

**City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
January 25, 2017**

The January 25, 2017 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Denny Peterson, Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine and Bill Krebs; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, Engineer Dennis Postler, and Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes.

Also in attendance were: Dave Schueler, Jody Krebs, Mary Preiner, Pat Preiner, Jesse Preiner, Kris King, Paul Peskar, Brandon Taylore (LATV), Jim Stuart, Bryon Fuerst, Peter Grover, Deputy Dewey, Emmy Robinson, Rick Robinson, Pam Westlund, Byron Westlund, Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad, Paul Rignell (Forest Lake Times), and Jim Watson.

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

- 1. Call To Order - Regular Meeting – 7:00 P.M.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Motion – Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes 01.11.17**

Motion by Krebs to approve the Consent Agenda item 3. Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PRESENTATIONS

- 4. Presentation – Anoka County Sheriff’s Office (Bryon Fuerst)**

Jim Stuart (Anoka County Sheriff), Commander Bryon Fuerst, and Deputies Peter Grover and D. Dewey came forward to give a brief report on their work in Columbus and to hear from the Council about any concerns that they may have. Sheriff Stuart introduced the officers to the Council, and noted that Deputy Grover and Deputy Dewey will be working for the City of Columbus this year. Sheriff Stuart then took questions and concerns from the Council Members.

Council Member Bill Krebs expressed his discontent with squad cars parked on the side of the road with no lights on, as he believes this is a safety concern. Sheriff Stuart replied that officers are told to use their discretion and park in a safe place, that is clearly off of the road’s shoulder. The second concern from Krebs had to do with W Broadway Ave. He has noticed that when someone is turning left onto Potomac St NE from W Broadway Ave, other cars on W Broadway Ave will pass the turning car in the shoulder at very high speeds. Krebs is concerned about accidents occurring at this intersection because of how quickly cars pass each other. Sheriff Stuart replied that he and his officers are aware of the problematic intersection, and have been patrolling it. However, at times officers will have to park on the side of the road without their lights in order on to be effective, thus these two concerns can at times be conflicting. Regardless, Sheriff Stuart said he is happy to pass these concerns onto their patrol team.

Mayor Povolny then asked whether there have been issues with the City’s new roundabout, and

if officers in Columbus have used the new Social Host Ordinance that the City recently adopted. Sheriff Stuart and Deputy Grover both agreed that the roundabout has overall not been an issue, and they also have not done any work in Columbus having to do with the Social Host Ordinance. Mayor Povolny also asked how the Anoka County Drug Task Force's efforts have been going. Sheriff Stuart reported that they are doing a very good job and have had a lot of success. In addition, they are working on adding Narcan (a drug that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose) to all squad cars, and Vivitrol (a drug that prevents alcohol and drug cravings for up to 30 days) to the jail. The next point that Mayor Povolny raised was about the Sheriff department's software. Sheriff Stuart reported that there have been significant updates to their system, however there is still a decent amount to be done to improve the system. Lastly, Mayor Povolny asked if there has been the same theft level of steel and catalytic converters in the City as last year. Deputy Grover replied that there has not, and he believes whomever was responsible has been arrested.

To finish, Commander Fuerst spoke about two reports he generated for the City and handed them out to the Council Members. These reports show all of the offenses that occurred in Columbus during the 4th quarter of 2016 and to date in 2017. Fuerst said that the offenses reported were nothing out of the ordinary or a cause for concern. In the 4th quarter of 2016 there were 258 offenses, and to date in 2017 there have been 63.

5. Planning Commission Report

Jim Watson presented the Planning Commission report. The Planning Commission brought two main topics to the Council Members for consideration. A Preliminary Plat and CUP (PUD) request, and an accessory building ordinance.

Preiner's Preserve CUP for PUD and Preliminary Plat

The Planning Commission held a public hearing to receive testimony for a Preliminary Plat and CUP (PUD) request from Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) creating 30 new lots for a senior housing development containing 30 detached home sites. The Planning Commission is recommending approval of the Preliminary Plat and CUP (PUD) requests after some discussion on 4 different items.

The first item has to do with storm water ponds. There are many ponds located within the plat, and the majority of them drain to public roadways. If a pond drains to a public roadway(s) the City is responsible for maintaining it. Within this plat there is 1 pond that does drain into the development, and Byron Westlund (the Developer) has asked if the City would be willing to maintain this pond and be reimbursed by the Association for related costs. The Council Members decided that was fine and agreed to maintain the pond.

The second item is in regards to the Preliminary Plat itself. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko explained that there are 30 lots in the plat, a portion of which were done using metes and bounds, which is not something the City normally accepts. The Surveyor for the Plat has told the City that it would be an extraordinary amount of work to not use metes and bounds, due to the amount of wetland on the property. Mursko explained that in order to get around this issue the Developer should apply for a variance to use metes and bounds, and if the Plat is approved it

would be contingent on such a variance.

The third item is regarding groundwater levels. Originally the Geotechnical Engineer recommended a 4-foot separation between the surface and water table throughout the plat, however there are some lots that have only a 3-foot separation and some with a 3.6-foot separation. The Developer said that if the groundwater clearly presents itself as an issue during construction, they have means to deal with it; such as dewatering and drain tiles. City Engineer Dennis Postler said that he would be satisfied with the groundwater readings if he had a report from their Geotechnical Engineer acknowledging the concerns that Postler has.

The last item has to do with a specific lot in the plat which is abutting the City's lift station. The Developer would like to create more space in the backyard of this property, and to do so would require the planting of trees for screening purposes on the border and encroaching into City's lift station easement. The Council asked Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad if this would be acceptable, and he said yes. Mayor Povolny asked who would be responsible for maintaining or moving the trees if the situation ever arises. Postler replied that it should be at the cost of the homeowner, and the Developer agreed.

Some additional discussion was had, as the Developer asked when fees for the plat would be ready for viewing. Mursko reported that most of the Developer's fees will be listed in the Developer's Agreement, which will be ready before the Final Plat is considered by the Planning Commission. She also clarified that fees are collected twice; first when the Final Plat is signed and recorded, and second when improvements are made. The Developer asked specifically about the WAC (Water Access Charge), and SAC (Sewer Access Charge) for the development. He is wondering if it would be possible to pay the 2016 SAC and WAC fees instead of the 2017 fees (as the 2017 fees are higher than 2016). He had submitted all of the necessary paperwork in 2016, however because of an issue with Anoka County the plat did not get recorded until 2017. Mursko explained that the City does not have control over the SAC fee, however they do have control over the WAC fee. The Council agreed that because there was a good faith effort to turn everything in in 2016, they are fine with charging the 2016 WAC fee.

Motion by Krebs to approve:

- **(PC-17-101) Preliminary Plat map (dated 12.09.16) submitted by Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) creating 30 new lots, based on findings of fact and subject to conditions 1-16 in the Planner's Memo (dated 01.19.17), and contingent on:**
 - **Submitting a variance application for the use of metes and bounds,**
 - **Submitting a GeoTechnical Report with a recommendation for the Lowest Floor Elevation,**
 - **A Developer's Agreement condition to include a maintenance agreement for one storm water pond, reimbursement to the City for storm water pond maintenance costs, and an encroachment agreement for trees onto Columbus' Lift Station easement.**
- **(PC-17-102) CUP (PUD) application (dated 12.13.16) submitted by Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) for a 30-home senior housing development, based on findings of fact and subject to conditions 1-13 in the Planner's Memo (dated 01.19.17). Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously.**

Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) Preliminary Plat Findings of Fact:

1. The City received a preliminary plat application from Woodland Development ("Woodland") on October 26, 2016 and supplemented on December 13, 2016. The application was found complete.
2. The 120-day preliminary plat review deadline is April 12, 2017.
3. The proposed 16.69-acre, 30-lot residential plat is located between Running Aces Harness Park and 147th Avenue NE, legally described as part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 32, Range 22, lying north of 147th Avenue, and part of Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 32, Range 22 ("Property").
4. The proposed metes and bounds subdivision of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 32, Range 22 to create the plat is procedurally incorrect; whereas, the subdivision of said parcel must be accomplished by platting.
5. The City also received a CUP application from Woodland to process the subdivision and development of the Property for senior citizen detached housing units through the PUD provisions of the City Code.
6. The Property is zoned Community Retail (CR), which allows senior citizen housing as a conditional use.
7. The proposed plat involves the extension of public sewer and water to all lots. Twenty-six lots are proposed to be served by new public street extensions, and four lots are proposed to be served by a shared common access drive.
8. The proposed lots range in size from 9,000 square feet to 53,355 square feet.
9. The Preliminary Plat and civil plans show different locations for the proposed house pad on Lot 9, Block 1. It appears that Lot 9, Block 1 could support two housing units.
10. The minimum lot area for association managed, detached single family homes is 5,000 square feet.
11. An association will be included in the proposed subdivision for private lawn care and snow removal of private driveways.
12. A shared access easement and private drive maintenance agreement will be required for the four lots with shared driveway access.
13. All lots will be individually owned and all homes will be individually maintained. There are no common areas.
14. Yard area and wetland area easements are consistent with the City Code.
15. There are three stormwater ponds proposed within the plat. Two ponds are required for city street drainage (Ponds 1 & 2); whereas, the third pond is required for the shared access drive serving the four lots.
16. An existing drainage and utility easement is impacted by proposed development on Lot 1, Block 2.
17. The applicant is working with the Rice Creek Watershed District for permitting.
18. There are no sidewalks or trails proposed within the plat.
19. The Preliminary Plat public hearing was held by the Planning Commission on January 18, 2017.

Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) Preliminary Plat Conditions of Approval:

1. Detailed recommendations of the City Engineer.
2. Title review and recommendations of the City Attorney.
3. The final plat should encompass all of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 32, Range 22, creating outlots for remnants located on either side of 147th Avenue. [The final plat could also include the remaining Preiner property located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 32, Range 22]. The Planning Commission recommends the City Council waive the platting requirements of the easterly quarter-quarter parcel to form easterly boundary of the plat.
4. PUD CUP approval.
5. Renaming of Yuba Street NE to Anson Street NE.
6. Consistency of the plat name and civil plans name – either “Preiner’s Preserve” or “Preiners Preserve.”
7. A subdivision development agreement.
8. A shared driveway access easement and maintenance agreement for Lots 1-4, Block 1., including maintenance of “Pond 3.”
9. An application for a partial easement vacation for a portion of the existing drainage and utility easement encumbrance on Lot 1, Block 2.
10. Requirements of the Anoka County Surveyor.
11. Requirements of Rice Creek Watershed District.
12. Permanent wetland buffer plaques and stormwater ponding easement plaques at intervals determined by the City.
13. Disposition of trail or sidewalk connections to the trail along Zurich Street abutting Running Aces Harness Park.
14. Cash in lieu of park land dedication.
15. Reimbursement of all City expenses associated with plat approval.
16. Future development within the plat is subject to local ordinances and permitting requirements.

Woodland Development (Preiner’s Preserve) CUP (PUD) Findings of Fact:

1. The City received a PUD CUP application from Woodland Development (“Woodland”) on October 26, 2016 and supplemented on December 13, 2016. The application was found complete. The 60-day review period ends on February 11, 2017 and the 120-day review, if necessary, ends on December April 12, 2017.
2. The CUP is required for the proposed development of senior citizen housing in the Community Retail (CR) District.
3. The PUD allows variations in dimensional standards.
4. The proposed Preiner’s Preserve development is a 30-lot senior citizen detached home residential development.
5. Gross lot areas within the proposed plat range from 9,000 square feet to 53,355 square feet. The minimum lot size allowed is 5,000 square feet for association managed senior citizen housing.
6. Preiner’s Preserve will include an association for lawn care and private driveway snow plowing.
7. All lots will be individually owned and all homes will be individually maintained. There are no common areas
8. Proposed minimum front yard setbacks are 25 feet. Depending on specific home plans, this

could be a 5-foot exception to the minimum 30 feet garage setback, which would be allowed under the PUD.

9. There are currently four house plans included in the PUD submittal. Homes typically range in size from approximately 1,500 square feet to 1,700 square feet, with options for decks, porches and a third car garage stall.
10. Each home includes attached 2-car garages, exceeding the minimum 11 feet by 22 feet individual stall dimensions.
11. Parking areas in front of the garages can meet the minimum 18 feet by 24 feet driveway standards; although, there are no details included for individual driveways.
12. Homes are typically slab on grade but may include options for lookouts or walkouts on some lots.
13. Depending on final home plan designs, some models do not appear to meet the minimum 35% brick, stucco or stone front façade requirement.
14. The development includes new public street access for 26 lots. The public streets are 30 feet in width to the back of the curb. This dimension is adequate to allow parking on one side of the street.
15. Four lots will have access from a shared driveway off of 147th Avenue. A shared driveway access easement and maintenance agreement will be required.
16. The senior citizen detached dwelling standards include a guest parking allocation of ½ stall per unit. This requirement is met with one-sided street parking on the public streets. A minimum of two guest parking stalls should be identified on the plans and included in the shared driveway access easement and maintenance agreement.
17. The applicant is working with Rice Creek Watershed District for permitting.
18. The PUD CUP public hearing was held by the Planning Commission on January 18, 2017.

Woodland Development (Preiner's Preserve) CUP (PUD) Conditions of Approval:

1. The PUD CUP is contingent upon approval and recording of the Preiner's Preserve plat.
2. The PUD CUP is contingent upon detailed recommendations of the City Attorney.
3. The PUD CUP is contingent upon detailed recommendations of the City Engineer.
4. The PUD CUP is contingent upon subsequent detailed plan review and permitting by the City Building Official.
5. The PUD CUP is contingent upon the permitting requirements of Rice Creek Watershed District.
6. Development of the Property shall be consistent with the PUD CUP application documentation received including, but not limited to, Preliminary Plat, dated 12/9/16; Civil Plan Sheets 1-20 by Hakanson Anderson, dated 12/7/16; Stormwater Management Plan by Hakanson Anderson, dated 12/7/16; Development Narrative received on 12/13/16; and four home model designs by Durand Design and Croix Design and Drafting, undated.
7. The PUD CUP documentation is subject to modification by the City or may be modified through amendments approved by the City.
8. The PUD CUP is contingent upon shared driveway access easement and maintenance agreement for Lots 1-4, Block 1, including reimbursement to the City for maintenance of "Pond 3."
9. No further subdivision of any lot for development purposes is allowed.
10. No filling, excavating or other land disturbances are permitted in stormwater ponding or wetland areas without written approval by Rice Creek Watershed District and the City.

11. Development of the Property must be consistent with all local, federal, and state laws that apply to the use of the Property.
12. In the event the City Council determines, in its sole discretion, that the use of the Property is not being operated in accordance with any term or condition contained herein, the PUD CUP may be revoked by the City upon proper notice and a hearing.
13. Woodland shall be responsible to reimburse the City for its out of pocket expenses incurred in the review and approval of the PUD CUP, including any subsequent inspection and enforcement actions.

Direction – Accessory Building Ordinance

The second topic that the Planning Commission is bringing forward to the Council is questions on direction for the accessory building ordinance, specifically chapter 7A-805 of the Columbus City Code. The Council had a brief conversation about temporary accessory buildings and whether or not they will be allowed in Columbus if there is plastic, fabric, or vinyl being used as a roof. Out of that brief conversation, the consensus was that this topic requires a deeper discussion on what the overall vision is for the City, than the Council meeting allows for. Mayor Povolny suggested that the City Council and the Planning Commission hold a joint meeting in order to have a substantial conversation about accessory buildings. Jim Watson asked if the Council would like to consider putting a moratorium on accessory buildings until this meeting happens. Overall the Council agreed this wasn't necessary. City Administrator Mursko suggested March 1st be the date of the meeting, and all agreed that would work.

6. Public Open Forum

Dave Schueler

Dave Schueler of 16032 Xingu Street NE came forward to speak for Public Open Forum. He feels that accessory buildings should be put in the back yard if they are not temporary. He also suggested that if a person is considering adding an accessory building or storage container they should have to consult with their neighbors about it first, unless there is proper screening.

Kris King

Next, Kris King of 18839 Tulane Street NE came forward to speak. Ms. King is concerned about a neighbor who has placed a shipping container in their front yard, and appears to be using it for storage. Her main question for the Council is why the container is not considered an accessory building, as per City Code all accessory buildings over 200 square feet require a building permit (this container is 320 square feet). She also pointed out that although the container does not have footings, it should not be considered a temporary structure because it is being used for storage.

Emmy Robinson

Emmy Robinson of 18334 Tulane Street NE came forward to speak about the same topic. Emmy provided pictures of the same Evergreen shipping container in her neighbor's yard (she lives near Kris King). Emmy echoed much of what Kris said; that the container is not

temporary, it is larger than 200 square feet, and therefore it should be regulated like other accessory buildings. She also specifically pointed out section L of the accessory building ordinance, noting that she does not think it's strong enough to regulate shipping containers. Lastly, she noted that trying to create screening with a fence for this container would be troublesome because it is 8 feet tall, and fences of that height require a variance to build in Columbus.

Jesse Preiner

Lastly, Jesse Preiner came forward. He also agreed that something needs to be done to regulate the accessory buildings in Columbus. He pointed out that certain areas of the City are not aesthetically pleasing. Preiner also pointed out that within two years the Met Council will be reconsidering Columbus' designation, and if the Council wants to receive a Rural Residential designation there is a lot of work to do to clean up areas of the City.

7. Discussion – Anoka County Regional Rail Authority – RUSH Line Task Force

City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko reported that the Anoka County Regional Rail Authority has decided to leave the RUSH Line Task Force. Mursko posed the question to the Council; whether or not they would still like to continue to participate in the Task Force. Council Member Duraine said that he believes for Columbus to stay relevant the City will need to expand public transportation. Council Members Daly, Peterson, and Mayor Povolny agreed that they should withdraw from the Task Force. Daly thanked Duraine for his time spent on the Task Force, and for working to get a bus shelter installed at Running Aces Harness Park.

Motion by Krebs to withdraw from the Rush Line Corridor Task Force. Seconded by Peterson. Roll call vote as follows; Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Povolny – aye; Duraine – nay; Krebs – aye. Motion carried.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

8. Engineer Report

2017 Crack Fill Project

City Engineer Dennis Postler presented the 2017 Crack Seal Improvement Project Plans and Specifications, as well as a copy of the Advertisement for bid. The bid opening will be set for 10:30 a.m. on Thursday February 16th 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. The Council will consider the bids at the February 22nd 2017 City Council meeting, and construction is expected to take place in May of this year.

Motion by Daly to approve Plans and Specifications for the 2017 Crack Seal Improvement Project. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Peterson to authorize the advertisement for bids for the 2017 Crack Seal Improvement Project, and set the bid opening for 10:30 a.m. on Thursday February 16th 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

2017 Sealcoat Project

Postler also presented the 2017 Sealcoat Improvements Project Plans and Specifications, as well as a copy of the Advertisement for bid. The bid opening will be set for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday February 16th 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. The Council will consider the bids at the February 22nd 2017 City Council meeting, and construction is expected to take place in June of this year.

Motion by Krebs to approve Plans and Specifications for the 2017 Sealcoat Improvements Project. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Krebs to authorize the advertisement for bids for the 2017 Sealcoat Improvements Project, and set the bid opening for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday February 16th 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

159th Avenue NE & Xingu Street NE Feasibility Report and Plans and Specs

Postler also presented the 159th Avenue NE/Xingu Street NE Paving Improvements Project Plans and Specifications, as well as a copy of the Advertisement for bid. The bid opening will be set for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday February 16th, 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. The Council will consider the bids at the February 22nd, 2017 City Council meeting. Construction is expected to take place from May through July of this year.

Motion by Peterson to approve Resolution 17-02 approving the Plans and Specifications for the 159th Avenue NE and Xingu Street NE Shape and Pave Project. Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Krebs to approve Resolution 17-02 authorizing the advertisement for bids for the 159th Avenue NE and Xingu Street NE Shape and Pave Project, and set the bid opening for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday February 16th 2017 at the Columbus City Hall. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Update – County Road 54 Realignment

At this time Postler presented an update on the CSAH 54 Realignment project from Anoka County. He reported that the walking trail adjacent to the road will start on the west side of CSAH 54, until the southerly roundabout, at which point the trail will switch to the east side. The walking trail will terminate at the Running Aces access point south of the southerly roundabout. In addition, the pond that was going to be located on the southwest corner of the northerly roundabout can no longer be located there due to high water. Lastly with regard to the roundabouts, there is a plan to run irrigation and electric to the northerly roundabout median, while the southerly roundabout will not have any irrigation run to it. The Council did not voice any concerns with these updates.

TH97 Bridge Aesthetic Design

Lastly, there was an update on the aesthetic design for the TH97 Bridge project. MnDot

submitted a few design concepts to consider. The first is for the sides of the bridge, and there are two options; either a single tree or a set of three trees (taken from the City's logo). MnDot is also wondering if the City would like these trees to be painted in green or black. The green paint will have to be maintained by City staff, but the black paint should last forever. The consensus from the Council was for three trees in black paint. Both designs are included in the aesthetics allowance for the bridge. One question Council Members did ask is if it would be possible to include "Columbus" somewhere in the design. Mursko said she would bring this question back to MnDot.

The last aesthetic question has to do with the pedestrian walkway that will be running through the middle of the bridge. The walkway will need lighting, and MnDot is wondering if the City would like string lights or box lights. The Council agreed string LED lights would be best. Council Member Krebs asked who is responsible for maintaining the walkway, and Mursko responded that it is the City's responsibility. Lastly, Postler reported there will be a new park and ride station constructed off of I-35 in Columbus.

9. Attorney Report

City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko presented the Attorney's report as City Attorneys were not in attendance.

2017 IT Services Contract (Davco)

Mursko presented the 2017 Technology Services Consulting Agreement with Davco Technologies Inc. This is a renewal of contract with DAVCO IT services. DAVCO Technologies Inc. has agreed to offer services at a competitive rate of \$100/hour, per Minnesota Statutes section 471.89.

Motion by Peterson to approve Resolution 17-03, a resolution entering into a technology services consulting agreement with DAVCO Technologies Inc. from January 25th 2017 to December 31st 2018. Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously.

2017 Electrical Contract (Countryview)

Mursko also presented the 2017 Electrical Contracting Services Agreement with Countryview Electric Inc. This is a renewal of contract for electrical consulting services. Countryview Electric has agreed to offer services at a competitive rate of \$70/hour, per Minnesota Statutes section 471.89.

Motion by Krebs to approve Resolution 17-04, a resolution entering into an electrical contracting services agreement with Countryview Electric Inc. from January 25th 2017 to December 31st 2018. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Mayor and City Council Member's Report

Council Member Krebs

No report.

Council Member Duraine

Council Member Duraine commented that he found an article about a Minnesota business that had moved to Prescott Wisconsin after they were offered 15 acres of land for free to relocate their business there. The article said the reason the business wanted to leave Minnesota was the possibility of a \$15/hour minimum wage and the requirement of paid sick leave.

Secondly, Duraine mentioned that the Forest Lake Cable Commission hired a new Program Specialist and Access Coordinator. In addition, Ben Winnick (Forest Lake Mayor) left the Cable Commission.

Council Member Daly

Council Member Daly reported on a Park Board meeting. During the meeting they discussed adding more fencing around the baseball field next to the Public Works building, resurfacing tennis courts, and the possibility of adding a pickle ball court.

Council Member Peterson

No report.

Mayor Povolny

No report.

Public Communications Coordinator

Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes reported that City Staff had a meeting about the ColumBiz event being held on April 20th. Initial preparations are being done which include printing invitations, updating the business list, and finalizing the list of speakers.

14. Public Works' Report

Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad reported that one of the City's tractors has a broken transmission. The estimated cost for repairs is above and beyond the current Public Works budget, and the current plan is to wait another 1.5 years before getting a new tractor. He presented a quote from Minnesota Equipment for fixing the tractor, and the total was \$10,704.85. Windingstad said that he plans to ask if they can lower the price at all. The Council agreed that the tractor should be repaired up to the \$10,704.85 quote that was prepared.

Motion by Peterson to fix the City's tractor for costs not exceeding \$10,704.85. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

15. City Administrator's Report

Public Utility Connection Charges Adjustment

City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko consulted with the Council for direction on an adjustment to Public Utility Connection Charges, specifically the water access charges (WAC). In 2004, the City Engineer, at the direction of the Town Board created a chart that included all of the properties in the Public Utilities District (Freeway District) and the acreage of benefitted area within the property based on the National Wetlands Registry. The City has been using this chart to determine the WAC for a property. However, it is now possible for people to hire a professional surveyor to determine the actual benefitted area of the property. Recent projects have shown however that the actual benefitted area can be different from the benefitted area that is listed on the chart, in turn producing a different WAC number. Mursko is asking for Council approval to use the actual benefitted area when calculating the WAC, if those numbers are provided to her by a professional surveyor.

Motion by Daly to allow the City to use survey information to calculate the benefitted area of a lot for the purpose of administering Water Access Charges. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

Direction – RAHP Project

Mursko reported that Running Aces Harness Park (RAHP) is commissioning a piece of artwork to be displayed on their property, containing pieces of wood that represent areas of Columbus. Mursko noted that the City does have a piece of wood from the original Columbus Town Hall, and is wondering if the Council would like to donate that to the art installation. Mayor Povolny said that he would prefer to keep this piece of wood in the City Hall. Council Member Peterson said that he knows someone who may have more pieces of the original Town Hall, and he will ask around and let Mursko know what he finds.

HRA Resolution – Ziegler Water Tank Phase 2 Upgrade

The City is in the process of acquiring the Ziegler Water Tank, and installing a SCADA and radio read system. The first phase of this project is complete (taking over the tank, hooking Ziegler up to public piping, and installing a driveway), and the City is hoping to start the second phase which would be installing SCADA and radio read systems. Mursko is looking to the Council for approval to apply for a grant for Phase 2 through the Anoka County Attorney.

Motion by Peterson to approve Resolution 17-05, a Resolution identifying the need for funding to integrate the Ziegler water storage tank and pumping facility into the City’s municipal water system; Phase 2 to include a SCADA system upgrade and radio read meter system for the City of Columbus, authorizing a request for HRA funds. Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Receipts:	\$	0
Disbursements:	\$	55,453.54
Balance:	\$	3,009,526.63

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The next Planning Commission meeting is February 1st, 2017. This will be the kickoff meeting for the City's comprehensive plan.

Calendar of Meetings

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Daly to adjourn. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Hughes, Public Communications Coordinator