

**CITY OF COLUMBUS  
JOINT MEETING  
INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY MEETING FORMAT  
STATUTES SECTION 13D.021  
3.1.2023**

The 3-1-2023 Joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting for the City of Columbus was called to order at 6:01 PM by Mayor Jesse Preiner at the City Hall. Present were Mayor Jesse Preiner, City Council members Janet Hegland, Rob Busch, Ron Hanegraaf, and Sue Wagamon, Planning Commission members Barb Bobick, Lynn Carver-Quinn, Bethany Barrette, and Frank Ramisch, City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, Associate Planner Frank Koenen, Planning and Zoning Permit Tech Ella Giefer, Planner Dean Johnson, and Attorney Megan Rogers.

In attendance via interactive technology were Natalie Ryder, Tina, and an unidentified phone number.

In attendance in person was Steven Ray.

The meeting was held in an interactive technology meeting format.

1. **CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING – 6:01 PM**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **MEETING AGENDA** *Motion* Hegland to approve agenda as written. Second Carver-Quinn. Carried with Wagamon, Barrette, Hanegraaf, Hegland, Busch, Carver-Quinn, Ramisch, Bobick, and Preiner voting in favor.
4. **OCTOBER 19, 2022, JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES** *Motion* Bobick to approve minutes as written. Second Hanegraaf. Carried with Carried with Wagamon, Barrette, Hanegraaf, Hegland, Busch, Bobick, and Preiner voting in favor. Abstain Carver-Quinn and Ramisch.
5. **NOVEMBER 11, 2022, JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES** *Motion* Hanegraaf to approve minutes as written. Second Bobick. Carried with Wagamon, Hanegraaf, Hegland, Busch, Bobick, and Preiner voting in favor. Abstain Barrette, Carver-Quinn, and Ramisch.
6. **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM** Nothing at this time.
7. **COMMERCIAL PET/SMALL ANIMAL USES STUDY AND HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENTS** At this time Koenen presented the Commercial Pet/Small Animal Uses Study, explaining the findings of fact from the study, and gave an overview of the discussions from the 2-1-23 and 2-15-23 Planning Commission meetings. Johnson gave a summary of the proposed ordinance and an overview of the recommended amendments. Wagamon asked where in Section 1 Animal Boarding Facility would fall under, which Johnson explained the definition was not included in Section 1 deliberately as a way to exclude the use. Mursko stated that in Ch 7A-683-Q the date should be January 1 2023, which Johnson agreed was a typo. Hegland stated the Muddy Paws IUP was incorrectly referred to as being licensed by the city. Hegland asked if 'Animal Establishment-Other' should be included in the list in Section 5B, to which Koenen answered he

would add in. Wagamon asked how nuisances would be addressed, to which Koenen said the potential nuisances were not a concern because the animal uses being discussed would not be allowed. Hegland asked if Grooming Facilities needed to be licensed, which Rogers said was not required but that the City could implement if they wished. Busch stated he was not be in favor of all future boarding kennels not being allowed within the City. Johnson clarified that the only boarding allowed would be as secondary use to an Animal Hospital. Hegland and Busch discussed the options for enforcing licensing of boarding. Busch stated that Blaine used police to inspect boarding facilities and suggested Columbus do the same, which Hegland said was not realistic financially. Rogers stated that a public hearing would need to be ordered to move forward.

*Motion* Bobick to recommend the Commercial Pet/Small Animal study to the City Council based on the Findings of Fact report dated 3-1-23 with revisions from today's discussion. Second Carver-Quinn. Carried with Barrette, Hanegraaf, Carver-Quinn, Ramisch, and Bobick voting in favor.

*Motion* Hegland to accept the study based on findings of fact and approve recommendations for the commercial pet and small animal uses report dated 3-1-23 with revisions and supplemented by the public record and testimony provided today. Second Wagamon. Carried with Wagamon, Hanegraaf, Hegland, and Preiner voting in favor, and Busch voting against.

*Motion* Ramisch to recommend a public hearing for draft ordinance 23-01 amending Ch. 7A of Columbus City Code of Ordinance regulating animal facilities and housekeeping amendments to the City Council, subject to amendments made during discussion on 3-1-23. Second Bobick. Carried with Barrette, Hanegraaf, Carver-Quinn, Bobick, and Ramisch voting in favor.

*Motion* Hegland to call for a public hearing for draft ordinance 23-01, an ordinance amending Ch. 7A of the Columbus City Code of Ordinance regulating animal facilities and housekeeping amendments based upon amendments made during discussion on 3-1-23. Second Wagamon. Carried with Wagamon, Hegland, Hanegraaf, Busch, and Preiner voting in favor. Koenen stated the hearing would likely be on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

8. **FALL FEST ROUNDTABLE** At this time the City Council and Planning Commission discussed the organization of the Fall Fest event. Hegland stated that the co-chairs would be Lynn Carver-Quinn and Karen Fleming. Hegland said there was a proposal for Fall Fest to be a 3 day event starting on a Friday. Wagamon, Barrette, Carver-Quinn, Busch, and Hanegraaf said they were in favor. Preiner said he was concerned about the logistics of setting up the event because usually that happens on Friday. Carver-Quinn said that setting up Friday morning should be enough to prepare for the event. Ramisch asked what the budget of the event was. Hegland stated that the City had \$3000 budgeted and the remainder would be supplemented by fundraising and donations. Carver-Quinn stated that the current plan was for Friday to be a movie night, local vendors would be setting up booths on Saturday, and there would be a pancake breakfast on Sunday. Busch stated that Running Aces had events they would like to sponsor such as minnow races. Hanegraaf asked how the movie night would work since the park would be closed, to which Rogers said the City Council could amend the ordinance to allow publicly sponsored events after dark. Bobick asked what the plan was for refreshments, to which Carver-Quinn said there would be food trucks, the Lions would sell food, and there could be a beer garden. Hegland said the proposed date for Fall Fest was the weekend of September 15<sup>th</sup>. Mursko asked

the group which food trucks they would like; the votes were: mini donuts (2 votes), Jamaican, pizza, D&D Goodies, Tot Boss, and Mexican. Hegland said a different option for Friday night was that Running Aces volunteered hosting a 'Columbus Night' with premiums and giveaways for locals. Barrette and Hanegraaf said they were in favor of this idea. Carver-Quinn said she was concerned that other businesses may feel slighted by Running Aces getting the additional business.

Rogers clarified that cities are typically prohibited from making solicitations but that they were able to accept donations if they were offered. Rogers stated that private citizens soliciting for a local event was different from the City Council or its individual members soliciting for an event, and that if the City was offered any donations there was a legal process needed to accept it. Hegland stated that a car show and a petting zoo had been proposed as events for Saturday, and that both had been popular in the past. Hegland said that the \$3000 budgeted by the City typically was used for spraying wasps and mosquitos, traffic control, and providing portable toilets, and the remainder would need to be supplied by fundraising. Bobick asked if the event would be advertised. Hegland said options were announcements in the City's newsletter, via the Forest Lake chamber of commerce, via the Forest Lake Times, and on digital billboards within the City. Busch suggested making posts on the City's social media accounts. Hegland stated that bingo had been proposed as an event for Saturday, but that unless it was sponsored by a private business or organization there couldn't be gambling. Busch suggested doing a 'closest to the pin' event and ice cream social, Hegland suggested face painting, a bouncy house, a silent auction, and demonstrations by the fire department, and Carver-Quinn suggested having local crafters selling items.

9. **PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT** Hanegraaf stated that March 15<sup>th</sup> would be his last meeting with the planning commission and that they would need to elect a new Chairperson at that meeting. Preiner stated that a new Planning Commission member, Judy Huntosh, would be joining on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
10. **ASSOCIATE PLANNERS REPORT** Koenen stated that there was progress made during the February 28 Park Board meeting on writing the park master plan and that they would meet again in April.
11. **PLANNING AND ZONING PERMIT TECH REPORT** Giefer reported that this would be her last meeting as she has resigned her position effective March 10<sup>th</sup> thanked everyone for their support.
12. **ADJOURN Motion** Busch to adjourn. Second Barrette. Carried with Wagamon, Barrette, Hanegraaf, Hegland, Busch, Carver-Quinn, Ramisch, Bobick, and Preiner voting in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

*Ella Giefer*

Respectfully Submitted: Recording Secretary Ella Giefer.