



Columbia City Council Meeting Recap

Council Chamber, Columbia City Hall

7:00 PM

Monday, June 4, 2018

Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

(Recited as indicated.)

(Present: Treece, Trapp, Pitzer, Skala, Peters, Thomas, Ruffin)
(Absent: None.)

Approval of Minutes

(Minutes from the May 21, 2018 meeting will be presented at the next meeting.)

Adjustment of Agenda

(Trapp asked to abstain from PH18-18 due to an apparent conflict of interest. No further changes.)

SPECIAL ITEMS

(None.)

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(None.)

SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

SPC22-18 Teeney Franck - Remember the others.

(Action: A young woman indicated that sometimes people think about the trail and sometimes we forget about what used to be in the places where we add trails, homes or other things. Don't forget about what used to be there. We don't all want to see a concrete trail or an iron bridge. We want to see real nature. Thank you.)

SPC23-18 Laura Maguire - In defense of wild spaces.

(Action: She is here to address the inner idealist in all of us. We all have that voice. Maybe it makes you serve your community. My inner voice addresses the development of the Hinkson Trail area, which I oppose. We do not have to pave and route everything and make it more accessible. It strips us of our ability to discover our own nature. We can decide to preserve wild spaces, not just for recreational uses, but to allow what is untouched to remain untouched. We need to protect our wild spaces. What will become of us when all the land around us is homogenized? What do you love too much to lose? Please protect the Hinkson Valley.)

SPC24-18 Ilinca Popescu - Honoring the Hinkson.

(Action: I grew up on Bluffdale along the Hinkson trail site. I count on the calm of the Hinkson. I want to care for it. I think the new project to build a trail is wrong and the easements required are too large and will actually contribute to erosion and degradation of the area. Restoration is critical to protect natural spaces. This project is not remediating the damage done and we have planted too few trees to replace what was removed. City projects have accelerated erosion. If this would have been done when I was a child, my childhood experience would have been very different. The language in this plan is too vague. I am pessimistic that this will be done correctly. The Moon Valley and Grindstone projects are examples of places where mistakes were made. Please do not push this project forward.

SPC25-18 Stephen Gardner and Bill Pabst - Nuisance, health and safety concerns with new embalming business next to a residential neighborhood.

(Action: It has come to our attention that a new business moving into our neighborhood will have bad consequences for our area. There is no real formal process for us to complain about this, so we are taking this opportunity. This new business is located at 1607 Patsy Lane and there is a plan to put in mortuary services at this location. The current M-C zoning allows this, but we believe that if there is a use that would be detrimental to our R-1 area it should be prohibited.

We are concerned about biohazard materials and unsafe chemicals being introduced into our neighborhood, particularly through backflow. We also are concerned about exhaust fans that can introduce formaldehyde and other contaminants into the air. We are also concerned about extra vehicular traffic in the area.

SPC26-18 Sheela Lal - RMF community bail fund as a need for community policing.

(Action: The speaker indicated that she grew up in this area and she is back for the summer. She believes that rents are too high in this area. What are the market forces? Does it make economic diversity impossible? Turns out there is an oligarchy for commercial property in this town. There is also a shrinking city budget. But, what about the financial barriers to opening up a shop itself? I believe we need criminal justice reform. If we could establish a bail fund, like one being established by Race Matters, Friends, then that would be a disincentive to arrest people to collect fees. All these things matter and need to be considered.

SPC27-18 Suzanne Bagby - Community.

(Action: Another man appeared on behalf of Suzanne Bagby. The signed consent policy has changed the outcomes of some arrests and stops. This is a positive change and is encouraging. Some new policies can change disparity indices. Wouldn't it be great if our police department took seriously the need to change policies to achieve more positive outcomes? We have spoken to the chief. He needs to implement real change. The city manager needs to accept these changes rather than explain problems away by saying they are just by-products of a normal system. There are disparities. Law abiding black residents are more likely to be stopped than whites. How is that not racial profiling? Black drivers are more likely to be pulled over for speeding than whites. We must stop targeting black drivers. Applaud the police for lowering one category in racial disparity and work to lower the others for people of color in Columbia.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH16-18 Proposed installation of traffic calming devices on Rollins Road between Stadium and Sunset Drive.

(Action: A public hearing is being held to consider the installation of traffic calming devices on Rollins Road between Stadium Boulevard and Sunset Drive. The estimated cost of the project is \$65,000. Rollins Road scored as the second highest priority project within the 2017 Neighborhood Traffic Management

Program (NTMP), with a score of 79.65 out of a possible 100. The scoring system takes a number of factors into consideration including speed, volume, pedestrian generators in the area, proximity to schools, bike routes, and recent crash history. The majority of the scoring (2/3) is based on speed and volume of vehicles. The speed limit on Rollins Road is 25 mph; however, this street scored at the 85th percentile speed of 38.66 mph and has over 1,350 vehicles traveling on it per day.

Preliminary plans were developed and presented at the January 18th meeting. Attendees and those who provided comments were generally supportive of the preliminary plan, but did offer some suggestions for adjustments to the preliminary plan. Staff investigated the suggestions and made some adjustments that are reflected in the attached final plan for the Rollins Road traffic calming project, which include:

- Removal of a speed hump near Cowan Drive due to its proximity to the speed table at Ridge Road and the bridge
- Moving the bulb-out at Russell Boulevard from the east side of the intersection to the west side of the intersection to better handle drainage

Staff would like to proceed with construction during the 2018 construction season of three speed tables at Rockcreek Drive, Manor Drive and Ridge Road; and a bulb-out with a crosswalk on the west side of Russell Boulevard.

The public hearing was opened.

The first speaker indicated that he believes that traffic calming on Rollins Road is a misnomer. There is not much traffic there at all, so why do you need to calm it? I want you to oppose this. When I observed this road during rush hour, only 38 and 28 cars were on that road in both directions. I took additional studies and found 27 eastbound and 36 westbound, with only 2 speeders. The same carried forward. Only 2 percent are speeding. Don't turn Rollins Road into a street full of speedbumps. Most of the traffic was local traffic. This was not a bunch of outside traffic. This was families with children who go to church. We have no hot-rodders in our area. We do have bike riders, however, and speed bumps provide a problem for bikers, particularly for women who are pulling kids behind them. What happens there? Speed bumps ruin momentum of traffic flow. Don't mess it up when we have icy streets. This could lead to multi-car crashes.

No other speakers appeared.

The Mayor asked how this concept originated. Staff indicated that this request came from a petition of neighborhood members. There have been some crashes on one end of the road and we look at the whole road. Ruffin asked to explain the difference between a speed bump and a speed table. Staff explained that mostly speed tables are placed near intersections, so it helps correct for intersecting crashes. Speed bumps and tables have a similar approach, but because tables have a flatter top they have a less dramatic impact. Bicycles can navigate speed tables.

Skala asked about the disparity between what the speaker saw and what the city recorded in terms of traffic volume and speed. He also asked about speed tables on snow routes and staff indicated that they will work well in snow conditions. In terms of volume and speed, we collected data over time and we believe our data is correct, particularly the 38-mile per hour speed that exceeds the posted limit. Speed tables address top end speeds very well. Thomas asked the staff to recount the process that led to this recommendation. Staff indicated that there was a fatality collision on this road, and it generated some concern. The person who crashed was trying to evade police. Citizens in the area became concerned around that time, and then our program started. At least ten people must petition the city to initiate a

project. Then we take a look at it in comparison to other worthwhile projects. We have made some changes in response to local residents, and there was some concern about calming in general, particularly at some intersections, but we are trying to reduce overall speeds, and most people accepted the approach. There were some concerns about this project – and we did not get a lot of overall responses. The installation of the speed tables is designed to accommodate snow plow activity.

Thomas asked about striped bike lanes on this section of the street. Staff indicated that there are no markings and only a few places have centerline markings. Thomas indicated that on Stewart Road cyclists felt like they only had two options. One was to navigate the edge of the speed table. The other was to get into the regular traffic lane. Staff will try to allow enough space on the edges for bikes. Pitzer asked if anything else was considered. Staff indicated that there are bulb-outs available as an option, but residents seemed to gravitate toward speed tables and from an engineering point of view this is a good option. Pitzer asked if other options like medians, bulb-outs or trees worked? Staff indicated that yes, they do work, but they are more expensive, impact driveways more and are not typically as effective.

Thomas made a motion to approve this idea and is impressed by the data-driven approach to choosing these solutions. There are some tough curves and excessive speeds and I think most people will accept these changes. Skala asked about how these have been working on Rice Road. He indicated that people there thought they were OK, and it is inconvenient, but that's part of the idea, indicating that inconvenience slows people down. Pitzer noted that speed tables are not always the answer and sometimes other options should be incorporated.

Motion to approve passed unanimously.)

PH17-18 Proposed construction of repairs to portions of Runway 2-20 at the Columbia Regional Airport.

(Action: There have been four sections of Runway 2-20 south of Runway 13-31 that have been identified as needing to be removed and replaced. This project was identified and approved by the FAA in the Capital Improvement Plan. The cost for design and construction is \$6,016,555.00 and will be paid from FAA, MoDOT, and local match. Staff has worked with the airlines serving COU to mitigate impacts to current air service. Construction is anticipated to occur in Spring 2019.

The FAA will fund \$5,414,900.00 (90%) of the project, MoDOT will fund \$300,827.50 (5%), and the City will fund \$300,827.50 (5%). The construction for this project will begin in the spring of 2019.

The Mayor asked why this was so expensive? Staff indicated that these were some very large portions that need improvement. Construction will last approximately 85 days. Skala asked about the thickness of the runway and staff indicated that it is significantly sturdier than regular road construction.

Thomas asked how often we have to repair runways like this and what is the typical lifespan. Staff indicated that this part of the runway is 50 years old and that improvements like this typically last for 20 years. We plan to grind up the old concrete and use it for parking areas.

No public comment was forthcoming and no further council discussion ensued. A motion to approve was made.

Motion to approve passed unanimously.)

PH18-18 Proposed construction of the Hirth Avenue storm water improvement project.

(Action: The properties at 207 and 209 Hirth Avenue currently experience localized flooding during large rain events resulting in storm water next to the house foundations and entering the crawl space of the structures. A Public Works Capital Improvement project completed in 1990 extended the storm drainage system in the Hirth/Ridgeway area. As part of the project a 48” reinforced concrete pipe, two area inlets and an overflow swale were installed along the south property line of 207 Hirth Avenue. In analyzing current drainage patterns for the area, stormwater from a portion of the drainage area located to the north of 207 Hirth Avenue is unable to access the existing infrastructure and swale. Storm water from this area is instead directed along the north property line of 207 Hirth Avenue to the street and results in localized flooding.

This project will consist of constructing approximately 120 linear feet of storm water pipe and two side opening inlets that will connect to the existing 48” RCP pipe located along the south property line of 207 Hirth Avenue. The estimate for this project is \$35,000, which includes design and construction costs.

The public hearing was opened.

One person who lives in the area indicated that this was the second project designed to improve stormwater in this area and he supports the project.

A motion to approve passed unanimously with Trapp abstaining.)

OLD BUSINESS

B130-18 Amending Chapter 5 of the City Code as it relates to animal tethering.

(Action: At Council’s request, staff has drafted legislation to define the conditions under which an animal may be tethered. In preparing this amendment, staff reviewed ordinances from other municipalities, consulted with a local anti-tethering advocate and the Prosecuting Attorney, and presented the proposed changes to the Board of Health. Based on the feedback received, we believe the proposed changes will result in an ordinance that allows some tethering while protecting animals. These proposed changes will allow for improved enforcement of the code by Animal Control Officers.

Key changes to the ordinance include the following:

- Animals may not be tethered as the primary method of restraint;
- Animals may not be tethered for a period longer than thirty (30) minutes unless provided with adequate food, water and shelter;
- Animals may not be tethered unless supervised by a competent person physically present on the property;
- The type of tethers and harnesses to be used are defined;
- No dog under six months of age may be tethered;
- The maximum reach of the tethered animal can be no closer than 10 feet from a sidewalk or property line.

In addition to the changes related to tethering, staff also proposes minor changes to eliminate the gender-specific language throughout Chapter 5. These changes were recommended by the Human Rights Commission.

The public hearing was opened. The Mayor noted that all correspondence so far was in favor of this measure.

The first speaker indicated that she represented an organization that was opposed to chaining and tethering. The current ordinance was drafted in 2010. That brought awareness, but it was hard to enforce. This ordinance will be easier to enforce because it does not require neighbors to testify against each other. Please support this ordinance change.

The speaker indicated she has sent earlier emails in support and believes this helps reduce fights among neighbors. Dogs should not be chained. When they are, they tend to bark a lot. This will help neighbors in many ways. Many other supporters of the ordinance stood in the audience in support. Skala asked about the requirement to provide food, water, and shelter. What about the shelter element? According to staff, an animal control officer can make that determination. The intent is to keep dogs out of extreme cold and heat. Trapp indicated his support for this measure and believed that it was a common-sense approach. Thomas agreed with the previous comments.

A motion to approve this legislation passed unanimously.)

B131-18 Amending Chapter 12 of the City Code to provide for additional protected categories and to update terminology.

(Action: These proposed amendments to Chapter 12 would add additional protected categories of gender expression, receipt of governmental assistance, alienage or citizenship status, status as a victim of sexual or domestic violence, or order of protection status. To comply with federal and state laws, the proposed definition of alienage or citizenship status is limited to those persons who are lawfully admitted and present in the country and there is a proposed exception added to section 12-34.

The Mayor indicated that this morning on KFRU he indicated that there should be no discrimination and that this was a positive move. Trapp agreed with that sentiment and has seen discrimination up close. This will materially improve the lives of many people.

No one from the public appeared to testify.

A motion to approve passed unanimously.)

CONSENT AGENDA

(All items remaining on Consent Agenda approved by unanimous vote.)

B116-18 Rezoning property located east of the terminus of Jenne Lane and north of US Highway 63 from PD (Planned District) to M-OF (Mixed-Use Office District) (Case No. 18-91).

B117-18 Approving the Minor Plat of Central Addition Plat No. 2, a Replat in part of Lots 12 & 14 and all of Lot 13 in Central Addition to the City of Columbia, located on the northeast corner of the Fay Street and Hinkson Avenue intersection (Case No. 18-72).

B118-18 Authorizing construction of the Ballenger Lane Improvement Project from Ria Street to Mexico Gravel Road; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

B119-18 Authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of the Ballenger Lane Improvement Project from Ria Street to Mexico Gravel Road.

B120-18 Authorizing construction of the Bingham Road and Ridgeley Road PCCE #16 sanitary sewer improvement project; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

B121-18 Authorizing an agreement for professional engineering services with Black & Veatch Corporation for the preliminary design, final design and bid phase services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2 Improvements - Digester Complex project.

B122-18 Authorizing a license agreement with Logic, Inc. for the purchase of Wonderware software for the SCADA system at the Water Treatment Plant.

B123-18 Authorizing a license agreement with Logic, Inc. for the purchase of Dream Report data analysis software to be used in conjunction with Wonderware software for the SCADA system at the Water Treatment Plant.

B124-18 Accepting conveyances for sewer, drainage, and temporary construction purposes; accepting Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Covenants.

B125-18 Appropriating and transferring funds associated with the construction of Phase I of the Sports Fieldhouse project located in A. Perry Philips Park.

B126-18 Appropriating funds associated with the construction of a replacement Hangar 350 structure to be located directly south of Taxiway C and west of Hangar 40 and construction of a connecting apron and taxiway at the Columbia Regional Airport.

B127-18 Accepting grant funds from Petco Foundation Arson Dog Support for the purchase of equipment and supplies for the Fire Department Marshal Division Arson Dog; appropriating funds.

B128-18 Authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the program services contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for HIV Prevention services.

B129-18 Authorizing installation of a suspended ceiling system in office areas at the Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services facility; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

R79-18 Authorizing an agreement for professional surveying services with Trekk Design Group, LLC for project design and/or construction services for public facility improvement projects which may include street, trail, transportation, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, airport, solid waste, electrical distribution, potable water distribution and parks and recreation development projects.

R80-18 Authorizing agreements with Lucky's Market Operating Company, LLC, TKG St. Peters Shopping Center, L.L.C. and University Centre, L.L.C. for the use of a parking lot located west of Providence Road and along both sides of Locust Street, and an agreement with Columbia Cemetery Association for the use of a part of the cemetery as a fallout safety zone, for the 2018 Fourth of July Celebration Event.

R81-18 Authorizing an extension of the temporary closure of a portion of the sidewalk and three (3) parking spaces on the north side of Walnut Street, between Eighth Street and Ninth Street, to facilitate the construction of an office building at 807 E. Walnut Street.

R82-18 Granting a temporary waiver from the requirements of Section 16-185 of the City Code to allow possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages for three Ninth Street Summerfest events.

R83-18 Granting a temporary waiver from the requirements of Section 16-185 of the City Code to allow possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages for the annual Global First Responder/Rally in the Alley fundraising event.

R84-18 Approving the Preliminary Plat of Hilltop Subdivision located east of the terminus of Jenne Lane and north of US Highway 63 (Case No. 18-90).

NEW BUSINESS

R85-18 Designating the east/west alley located south of the Missouri Theatre and between Eighth Street and Ninth Street "Historic Vianello Way."

(Action: At the City Council's May 21, 2018 meeting, Mayor Treece requested a resolution be prepared to designate the east/west alley located south of the Missouri Theatre and between Eighth Street and Ninth Street, midway between Locust Street and Elm Street, "Historic Vianello Way." Minor costs for new signage may be incurred. The Mayor indicated this idea came from his granddaughter. This is where all the musicians went in and out and Mrs. Vianello supported the idea.

No public comment.

Verdi's Requiem will be presented on June 16 by the Missouri Symphony and this dedication of way will be announced at that performance at the Missouri Theatre.

A motion to approve the measure passed unanimously.)

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

(All items introduced as indicated.)

B132-18* Authorizing the construction of the Forum Boulevard and Green Meadows Road intersection improvement project; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

B133-18* Authorizing the acquisition of easements for construction of the Forum Boulevard and Green Meadows Road Intersection Improvement Project.

B134-18* Authorizing a right of use permit with The Curators of the University of Missouri for construction and maintenance of a steam distribution chase and manhole, chilled water distribution pipe, control conduit, domestic water pipe and telecom duct bank within portions of the Seventh Street and Elm Street rights-of-way.

B135-18* Approving and ratifying the facility use agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri and the Missouri State High School Activities Association relating to the MSHSAA State Music Festival as authorized by the City Council on April 16, 2018 by Resolution 54-18.

B136-18* Appropriating insurance reimbursement funds received for the purchase of a replacement livestock trailer.

B137-18* Authorizing an agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri for the 2018 Missouri State Senior Games and Show-Me STATE GAMES.

B138-18* Authorizing a participation agreement for state investment in local public health services and memorandum of understanding with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services relating to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Health Services Initiatives (H.S.I.).

B139-18* Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the memorandum of understanding with the Missouri Department of Corrections to provide tuberculosis screening and testing services.

B140-18* Authorizing construction of repairs to portions of Runway 2-20 at the Columbia Regional Airport; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.

REPORTS

REP47-18 City fiber optic business plan report.

(Action: In 2013, the City of Columbia (Water & Light, Regional Economic Development Inc.) and The University of Missouri commissioned a Broadband Planning Study to understand options for improving current and future broadband services within the community. Magellan Advisors was the consultant chosen to perform a Broadband Needs Assessment & Planning Study.

With the ability to leverage Water & Light's fiber-optic network, the study examined potential opportunities for the City to expand use of this network to foster next-generation broadband services for the residents, businesses and community anchor institutions. Magellan determined that the City may want to consider expanding its current fiber-optic network to broaden the service offerings provided throughout the community. The current network was considered an asset that could be enhanced with additional funding commitments and further build out. Magellan recommended that the City investigate implementing public policy tools and developing a Broadband Business Plan.

Public policy such as Joint-Trenching agreements and dig-once policies were recommended. The development of a comprehensive Broadband Business Plan would lay out the business, market, technical, and operational strategies for the City to use in further development of its network. The business plan would determine total costs for construction, operation, and management of the network.

In December of 2015 the City of Columbia contracted with Magellan Advisors to update their 2014 report. To update their report, Magellan completed a current broadband market analysis and a field verification survey. Magellan's market analysis has determined the services that are available, providers, service level, pricing, and access levels within the City of Columbia. They have documented the privately-owned networks in Columbia and created broadband maps to illustrate how Columbia is served by broadband and through which providers.

Over the past several years, legislative bills have been proposed to prohibit or limit municipalities from offering broadband internet services. Some of them would have prohibited municipalities from providing certain services already being provided within the boundaries of the municipality without a vote of the people. Others specified when it would be permissible for a city, town, or village to offer competitive services. None of these bills have been enacted into law as of this report.

Staff recommends establishing a Broadband Business Planning Work Group to execute the following scope:

- A. Understand current and possible future state and federal regulations governing broadband communications for municipalities
- B. Understand Columbia's fiber optic system and service offerings to customers
- C. Understand the fiber optic system and service offerings by current incumbent service providers
- D. Recommend any opportunities for public/private partnerships
- E. Formulate and recommend a Broadband Business Plan

A ten-member Work Group structure is recommended with six appointed members, one City Council member and three Ad hoc non-voting members. The three Ad hoc non-voting members could consist of:

1. One staff member from Water & Light
2. One staff member from IT
3. One staff member from REDI.

Staff recommends for this work group to be comprised of a mix of representation from the following list of different potential customer user groups and other community stakeholders:

1. Residential
2. Commercial
3. Industrial
4. Incumbent service provider (fully deployed)
5. Incumbent service provider (growing)
6. University of Missouri

Skala asked about the consultant – Magellan. Are we asking them to continue to help with this? Staff indicated that right now we are looking at the formation of the work group first – but a future consultant could be considered. Skala also noted that there was a phrase about trenching and that sort of thing. He believed that should that be included in the scope of services. Staff indicated that they gave a broad description and did not go to that level of specificity. Skala asked for some additional citizen input, at least as ad hoc members. Staff indicated they are looking for direction. The Mayor indicated that accessible and affordable broadband could be a game changer for new businesses. He does not want to compete against private providers, but with this trunk line we could at least be a wholesaler to private companies, let them light up the ends, but invest in our original dark infrastructure.

Thomas asked how many miles of fiber optic cable we currently have. Staff was not sure. Thomas asked if we are duplicating something or will this be new? Staff indicated that they have tried to avoid duplication, but want to use the existing infrastructure. Maybe we could adopt a lit system rather than a

dark system. Under the dark system, the end user lights it up. Under a new idea, it could be already lit and then used. Thomas also indicated he wanted more citizen input rather than just industry representatives.

Thomas asked to invite public comment and the council agreed.

The first speaker indicated that he is an engineer and has worked in this area for 25 years. He wanted this city to bid on the big Google project. We did not – but he thinks this is an important step forward and he supports it. He does think that ISPs should be included as ad hoc members of the commission and that trenching should be including in the scope of work. I don't want to slow down the process. I think we could leverage the expertise of a consultant, but I don't want them running the show. I also think there should be some travel budget created to explore other systems and invite other people to our community to testify.

Another speaker indicated that he supports this measure. Let's light up the city.

The Mayor indicated that Columbia used to have COIN as a dial up service. Public internet is nothing new to this town. I think this could be very positive. Skala echoed that sentiment and indicated that fiber could be a boon to small businesses.

The report was accepted with no further action or discussion.)

REP48-18 State of the Community Outreach Unit.

(Action: The report is offered to recognize the work of the Columbia Police Department's Community Outreach Unit over the last two years; to demonstrate accountability for how COU resources have been deployed; and to acknowledge the presence of a firm foundation for community-oriented policing, whatever form it may take in the future.)

[THE FULL REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT THIS LINK.](#)

Content includes: Local historical context; COU's performance as aligned with the Unit's mission and goals; Crime trends in the strategic Central, East and North neighborhoods; and changes in citizen perception associated with public safety. Staff indicated that dedicated officers made this possible and further explained that Columbia is no stranger to community policing. We have measurable goals and we have the will to achieve them. We want to reduce crime and reach out to our strategic neighborhoods. Please feel free to discuss this this evening or schedule another meeting for his.

An officer appeared on behalf of the department and indicated that the early outcomes are positive. Pitzer noted that he had spent some time with some of the officers. He asked about some of the events planned by police like X-Box with a cop and community picnics. Staff indicated that hundreds of people attended these events and many members of the force participated. These kinds of events help us reach key neighborhood members. Pitzer asked if there was a line item in the budget for this? Staff indicated there is some money available and that sometimes other groups help sponsor these events. Most of those monies came from general fund savings.

Staff indicated that one officer does live in one of the affected neighborhoods. Landlords asked for help. One officer indicated that he could move into the neighborhood and it has been a good fit. We do have a guest officer program with some apartment complexes and I could see that expanding. What obstacles remain? The officer indicated that this is a dialogue building program and we have to have conversations

with both the neighbors and our officers. We don't always have a formal training program. We don't always know what works best, so we are still working through that. We want to make sure every officer is exposed to the program, regardless of their duties.

Skala thought that it was eye-opening to see this unfold in the 3rd ward. Some have been big events, some are just cookies and water – but these are important. We have also gone door-to-door. We got a generally good reception – but not universal. I think this is a good program.

Thomas thought this was a good report and liked the statements that talked about community partnerships and relationships. This is what we are looking for. Thomas also liked the recap of the history of the program. He asked about the citizen satisfaction numbers. Staff indicated that the numbers from the key neighborhoods came from the general citizen survey. He noted that the impact has been less in the north neighborhood than in the other neighborhoods. Staff indicated that personnel changes could contribute to that differential. It's about communication and we need to continue to reestablish lines. Staff indicated that people do use the Next Door app and we need to continue the conversation. Cops in the neighborhood help and as we continue that program I think results will show that.

The city manager indicated that there is sometimes a delayed reaction time. The new station coming in will help. We are in the design phase of the new police station in the north neighborhood. It will be built in 2019.

Trapp indicated that his anecdotal experience is that this has been a transformational program. His campaign indicated to him that there are more things happening and that it has made improvements. The officers have done a good job. Ruffin commended the department for their outreach efforts and indicated that really these efforts extend beyond the boundaries of the strategic neighborhoods. I know that there are people outside of this community that are looking at this town as a model for this type of outreach.

Thomas thanked the police for letting him ride along – and walk along – and that this is a very important piece of policing. There is some internal strife among some officers about the program, so how would you expand this city-wide? Staff indicated that this has been successful, even if we fail occasionally. Let's review, and then adopt the things that really work. It's great to have information from other places, but let's do what works here.

The Mayor believed that this was paying tangible dividends. He indicated that the time of one officer engaging was minimal compared to the cost of many officers having to respond to a larger scale crime. Thank you for your work.

No further comments. Report accepted as presented.)

REP49-18 Commission on Human Rights: Request to add veteran status as a protected category, the removal of religious exemptions from Chapter 12, and a citywide anti-bullying policy.

(Action: The Commission on Human Rights has suggested the following additions to Chapter 12 of the City Code.

1. Veteran Status as a protected category as was previously noted in the Principles of Community.
2. An enumerated citywide anti-bullying policy: This is requested per the new standards of the MEI in order to help maintain our perfect score from last year. While several departments of the city have their own anti-bullying policies, the MEI requires an overarching citywide policy.

3. Removal of religious exemptions from chapter 12 protections. State and federal exemptions remain in place for religious organizations, so it's unlikely that removing such exemptions from chapter 12 will have a material effect locally.

The city counselor indicated that these proposals could come back, but staff would prefer these come back in the order laid out in the memo. You should know that the earlier changes were made to Chapter 12, but they will have to come back for changes to Chapter 19.

We won't bring back anything else until we get direction from the council. The veteran status is pretty straightforward, but the bullying law is a little tricky and the religious exemption rule has some other aspects to it.

The Mayor indicated that Municipal Equality Index discussions will be coming up and anticipates that even more changes may be proposed. Staff and council agreed to keep each other informed as new changes are proposed and that not all proposals can be dealt with in exactly the same manner.

No further action. More discussion is needed in this regard. No formal adoption of an ordinance occurred.)

REP50-18 Annual Water and Light Advisory Board report.

(Action: This report from the Water and Light Advisory Board provides a broad overview of the operations, financial position, customer base, usage patterns, challenges and projects planned for the city's two major utilities.

[A COPY OF THE ENTIRE REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT THIS LINK.](#)

The chair indicated that they have been involved in the integrated water resource meetings, that they have some newer members, and that they all spend a lot of outside time. We are looking forward to the work of the Integrated Electric Resource Task Force Work and we are looking forward to the water bond election in August.

No further discussion. Report accepted as presented.)

REP51-18 Vision Zero Action Plan Annual Update.

(Action: At the December 19, 2016 City Council meeting, the council unanimously passed a Policy Resolution committing Columbia to "Vision Zero". This action set a goal to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Columbia by 2030 and directed the city manager to provide an Action Plan to the council by April 30, 2017. This report is an update to that original Vision Zero action and highlights progress and activities by the Vision Zero team since that time.

The primary Critical Actions undertaken by the team during the past year include the following items:

ENGINEERING ACTIONS

- Formalize a program and protocol for road safety audits and road safety assessments.
- Create a Crash Analysis Team.
- Identify engineering design parameters that improve safety for all road users.
- Reduce legal, posted speed limits.

EDUCATION ACTIONS

- Develop a comprehensive safety and education communication campaign.
- Work with other organizations to develop education campaigns and policies.

- Promote traffic safety innovations and improvements.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

- Increase funding for police traffic safety enforcement.
- Prohibit cellphone use and texting while driving.
- Improve and reform enforcement of speed limits and prosecution of violators.
- Provide routine bicycle and pedestrian safety training for law enforcement officers.

The new campaign theme is “Columbia Moves Together”.

Specific programs and policies are included in the overall report. Pitzer asked if the city has incorporated all of these ideas into their policies. Staff indicated that the Vision Zero concepts are not identical to those of the city as a whole. Thomas asked about the fatality reduction statistics. Staff indicated that the goals become increasingly aggressive over time and that the initial reductions start at 10% and get as high as 35% reductions on an annual basis. Thomas thought this was ambitious and effective.

No further comments. Report adopted as presented.)

REP52-18 Youth Advisory Council 2017- 2018 Report to City Council.

(Action: Each year, the YAC focuses on a few major topics that have a significant impact on Columbia Youth. This past year, the Council focused on 1) Social Justice; and 2) More activities for youth.

In terms of social justice, the Youth Advisory Council social justice subcommittee wanted to create and promote programs that encouraged dialogues on issues that were affecting high school aged youth. YAC members began by discussing what programs if any were already in place in each of their schools. It was discovered that Battle High School already had created and were involved with a program called WakeUp! Campaign. Hickman High School had a club called Amnesty and Rock Bridge did not have a club that focused on Social Justice. YAC members then evaluated what they could do to establish or improve the already existing clubs and programs and worked within the framework of the local high schools.

In terms of promoting more activities for youth, the YAC conducted a survey intended to identify reasons for the lack of involvement, as well as ways to increase participation in Columbia Parks and Recreation activities and events aimed towards the youth community. They concluded that the lack of involvement is due to the lack of knowledge and the absence of widely seen promotional material. To increase engagement, the Parks and Recreation Department should pursue methods to increase knowledge of events, primarily through social media as well as other paper formats. The main conclusion is that there are enough activities for youth, but the largest barrier between youth participating in a large scale is the knowledge of those activities.

The YAC was also involved in the Vision Zero effort and other topics for which their participation was requested.

No formal action was taken on this report. Report accepted.)

REP53-18 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.

(Action: No formal action required.)

GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Public

A speaker indicated that the COU report was positive and that so far it had not resulted in significant budget increases. But, where is Burton? Where is Schlude tonight? We need them to hear this information.

The next speaker indicated that the voice of a police chief is important in creating more effective and fair policing. I hope you demand an explanation for the new traffic stops information. I think the COU report is encouraging, but it begins with an introduction by a staff member, not the police chief. Where is his voice? Why won't he say he supports and encourages this? Without his voice, where are we? In Cleveland they are under a consent decree to improve, but it begins with the police chief's vision. He notes that the whole body needs to be healthy and that the whole system needs nourishment and exercise. That report is worth reading.

The next speaker indicated that most of his remarks were directed to the city manager. He does not know how the vision of the council extends beyond the chamber. He asked about returns on investment. He looked at the stops report for black citizens. He thought it sounded good for arrest numbers, but not good if you are a black citizen. He noted that the manager stated that he has not seen an indication that there is a bias problem. He did not question the city manager's intelligence, but he did question his priorities. There is a pattern here and it is blatant. You need to recognize the trend. So does the police chief. You need to face up to it. You may be able to value money, but you do not value the black community.

The next speaker indicated that in 1996-97 Habitat arrived in Indian Hills. We were trying to bring ownership to regular people. If momma can't keep the kids fed and clothed, where will the kids be? Out in the street causing trouble. You need some plain clothes people walking around. Don't just roll up in the cruiser. Don't show up and intimidate people. Also, I want to speak to the plight of disabled people. I don't like to be laughed at. Take me seriously when I talk about wind turbines on the Missouri River – and don't laugh about it. On to the next topic. I know a person who signed up for Love, Inc. I don't know exactly what they do, but it seems like they help people who need help with housing. We have to take care of the kids. I need homeless shelters, not just houses for some of the people who can kind of afford to buy a place. We don't all need mansions. We need people to get help. Thank you for the display in the lobby. Also, what is the percentage of the city budget that goes to the airport?

Council

Skala – Skala asked for a report regarding the new trail in the Hinkson Creek/East Campus area. Apparently low water bridges were rejected in favor of higher span structures. I would like a report that makes comparisons between high span bridges and low water crossings. I also want to thank the council for improvements to Ballenger Lane.

Trapp – At our last meeting we made appointments to the Fair Housing Task Force. We failed to report a Realtor as advertised. They have a stake in this and have access to grant funds for this. I also was impressed with another candidate who did apply, and she didn't really check a box, but she is from Demaret Drive and he thinks he would be a great addition to the task force. I want to add this woman and the Realtors candidate. Skala indicated he had no objection but would prefer to reopen advertising. Trapp indicated that he would like to get his done earlier than later. I think we can pass a resolution, but I don't want to keep this hanging out there. The Mayor asked if we could get a simple resolution changing the number on the board, then see if we need to readvertise. We could also appoint later if needed.

Trapp further asked to bring back the Henderson Branch issue after the 90-day waiting period for consideration by the full council. The mayor said he would like to see some additional facts if it does come back. Skala said he thought it was about more than just annexation, but maybe.

Thomas wanted to correct some earlier testimony about the Hinkson Trail. First, the whole 435 acres will not be developed. It is not pristine, there are already two large sewer pipes running underneath the area. A speaker said it would eradicate wildlife. That is not true and in fact some trails are great for birding and provide access. Next, Thomas indicated that he could not tell an earlier speaker how much the airport receives, but they do get about 25% of the transportation budget and it comes from a regressive sales tax. Next, he indicated that they have received a note from Habitat For Humanity and he wanted to know if anyone had responded to the inquiry requesting city fees be reduced for affordable home building. The city manager asked for a copy of the letter. Thomas indicated he was in favor or waiving such fees, but first we have to have them in place before we can waive them. Then we can draw them back down if they are set correctly.

Thomas then indicated disappointment with the vehicle stops report, but the city's response did not go far enough. I want the police department to do a better analysis of that data and issue a report on what is an investigative stop, how the police do their work, what locations are patrolled and other data that could help explain the disparity. The Mayor asked if Thomas would like the chief of police to step in and comment. Thomas said sure, but the city manager reported the chief was not in attendance. Thomas continued to look at the report data and indicated that an investigative stop disparity was as high as 9 times and wants to understand what they are really talking about. Let's solve this, then we can look for solutions and whether they are legitimate or not.

The city manager invited Thomas to come talk to him about this. He indicated that there has been a lot of work done on this and it is ongoing. We have conducted a listening tour and we have engaged stakeholders. We have made changes in the process. One example is the consent search process. That was an administrative decision. It has had an impact. Changes in the policy about bias free policing will not have an impact on this year's number because it happened late in the year. I am disappointed, and we are not done working on it.

Peters asked if we could have a pre-council meeting instead of one of these late in the evening reports where we have to hash it out. Thomas said let's give the staff time to figure this out. Maybe they could come back in 6 weeks. We have talked about this for three years. Let's get this back and let's hear about it. Skala said that would help us understand the new report better, and in the context of the report being generated I think it would be good to tee up something for council consumption.

The Mayor indicated, the problem is, we have the same problems every year. Same conversation with no change in the outcome. Thomas indicated that he was impressed with Schlude and Gordon describing how they do a SWAT raid. It was really clear and not defensive. Let them explain this data in a similar fashion and work with them to get to the bottom of this. Ruffin suggested we do this as soon as possible. As council members, we should have some answers. The city manager indicated they will schedule such a meeting as soon as possible. Thomas wants nuts and bolts. Why are cops in the situations they are and where do they patrol? There need to be answers.

Ruffin indicated that he received correspondence from Loaves and Fishes about dangerous activities in the area. They need some police protections. They have policies, but no way to enforce safety measures.

Can we please revisit that and provide a police drive by? He is also concerned about the embalming company zoning request mentioned earlier in the evening. I don't know if we can step into this, but I would like to know more about this and respond to the concerns of these residents. The Mayor did not remember embalming being allowed in M-C and did not know where that was an allowed use. City manager indicated the staff will follow up.

Peters wanted to thank the police officers who met on Saturday to answer citizen concerns.

Staff

(No comments.)

ADJOURNMENT
(Time: 10:01 PM)

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