittner to request a Bolton & Menk traffic engineer participate in a workshop on the intersection of Kettle River Blvd and

Camp Three Road, and the intersection of 151st Avenue NE, Kettle River Blvd., and Lake Drive. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Attorney Report

No report.

16. Mayor and Council Members Report

Council Member Logren

Logren reported that the branding committee is hosting a networking event tomorrow evening at Running Aces Harness Park from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Duraine

No report.

Mayor Preiner

No report.

Council Member Hegland

Hegland reported that she was invited to a meeting at the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) last week where they presented two candidates running for the Anoka County Commissioner seat.

She continued by saying it reminded her that the Council previously nominated Pat Preiner for reappointment as chair of the RCWD board. Since then Anoka County has deferred action on the nomination until after the County election in February. She suggested that the Council send a second letter standing behind their prior recommendation to reappoint Preiner.

Motion by Hegland to direct City Staff to draft a letter to the Anoka County Board re-stating the City of Columbus nomination (Pat Preiner) for representation on the Rice Creek Watershed Board of Directors. Seconded by Logren. Motion carried unanimously.

Hegland continued to report on her work with the Columbus Senior Center Board and Anoka County clarify possible uses of the Senior Center. Anoka County and HUD said the building can be used as a community center. As a result, a meeting was held today to talk about the transition.

During the meeting few decisions were made. The first is that the building will be renamed the Columbus Community and Senior Center. The second was that the center will not open to the public until March, after the fee schedule and rental application are drafted. During the interim, the Columbus Senior Center Board will take inventory of their property in the center.

She continued to say that the Board also made a few requests of the Council. The first is to donate their tables and chairs to the City so that they can be used in the space. The second is that they would be allowed to continue weekly meetings in the center for the first year free of charge. This aligns with the previously discussed policy of not charging civic organizations for the use of

the space. The Board also requested there be no charge to use the space for Fall Fest over the next five years. The last item requested was forgiveness of a \$600 rent payment for the months of November and December 2019. for the use of that building up to December of 2019.

These items were discussed during today’s workshop. The Council decided that if the Board determines that the tables and chairs are worth approximately the same value as the cost to rent the space for Fall Fest, the Council will accept them. If this occurs, Griffith will draft an agreement about the Fall Fest rental space. The Council also agreed they would not forgive the rent payment, but would extend the due date to April.

Motion by Hegland to finalize the agreement between the City and the Senior Center Board as discussed in the workshop to include transferring electricity and gas bills to the City as of 12.23.19, changing name to Columbus Community and Senior Center, accepting chairs and tables with donation agreement to offset rental of building for Fall Fest over the next five (5) years, denying request for November and December 2019 rent forgiveness, and extending the due date for these fees to April 2020. Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Peterson

No report.

17. Public Works Report

No report.

18. Public Communications Coordinator Report

No report.

19. City Administrator’s Report

Mursko reported that the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting has been scheduled for 04.21.20 at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer’s Report

Receipts:	\$	0.00
Disbursements:	\$1,716,973.93	
Balance:	\$8,614,100.73	

20. Closed Meeting

At this time Mayor Preiner closed the City Council meeting to execute a closed meeting under Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, subd. 3(c) to consider offers or counteroffers for the purchase of property for the purpose of extending Zurich Street to the north of Lake Drive.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

21. Calendar of Meetings.

The next joint Planning Commission and City Council meeting is on 02.05.20 at 7:00 p.m.

The next City Council meeting is on 02.12.20 at 7:00 p.m.

The next City Council workshop is on 02.26.20 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

F. ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Hughes, Public Communications Coordinator