



Columbia City Council Meeting Recap

Council Chamber, Columbia City Hall

7:00 PM

Monday, July 2, 2018

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Adjustment of Agenda

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

(Recited as indicated.)

(Present: Treece, Pitzer, Skala, Peters, Thomas, Ruffin)

(Absent: Trapp.)

(Minutes from the June 18, 2018 meeting approved.)

(None.)

SPECIAL ITEMS

(None.)

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(None.)

SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

SPC31-18 Alan Mitchell on behalf of the CPOA - Collective bargaining.

(Action: The speaker indicated that many people were in attendance at this meeting who are members of the police union and who support his comments. He started by indicating that the current police chief has reserved to himself the power for decision making. Most disputes have been settled internally and the discussions have been reasonable. The speaker indicated the city does not understand how negotiations work. He believed that the city always wants to make decisions equitably across departments. He disagrees. If the police ask for one thing and it is a good idea, there is no reason that the same thing has to be granted to all other departments. We believe that the city has negotiated in bad faith in terms of pay. It has taken too long when the decision is fairly straightforward. We need to point out that a first-day employee is equal to a new employee in the city's eyes. We are in favor of equality when it comes to race or other factors, but when it comes to experience, you need to evaluate skill. We are asking for a 25 cent per hour raise. This is important. The city has rejected our plan and put a clause in the contract that says if the police will support a tax increase, they might provide a raise. This is bad faith. There is no guarantee. This is wrong. We received a letter that said a raise would be contingent on a vote by Columbia citizens. They do not have to have this caveat. The council has the ability to grant a raise right now.

Why do they have to give raises across the board? Why not provide raises where they are targeted and needed? We think the language in our contract is deceptive and there is not trust. The Sunshine Law

controversy demonstrates that lack of trust. We spent \$27,000 of police union money to push this suit. Luckily, a judge agreed with us. We also want to object to having to always testify in open court and this idea flies in the face of real police work.

There is not a plan in place. People have said that if this city manager is still here they will not vote in favor of a new law enforcement tax. We are in trouble. A change is needed.

SPC32-18 Jama Rahn - City policies disenfranchising further the most vulnerable members of our community.

(Action: It is difficult to speak out about things that are wrong when you fear that if you do you might get in more trouble. Some people don't understand. Some people can't do it. I am just talking about it.

SPC33-18 Lynn Maloney - Building Trust: Community-Oriented Policing.

(Action: The speaker indicated that they have reviewed reports about the police from 2006 and 2012 and it appears that no significant positive change has occurred in the police department. The chief is problematic. He claims to be engaged in outreach but does not attend the meetings. Trust is a cornerstone, but this process has eroded trust. The discussion should not always be about funding, it should be about the efficacy of the program and this does not promote trust. Another thing that erodes trust is that the police department blames disproportionate stops on poverty, not race, and those statistics are not proven. The city has also destroyed black-owned homes in the past and have never admitted to what the true motives were. This does not build trust.

Sometimes the council and department seem interested, but there is no action. We were told that it is naïve to believe that the chief should have to earn his salary. We want him to implement what the council has agreed to in the past and hold people accountable. We need to match talk with actions.

SPC34-18 Brian Johnstone - Present a video demonstrating how a city created connectivity and a loop via a bike/pedestrian path using existing streets.

(Action: The speaker indicated that he lives in Ward 6 and shared a presentation about bike paths from Boston MA. We can use existing roadways, but we need to continue to explore new alternatives. The video was shown. The video was called Connect Historic Boston. It showed traffic calming, street marking, raised surfaces, pervious surfaces and connectivity strategies in action. Some bike paths are built in the center section of streets rather than on the edges. Some are built with two-way paths on the same side of the street. The plan involved the creation of an entire loop around the city.

SPC35-18 Julie Ryan - Continued concerns regarding execution of the planned strategy for the upcoming water bond.

(Action: The speaker indicated that she is part of the COMO Safe Water Coalition. They will support the bond issue in August, but they disagree with the way this bond was structured. This bond does not address water quality to the extent needed. You can't identify problems then never raise rates over the course of ten years, then ask for citizens to pay for it. We hired consultants, then did nothing until now. What strategy is going to change if we pass this bond issue. The Water Resource Plan identified needs, but the funding was not provided, no operational rate increases were approved and then we used this lack of funding to support this current issue.

This should have been done years ago. Why can we not get people to come forward and defend this position. Why are water quality issues not addressed? This is a case of using a narrative to fit a situation. If we are satisfied by only meeting the minimum, we are making a mistake. What an unfortunate way to

run a utility. We have no choice but to support this, because it is the only option the Water Department has given us. After this election, we are willing to meet again and work this out.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

(The following three items are related and will be discussed generally together but approved separately.)

PH21-18 Proposed construction of the Portland Street and Lansing Street water main replacement project.

[See B145-18/Mayor Memo]

(Action: The Columbia Water & Light Department has identified the need to upgrade water distribution infrastructure along portions of Portland Street and Lansing Street adjacent to the University of Missouri's Women's & Children's Hospital. The proposed improvements would be part of a joint project in partnership with the University of Missouri. The hospital and adjacent properties are served by aging 6" cast iron water mains along Lansing and Portland Streets and a 12" AC water main along Keene Street.

The proposed plans for construction along Lansing and Portland Streets would replace and upgrade these aging 6" cast iron water mains to 8" PVC water mains meeting current design standards. This upgrade will increase the fire flows available to the area as well as provide a higher level of reliability to the hospital and surrounding properties. Staff indicated that approximately 8 to 10 additional customers as well.

The total estimated cost for the project as designed is \$757,442 with the City's portion estimated to be \$200,802. Payment for this project is planned to be made from funds appropriated under Capital Improvement Project No. W0130 for water main replacements.

The public hearing was closed.

Thomas indicated that this was a question of system expansion and he believed that the customer who wants the expansion should pay the lion's share of the cost. He likes the 25% -75% split and believes that this should serve as a precedent for future requests for expansion or extension of new infrastructure, with the city only assuming 25% of new expansion costs. Skala and the Mayor seemed to agree in principle.

A vote was called on the following question, item B145-18.

B145-18 Authorizing construction of the Portland Street and Lansing Street water main replacement project; authorizing the project to be bid by The Curators of the University of Missouri per the terms of a cost-share agreement.

(Action: See previous discussion.)

A motion to approve passed unanimously.)

B146-18 Authorizing a water main cost-share agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri relating to a joint construction project to replace water mains along Portland Street and Lansing Street, adjacent to the Women's and Children's Hospital.

(Action: The University of Missouri contacted the City of Columbia with interest in upgrading the water lines serving the Women's & Children's Hospital to increase available fire flows for planned building

improvements and increase service redundancy. The current service for the hospital relies on a single feed increasing the likelihood of an outage in the event of a water main failure. A secondary feed to the hospital that runs under portions of the building has been abandoned due to leaks that have developed beneath the structure that were determined to be unserviceable. After review of the University proposal, staff investigated the maintenance history and hydraulic adequacy of the surrounding water infrastructure and determined it would be in the City's and University's best interest to partner in a water main replacement project.

This agreement will formalize the terms of the partnership for this proposed project, generally outlined as follows:

- The University will be responsible for the design contract resulting in bid documents jointly agreed to by both parties.
- The university will be responsible for procurement and management of the construction contract with reasonable assistance from staff.
- The University will ultimately be responsible for inspection and direction of contractor allowing for city inspectors access to ensure construction is in accordance with city specifications and standards.
- Delineates responsibility of costs for the associated work

The approximate total estimated cost for the project as designed is \$757,442 with the City's portion estimated to be \$200,802. The Agreement has a not to exceed value of \$220,000 for the City's portion of the project.

A motion to approve was passed unanimously without further discussion.)

PH22-18 Voluntary annexation of property located south of St. Charles Road and east of Dorado Drive (Case No. 18-105).

[See B152-18 under Intro & 1st Read/Mayor Memo]

(Action: Brush & Associates (agent), on behalf of Mr. James Harris (owner), is seeking annexation of 9.61 acres into the City and desires to have it permanently zoned A (Agriculture) upon annexation. The property is currently located within unincorporated Boone County and is zoned R-S (Single-Family Residential). The requested agricultural zoning is similar in nature to the County's R-S zoning; however, the development density would be significantly less. (Two other items related to this action are being introduced under the First Read section of the agenda tonight.)

The A district requires a minimum 2.5-acre lot area and restricts the ability to subdivide a parcel into more than 2 lots without undergoing a rezoning action to a more conventional zoning district. The parcel could be divided into a maximum of 2 lots and support a total of 4 homes. The parcel is heavily wooded, almost in its entirety, and is sought to be improved with a one single-family dwelling.

The subject parcel has contiguity with the City's existing municipal boundary along its north and west property lines. The parcel is located in the City's Urban Services Area and can be served by City utilities. The adjacent property is in the City's water and electric service territory; however, Boone Electric facilities are also adjacent to the parcel. Access to City electric service would require a creek crossing whereas potential connection to Boone Electric facilities would not. As such, the applicant may request that the parcel be served by Boone Electric rather than City electric services.

Sanitary sewer exists along St. Charles Road and abuts the 0.61-acre lot to the north of the annexation parcel which is the subject of Case # 18-104 – a rezoning request seeking A district zoning as well. The annexation parcel and the lot to the north are proposed to be combined into a single lot per Case # 18-

106; thereby, allowing extension of public sewer to the subject parcel. This adjacent lot also provides vehicular access onto St. Charles road. No further right-of-way dedications are required at this time; however, sidewalks will be constructed along the St. Charles Road property frontage.

Fire protection services are to be provided by the City of Columbia Fire Department and the Boone County Fire Protection District. New state legislation provides that property annexed into the city is not removed from the Fire Protection District. The requested A district zoning is generally consistent with the Columbia Imagined "Neighborhood District" Future Land Use classification for the area – it is not incongruous with surrounding properties, whether in the City or the County. The Neighborhood District designation permits a combination of residential and commercial uses at nodal locations. Surrounding uses adjoining the site include agriculture and planned residential within the City, and more R-S to the south, in the County.

The Planning and Zoning Commission considered this case as well as cases #18-106 (final plat) and #18-104 (rezoning) at its June 7, 2018 meeting. The Commission voted (6-0) to permanently zone the property A (Agriculture) upon annexation.

Skala asked if this has anything to do with the future extension of Grace Lane to Stadium Staff indicated that this was not in that general vicinity and would not affect those decisions. Thomas asked how state law regarding fire protection would apply regarding taxation. Staff indicated that city property tax would be collected, but a separate fire district tax would be collected. Thomas asked if this same thing would apply to all future annexed property if the state law remains the same. Staff indicated that that was true.

This was a hearing only and no vote was taken tonight.)

PH23-18 Consideration of the FY 2019 Capital Improvement Project Plan (CIP) for the City of Columbia, Missouri.

[No Action Required/Mayor Memo]

The City Council held an official public hearing to discuss the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list for 2019 recently presented to the city. This is the document that will be adopted or debated by the city when it approves the new city budget in September. It covers proposals for capital improvement projects in every part of the city and includes everything from streets to sewers to parks to the airport. \$61.2 million worth of projects were included on the preliminary list.

Capital Improvement Project Plan List - 2019

(Action: An earlier version of the CIP Plan was distributed and introduced during the last council meeting. Since that time, the following changes have been made/suggested:

- Removal of PYA (prior year appropriations) funding sources from this listing since the budget, when adopted, will be appropriating new funding amounts for FY 2019
- Parks and Recreation: Annual Land Acq/Land Preservation: changed funding amount from \$400,000 to \$350,000
- Streets: Added 3rd Avenue Alley project with funding of \$150,000 from Transportation Sales Tax

These changes were discussed in part during previous sessions of the council when specific projects were submitted for review. Staff indicated that all projects on the list are in fact funded and that this will provide the priorities for work during this coming year. Peters asked specifically where the alley that was

being funded was located and a description was provided. It was noted that because the alley was so overgrown, it was hard to identify.

Process wise, staff indicated that there will be another hearing in July and that it will then be incorporated into the budget hearings, as well as the August 13 budget worksession. There is plenty of opportunity for comment.

The public hearing was opened.

No comment was forthcoming, and the hearing was continued indefinitely.

Skala noted that comment often comes later in the process. He then noted that in previous discussions the question of equity had arisen. He believes that in this year, the 3rd Ward is getting about \$5 million worth of projects and he thinks that indicates more equity than in the past. I am sure there is something for everyone in this budget.

No further discussion and no vote was taken.)

OLD BUSINESS

B147-18 Authorizing an agreement for professional engineering services with TPR Enterprises, LLC, a/k/a EcoEngineers, for a feasibility study analyzing the potential for the City to upgrade its landfill gas to produce renewable natural gas to be sold as transportation fuel.

(Action: The City's Market Participant, The Energy Authority (TEA), has suggested that a new revenue opportunity could be realized by upgrading the City's landfill gas facility to produce renewable natural gas (RNG) to be sold as transportation fuel instead of being used as fuel for energy production. TEA has recommended that the City work with Ecoengineers (TPR Enterprises, LLC) to perform a feasibility study analyzing the potential for the City to upgrade its landfill gas to produce RNG. The cost for these services is not to exceed \$18,950.

The staff indicated that they believe that there was a Transportation tax credit available that could be claimed by the city, but it is tied to the use of the fuel for transportation purposes. If the landfill gas is converted to transportation use, then maybe this could work. That is what we are studying.

The Mayor wanted to know where the funds generated by this would be utility funds or general revenue funds. The legal staff indicated that it would probably be an enterprise fund going to the utility. The Mayor asked if all the return on investment would need to be dedicated and the staff did not know the answer at this point. Staff pointed out that we operate the landfill like a utility but that technically is a general revenue fund. The Mayor argued that it could be considered a throw away by product s maybe this would be exempt. Skala argued that we don't throw anything away in terms of gas generation, but staff indicated that we do sell gas between departments or utilities once it is converted.

Thomas asked why methane gas is considered to be a renewable asset. Staff indicated that it was because it was generated from the landfill. The quality of this gas is different than some other power gases we use. Thomas indicated that we should actually try to reduce the amount of methane gas we produce because it is dangerous. The sustainability group is looking at this question, but right now we are looking at the business aspect of capturing and reselling the gas that is produced.

Public comment was opened.

The first speaker indicated that he was on the Water and Light board, but he was not speaking on their behalf. I have several individual questions. One of the issues is what will happen to the infrastructure that we use to generate electricity? Without making too many assumptions, I think we have to look at this and we should have the W&L Board should work with the staff. This is long term, so we don't need to rush into it.

Thomas asked the speaker if he thought there was an environmental impact of this process in terms of climate action. Through that lens, the speaker indicated that he thought this would help to maximize renewable sources and those aspects should come into play. He also indicated that the gas that is being generated comes from stuff that has been decomposing for several years and we are simply reusing a by product that already exists. I have not had the opportunity to study this in depth. Staff indicated that it could function like CnG. Skala agreed that this proposal should be run by the Water & Light Board. Would there be any problem with delaying this until we could do this? Staff said no problem. We are just trying to gather information and no specific proposal is on the table at this point.

No further comment was forthcoming.

The Mayor asked if the engineering firm identified firm was licensed in Missouri. Staff has not checked into that yet and was not certain about their status to perform work in Missouri.

A motion to table to the first meeting in September was made.

Pitzer thought this presented an unnecessary delay.

The motion to table passed 5 to 1 with Pitzer dissenting.)

CONSENT AGENDA

(All items remaining on Consent Agenda approved unanimously.)

B141-18 Granting the issuance of a conditional use permit to Missouri Property Associates II, LLC to allow the establishment of a hair salon (barber and beauty shop) on property located at 607 Jackson Street in an M-OF (Mixed-Use Office) zoning district (Case No. 18-107).

B142-18 Approving the Final Plat of Willow Falls, Plat No. 3 located on the east side of Creasy Springs Road and south of Sunnyridge Lane; authorizing a performance contract (Case No. 18-60).

B143-18 Approving the Minor Plat of Old Hawthorne Plat No. 5-A, a Replat of Lots 510 to 512 of Old Hawthorne Plat No. 5, located at the east terminus of Crooked Switch Court and approximately 1,000 feet east of Cutters Corner Lane (6504, 6506 and 6507 Crooked Switch Court); authorizing a performance contract (Case No. 18-97).

B144-18 Approving the Final Minor Plat of McGary Subdivision Plat 3 located on the north side of St. Charles Road and west of Tower Drive (4217, 4301 and 4305 St. Charles Road); authorizing performance contracts; granting a design adjustment relating to the minimum stem width to a tier lot (Case No. 18-102).

B148-18 Authorizing a license agreement and memorandum of license agreement with Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless, for the installation of fiber optic cable adjacent to Parkside Drive in Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area; appropriating funds.

B149-18 Appropriating funds received from donations and miscellaneous revenue to the Parks and Recreation Department.

B150-18 Appropriating funds for the purchase of disaster recovery software licenses.

R93-18 Setting a public hearing: proposed installation of traffic calming devices on Sexton Road between Business Loop 70 and Providence Road.

R94-18 Transferring funds from FY 2016 General Fund savings allocated to the City Manager's Office to the Parks and Recreation Department's Community Recreation Program to supplement funds dedicated to neighborhood park fun days held in three strategic priority neighborhoods.

R95-18 Authorizing various Adopt-A-Spot agreements.

R96-18 Authorizing grant agreements with Taxi Terry's, LLC for the purchase of wheelchair accessible vehicles pursuant to the City's Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Taxi Project.

R97-18 Approving the Preliminary Plat of Woodstrail Ridge Subdivision located on the south side of Blue Ridge Road, across from the terminus of Derby Ridge Drive (Case No. 18-108).

R98-18 Rescinding Resolution 57-18 which authorized a state aviation trust fund project consultant agreement with Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. to complete a Documented Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) checklist relating to the proposed new terminal site at the Columbia Regional Airport.

R99-18 Rescinding Resolution 58-18 which authorized a state aviation trust fund project consultant agreement with Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. to complete a Supplemental Terminal Area Master Plan (STAMP) relating to the proposed new terminal site at the Columbia Regional Airport.

NEW BUSINESS

(None.)

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

(All items introduced as presented.)

B151-18** Rezoning property located south of St. Charles Road and east of Dorado Drive from District PD (Planned District) to District A (Agriculture District) (Case No. 18-104).

B152-18** Voluntary annexation of property located south of St. Charles Road and east of Dorado Drive; establishing permanent District A (Agriculture District) zoning (Case No. 18-105).

B153-18* Approving the Final Plat of Harris Estates located south of St. Charles Road and east of Dorado Drive; authorizing a performance contract; granting a design adjustment relating to minimum stem width (Case No. 18-106).

B154-18* Approving the Final Plat of CPS Middle School Subdivision located on the east side of Sinclair Road and south of Chesterfield Drive; authorizing a performance contract (Case No. 18-23).

B155-18* Authorizing a cost share agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the proposed Sinclair Road/Route K/Old Plank Road intersection improvement project; appropriating funds.

B156-18* Vacating a portion of a water line easement located east of Kipling Way within Lot 35 of Wellington Manor Plat 3 (Case No. 18-101).

B157-18* Vacating a portion of a sewer easement located south of Business Loop 70 and east of Charles Street (2000 E. Business Loop 70) (Case No. 18-137).

B158-18* Vacating a portion of the westernmost right-of-way of Hoylake Drive within Lot C5 of The Brooks, Plat No. 1 (Case No. 18-130).

B159-18* Authorizing a cooperative agreement with Boone County Family Resources for additional funding for the Parks and Recreation Department's Career Awareness Related Experience (CARE) Program for youth employment placement and mentoring services.

B160-18* Authorizing a cooperative agreement with Boone County Family Resources for additional funding for the Parks and Recreation Department's Adapted Community Recreation Program.

B161-18* Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the program services contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for the Healthy Families Missouri Home Visiting program.

B162-18* Authorizing a tax collection agreement with the County of Boone.

B163-18* Authorizing an agreement with Property Professionals Management LLC for the lease of property on Orchard Lane to be used for the Police Department's temporary northeast substation.

B164-18* Appropriating funds for the construction of repairs to portions of Runway 2-20 at the Columbia Regional Airport.

REPORTS

REP56-18 Downtown Community Improvement District (CID) Board of Directors - Membership Change Due to Resignation.

(Action: A vacancy has occurred on the board of the Downtown CID due to the resignation of Nickie Davis. The board has nominated a replacement to fill this unexpired term. Deb Rust, of Tellers Restaurant is the nominee. The alternate nominee is Munir Muhammad, owner of Boone Olive Oil Company and Shortwave Coffee.

The Mayor's appointment was Deb Rust with the consent of the council.)

REP57-18 FY 2019 Annual Budget - Downtown Community Improvement District.

(Action: Each year, the Downtown CID is required by state statute to submit a budget to the Columbia City Council for comment. This submittal meets those requirements.

No questions or comments were forthcoming. No action was taken.)

REP58-18 FY 2019 Annual Budget - Business Loop Community Improvement District.

(Action: Each year, the Business Loop CID is required by state statute to submit a budget to the Columbia City Council for comment. This submittal meets those requirements.

No questions or comments were forthcoming. No action was taken.)

REP59-18 Administrative Public Improvement Project: Construction of four bocce courts at Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area.

(Action: Under Section 22-72(c) of the City Code, the City Manager is required to report to the City Council any public improvement project that the Manager has determined meets the eligibility requirements of the Code and should follow the administrative public improvement process. Unless the Council determines that the project should follow the standard public improvement process, the Manager may proceed with the administrative process. The cost of the project is \$25,000, which was budgeted in the FY2017 CIP and funded by the Park Sales Tax.

Skala said it used to be pickle ball. Now it is bocce ball. The Mayor thought it was a good investment with high return on a small investment. Pitzer thanked the staff for their hard work on specialized sports events.

(No further action was taken, and the bocce ball courts will be constructed.)

REP60-18 Citizens Police Review Board - Supplement to the 2017 Annual Report.

(Action: City staff presented data to the council regarding the activities of the Citizens Police Review Board that was not available when the initial report was completed. This is not information related to the Community Outreach Unit or community policing initiative, but rather refers to the nature and source of complaints that had been filed with the Review Board during the previous year. This information will be used in future decision making regarding policing and in evaluation of police activities on a year by year basis.

[A COPY OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THIS LINK.](#)

Staff further indicated that this is simply additional information in a graphical format.

No further comment.)

REP61-18 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.
(Action: **No discussion. Request approved.**)

GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Public

The coach for the Special Olympic bocce team appeared and indicated that it was difficult to send his kids to China, but it is difficult to find a good place to play. The Show Me Games will benefit from this and kids will like this. Don't make them practice on dirt and grass.

Council

Thomas indicated that he wanted the public to notice an article in the Missouriian about community policing. He thought it was quality reporting.

Secondly, Thomas brought up a question from Habitat for Humanity. The letter indicated that they have sweat equity in the homes that are built and have built 153 homes. We do more than anyone else. Please waive the building permit fees for the homes we construct. Thomas thinks this is a reasonable request and wants staff to evaluate this. He specifically asked for a list of all fees that are paid by any typical developer including transportation fees, impact fees, inspection fees etc., then let's see how Habitat for Humanity could fit into that picture and how they would qualify for subsidies or variances. The city manager indicated it would be a big report, but they could get it done within a few months, maybe within this next budget cycle.

Skala agreed that this was important. He then moved to the testimony by a CPOA officer. Skala wants a copy of the officer's presentation and would like a response from the city manager to this officer's claims. The other thing is that Skala just returned from the National League of Cities Meeting in Little Rock. He is on the racial equity council and picked up a copy of a guide that discusses these related issues. He will distribute it to the rest of the council. Skala then indicated that he is a fellow and saw a presentation about leading through disruption. He wants to present some of this information about social media and new opportunities at a future meeting.

The Mayor responded to Skala's question about the police officer's testimony and indicated that the council has to stay out of collective bargaining efforts. He wants the two sides to continue to talk. He believes that all pay issues are intertwined and he wants to keep both sides talking.

Pitzer echoed Thomas' call for a building fee report, but also wants to see what fees for new construction look like over time in addition to a current report. He also mentioned that there will be an extraordinary meeting in late August to discuss police stops. I want that information at least a week in advance, not the day before. Finally, I want to point out that our solid waste workers are working on the 4th of July and they should be commended.

Peters indicated that she is trying to generate questions about vehicle stops and will turn them in by July. Hers will not be difficult. She also asked how we could improve training for our linemen workers. The city manager indicated that because we rely on sales taxes, we have curtailed some raises and programs. It is true that it is a real problem. Right now, we approach this on an apprenticeship basis for line workers. Once you learn the craft, you did get raises over time, but initial workers who we do train often jump to another job to get higher pay. Peters asked if pay for line workers comes from utility funds or the general fund? The city manager indicated we pay these people out of the utility fund, not the

general fund. It is different than police and fire who ARE paid out of general revenue. Skala indicated that that should be a function of rates, not sales tax collections. The city manager indicated that he used that example, and maybe he should have described that differently.

Thomas wanted to know if the city has a policy of tying all raises together across all departments. The city manager indicated that the council does have a policy of equity, but that salaries are based on going rates of other similar workers in other communities. Thomas suggested that to remedy that problem they could start charging utility connection fees to raise funds that could be used for raises. Thomas thought that administrative assistants may be the same across departments, but that the job description for a lineman and a police officer require very different skills and may justify different rates of pay. It is difficult to weigh all the possibilities.

Staff

The city manager indicated that he welcomed questions early in the process and they will provide you with materials ahead of the meeting on police stops.

Responding to the discussion about collective bargaining for police, he indicated that there are some ordinances about collective bargaining and we need to follow those, but that we could avoid a lot of misunderstanding if all of this happened in public, not behind closed doors. He would like to see the city council address that issue and it would help keep the discussions factual.

ADJOURNMENT
(Time: 8:43 PM)

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