



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, April 2, 2018
7:00 PM

Regular

Council Chamber
Columbia City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2, 2018, in the Council Chamber of the City of Columbia, Missouri. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the roll was taken with the following results: Council Members PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA, and THOMAS were present. The City Manager, City Counselor, City Clerk, and various Department Heads and staff members were also present.

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 5, 2018 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mr. Skala and a second by Mr. Ruffin.

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2018 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mr. Skala and a second by Mr. Ruffin.

Mayor Treece asked that B62-18 be moved from the consent agenda to old business as he understood an amendment was needed.

The agenda, including the consent agenda with B62-18 being moved to old business, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mr. Skala and a second by Mr. Ruffin.

II. SPECIAL ITEMS

None.

III. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None.

IV. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

SPC14-18 Mark Tapia - April is Autism Awareness month with April 2nd being World Autism Awareness Day.

Mr. Tapia explained he was a current student at the University of Missouri studying for a Master's Degree in Special Education with an emphasis in autism spectrum disorders, and today was National Autism Awareness Day whereby they brought advocacy, awareness, and openness to those on the spectrum. He pointed out autism tended to cost families as much as \$60,000 per year, and noted one in 68 children, and mainly boys, were diagnosed with autism. In addition, 3.5 million Americans were on the spectrum as of today. He stated he had been accepted to Indiana University, and today he learned he had also been accepted to the University of Texas at Austin PhD program for Special Education, which had a fairly low acceptance rate. He explained he had been diagnosed when he was five years old, and did not feel autism should define the person. He believed the person should define autism. He commented that he wanted to reassure those looking for answers to not give up hope.

Mayor Treece thanked Mr. Tapia for being such a great advocate for the autism community and wished him luck wherever he decided to go to obtain his PhD.

SPC15-18

Pat Kelley - Getting About in Central Columbia.

Ms. Kelley, 1007 Grand Avenue, commented that she was concerned about the GetAbout funding that was being spent on the Shepard to Rollins trail, and about the money being spent on recreational trails. She stated she had been walking around Columbia for a number of years and had noticed pedestrian barriers others might not notice that the GetAbout money could be used to address. She asked the Council to take a mental walk home with her from City Hall. She explained last fall she had counted 340 cars, 96 pedestrians, and one cyclist in about 20 minutes during the day outside of City Hall, and believed the City's core should have more pedestrians than cars. She commented that on the way to her home on Grand Avenue, they could cross at the nice crosswalk at Providence Road and Broadway or by Douglass School, but if they needed to pick something up at Kilgore's Pharmacy or go to a community meeting at the Central Missouri Community Action facility, Hickman High School, or Wilkes Boulevard Church, they would have a difficult time because they would have to back track four blocks to cross Providence Road safely at Worley Street. She pointed out most people were willing to take a 10-20 minute walk, but when it turned into 45 minutes, they would likely get in their cars and walk. She explained the day she had counted the number of cars versus pedestrians, she had also counted that she had stood under the shade of eleven trees in sixteen blocks. She believed this was important because no one wanted to walk in a desolate space, bake under the summer sun, or be directly exposed to winter winds. She noted trees were like an outdoor room and provided a protective barrier. She commented that she usually tried to get off of Providence Road as soon as possible by going west on Sexton Road and north on Grand Avenue. She explained that by walking on the side of the street with the sidewalk, they would walk past all of the neglected alleys, which were full of honeysuckle and poison ivy, and pointed out people did not feel safe when walking by neglected places, which was another barrier. She stated her home was at the top of the hill and they could see how many kids were driven to the nearby park. She noted she would not want them to walk because people tended to drive through the stop signs, and suggested a more comprehensive review be done in that location prior to establishing the bicycle route through there. She understood her 78 year old neighbor would walk to Parkade Mall, but would not walk around the neighborhood because there was not a place to sit down to rest, and that was another pedestrian barrier. She imagined others in the central city area had similar issues. She understood these were not huge issues, but they were barriers, and believed the funding that was available to try to get people out of their cars and walking should be used to address those barriers. She also did not feel they should focus on recreational trails when there were other issues, and suggested they look at the different ways they could make improvements to facilitate people walking throughout the City.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH10-18

Voluntary annexation of property located at the southwest corner of Highway KK and Scott Boulevard (Case No.18-42).

PH10-18 was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Teddy provided a staff report.

Mr. Thomas understood Columbia Imagined had designated this site as a neighborhood district, but it was not within the urban service area, and asked for an explanation as it seemed like a conflict to him. Mr. Teddy replied the plan had not included a detailed study of an urban service area. They had focused on drawing a generalized line that followed property lines around the watersheds that were already served by sewer or involved projects that had been committed to by the Council. The plan had suggested they do further work to define it, and that the City should make its priority for capital

improvements within the urban service area. If outside of the urban service area, they should think twice, and unless benefits of a health and safety nature could be demonstrated, the developer should pay the freight of any offsite improvements. He felt annexation was up to the Council if the property was contiguous. He reiterated they had not had the resources to consider every line segment along the very long perimeter.

Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Teddy if the community was in favor or opposed to the City expanding into this area based on the community input received with Columbia Imagined. Mr. Teddy replied he could not say. Mr. Thomas understood the City was essentially around it. Mr. Teddy described the surrounding area using a diagram. He noted there were subdivisions that were likely not going anywhere in terms of a jurisdiction change, like Lake Arrowhead, but there were also large parcels they expected would redevelop, and it would make some sense to close the gap between the boundaries for a more compact and contiguous area.

Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Teddy when they might do the next comprehensive plan. Mr. Teddy replied they were approaching the five year anniversary of this plan, and would have a memo to Council in the next several months to outline a process for updating it. The five year anniversary would be in the fall, and that was when the plan document indicated updates should be done.

Mayor Treece opened the public hearing.

Tim Crockett, 1000 W. Nifong Boulevard, commented that he would have a formal presentation in two weeks whereby he would discuss how this site fit within the goals of Columbia Imagined and why it was suited for mixed-use neighborhood zoning.

There being no further comment, Mayor Treece closed the public hearing.

Mr. Skala stated he would take a rather conservative approach to future annexations, particularly as it related to infrastructure. He commented that when the Thornbrook Subdivision had been approved, it had been considered leapfrog development and there had been a lot of discussion with regard to infrastructure issues, such as water capacity, which had ultimately become an issue. He noted he was looking forward to the discussion at the next meeting.

Ms. Amin explained the annexation and rezoning ordinance was scheduled to be on the consent agenda at the next meeting, and asked if Council preferred it be an old business item instead. Mr. Skala replied he wanted to discuss it. Ms. Amin stated she would ensure it would show up as old business at the next meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

B62-18

Approving the Final Plat of Guitar's Subdivision and Park Addition Plat 2, a Replat of all of Lot 69 and the East Half of Lot 70 of Guitars Subdivision and Park, located on the southwest corner of the Forest Avenue and Providence Road intersection (208 and 212 E. Forest Avenue); authorizing a performance contract (Case No.17-186).

The bill was given second reading by the Clerk.

Mr. Teddy provided a staff report.

Mayor Treece made a motion to amend B62-18 per the amendment sheet. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trapp and approved unanimously by voice vote.

B62-18, as amended, was given third reading with the vote recorded as follows:

VOTING YES: PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS.

VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bill declared enacted, reading as follows:

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

The following bills were given second reading and the resolutions were read by the Clerk.

- B61-18 Approving a Major Amendment to the C-P Plan for Crosscreek Center, Lot 105, located east of U.S. Highway 63, north of the terminus of Stadium Boulevard (State Route 740) and west of Cinnamon Hill Lane/Maguire Boulevard; approving revised design parameters (Case No. 18-43).
- B63-18 Appropriating funds for the Project Compliance Inspector position in the Community Development Department.
- B64-18 Authorizing a municipal agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for roadway improvements to a portion of Route 763 (College Avenue), between Business Loop 70 and Stadium Boulevard.
- B65-18 Accepting a donation from the Columbia Board of Realtors for the 2018 Fair Housing and Lending Seminar; appropriating funds.
- B66-18 Accepting a STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant from the Missouri Department of Public Safety; authorizing an Award of Contract and Certified Assurances and Special Conditions.
- B67-18 Appropriating funds for Share the Light Program.
- R46-18 Authorizing an amended agreement with Oak Towers Housing Development Group, LP and the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia for HOME funds for renovations to Oak Towers.

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions were read with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- R47-18 Authorizing the installation of streetlights on Cass Drive between Rice Road and Mohawk Avenue, in the Bellwood Subdivision and on West Broadway Street near Reedsport Ridge; upgrading existing lighting in the East Campus neighborhood.

The resolution was read by the Clerk.

Mr. Williams provided a staff report.

Ms. Peters stated they had already looked at lighting in East Campus and asked if they would look at the lighting again or if they would check the levels of mercury vapor. Mr.

Williams replied he understood a safety walk had been held last fall whereby measurements were taken at about 20 locations and noted he wanted to do that with the City's equipment so they had before and after data to determine if there was a difference in lighting levels.

Ms. Peters asked when this would be done as the safety walk had occurred after the canopy was out. She wondered if staff would wait until the canopy was out. Mr. Williams replied they could wait until the canopy was out as that would make sense because the lighting could be significantly reduced depending upon the amount of foliage on the trees. He pointed out the engineering work and the replacement of the lights would be a several month process. He thought they could wait until May or June to do the initial walk-through, could do the upgrades by the end of summer, and could conduct the secondary follow up before the leaves fell off in the fall.

Tim Waid, 2401 Bluff Pointe Drive, stated he owned property in the East Campus neighborhood, and thanked the City for considering this lighting improvement. He believed replacing existing bulbs was expected as it was maintenance. He thought they should address the need for improvements, which the follow up report mentioned might yield, and noted the report that had been issued by the students in November of 2017 had been detailed with numbers for each light pole and specific qualitative and quantitative commentary. He commented that East Campus was a student neighborhood, and their leadership was vital and critical. They had identified the fact bulbs were not well lit and the many dark voids that existed, particularly in the 500 block of High Street and the 400 block of Ann Street, as there were spaces of 100-150 yards where no light pole existed. He thought those infrastructure improvement upgrades should be considered in the future, and suggested they not only think about replacing existing bulbs, but also consider upgrading infrastructure by installing new light poles. He believed the report issued by the students would assist in that effort, and provided a copy for the Council. He urged the Council to pass this resolution.

Justin McDonald explained he was the Director of Student Services for the Missouri Students Association, which was the undergraduate student government, and noted he had been working on the evaluation of East Campus safety from the perspective of students. He stated he held a safety walk that had included all of the stakeholders because a number of students had expressed concerns about safety in the East Campus neighborhood, and the issues they had found had been described in the report. He commented that he hoped for increased collaboration between students and the other stakeholders, which included the City, and explained an issue was that students that had identified problems in East Campus would eventually graduate and forget about those problems. As a result, he planned to establish a student committee or organization that would serve as the liaison between students and external stakeholders. He stated he was excited the City was discussing this, but noted there were other issues in the report, such as the overgrowth of trees blocking lights. He asked to be involved in this process moving forward and for a student and University employee to be allowed to join City staff when they took the measurements so they could be involved in the conversation moving forward.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. Williams if staff had a copy of the report. Mr. Williams replied yes.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. McDonald to provide his e-mail so they could contact him to coordinate student participation when they were ready to move forward.

Mr. Trapp stated he was glad to see students involved. He noted he was also glad to see more lighting in the Bellwood subdivision. He commented that he was happy they had a lighting committee and a rational, scientific-based process. He explained street lighting made people feel safer and added to the ambiance of the evening. They had growing fears of crime in the evenings, and this was a tangible step to make people feel safer.

Mr. Skala commented that he felt the staff response to street lighting was relatively inexpensive and successful when brought to their attention. He explained he had been involved in lighting standards since about 1999, and the Council had adopted outdoor

street lighting standards around 2006. They had stayed away from street lighting in general because they had not had the expertise at the time and because it was a complex issue. He thought they might want to revisit the issue so they could standardize it. He commented that many felt more lighting was better, but there could be a situation of too much or improper lighting, which could destroy the capacity for witness identification. He reiterated he thought they should take a programmatic look at it on a citywide basis.

The vote on R47-18 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

R48-18

Affirming and adopting Principles of Community for the City of Columbia.

The resolution was read by the Clerk.

Mayor Treece explained he had asked for this to come forward and would ask the rest of the Council to join him in reviewing and hopefully adopting this resolution, which had come out of the great work of Vice Chancellor Kevin McDonald at the University of Missouri. Through his effort, the Principles of Community had been developed, which had since been adopted by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce Board and the REDI Board. He saw this as a part of the community's ethos, and while individual institutions and organizations had their own mission and value statements, he thought this was something they could all embrace. He believed they could incorporate this into all of the City's operations and noted it was akin to the Strategic Plan and everything they tried to do to project Columbia as a welcoming city to all races, origins, genders, etc. He thought this would go a long way to position Columbia as one of the first communities in the country to embrace this across all platforms, i.e., education, business, civic, etc. institutions.

Mr. Ruffin asked if there were any plans for all of the various groups that had endorsed this to come together publically to present it as a unified vision for the community. Mayor Treece replied he thought that was a great idea, and if the Council chose to adopt this tonight, he would suggest they create a document for the entire Council to sign instead of the just the Mayor. They could do that in an open session and aggregate the Chamber of Commerce, REDI, the University of Missouri, and hopefully, the Columbia Public Schools and various companies. He commented that he did not want it to just be words. He wanted it to be accompanied by specific actions.

Mr. Skala stated there was not anything in the resolution with which he did not agree, and asked if part of the operationalization of this would be to put some of the tenets of this into a governing document. Mayor Treece replied he would defer to the City Manager, but felt the City did a good job of this already with the Strategic Plan. He thought all of these principles could be a part of the next iteration of the Strategic Plan. He pointed out they had moved the needle on the Municipal Equality Index in the last two years to well above 100 percent with respect to sexual orientation and similar issues. To Mr. Ruffin's point, he agreed they could not do this by themselves. This needed to be a community effort.

Mr. Skala agreed it was a good working document to set up the next Strategic Plan to make it a better document.

Peggy Placier, 209 S. Greenwood Avenue, commented that she was encouraged to hear some of the words Mayor Treece had stated about the Principles of Community, such as the fact the principles were really serious things that needed to be operationalized and built into everything people did. She noted a model seen in City government involved Ms. Buffalo, who had built into the sustainability plan a column for social equity, so the evaluation of energy usage would include how it would affect social equity. She hoped this resolution would be a living document that would be incorporated into daily practices, every decision made, and future strategic planning. She referred to a report on diversity at the last meeting, which she believed to be fairly cursory and limited, and explained it

had not recognized the depth of the principles of this statement. She hoped the Council would move forward with it.

John Clark, 403 N. Ninth Street, asked if the staff was already engaged in this process or if they were considering it. Mr. Matthes replied the staff was engaged. Mr. Clark stated he was glad the overall principles were being discussed, and noted he liked the comments made about having principles. He believed principles were needed with community policing, and not just strategies and tactics. He trusted the Council would approve this, and suggested the Council ask how they might be included as the City organization moved forward.

Mr. Trapp stated he believed this was a great measure and appreciated Mayor Treece bringing it forward. It pledged a collective commitment to incorporate these principles in the City of Columbia mission. He pointed out their mission was to serve the community, and thought all of these principles spoke to service. He looked forward to the strategic planning process where they could reevaluate the mission to ensure this was central. He stated he thought it was great to see the entire community coming together and moving forward in a positive direction. He felt embracing that sense of community and being welcoming was good, and noted welcoming started with a leadership statement. The next step involved counting as they would need to measure and hold themselves accountable to ensure they were getting closer to becoming the beloved community they wanted.

Mayor Treece commented that it was not only the right and moral thing to do, but it would also provide fantastic dividends for them as a community. It would make it easier for the University to recruit and retain community members. He believed it could also attract businesses due to the corporate ethos they had adopted across all of the platforms.

Mr. Skala stated he thought it was a great idea to have this drawn up for all of them to sign as he was certainly willing to sign it.

Mr. Thomas agreed with Mr. Clark with regard to the community policing philosophy in that the document Sergeant Fox was developing should have something like this in it as a framework for everything the community policing program was supposed to be.

Mr. Matthes stated he was glad many had commented that a lot of these ideas were already incorporated in government itself and in the City of Columbia's core values as the first core value was service and the fact they existed to provide the best possible service to all. He noted the Principles of Community said it more beautifully and broadly than their internal documents, and stated he looked forward to working to implement the concepts. He suggested they consider inviting the entire community to sign the document. Mr. Thomas stated he thought that was a great idea.

Mr. Skala commented that all of this was wrapped in social equity, and that was important to stress. It was a worthwhile document he was happy to support.

The vote on R48-18 was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: PITZER, PETERS, TREECE, RUFFIN, TRAPP, SKALA, THOMAS. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:

IX. INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

The following bills were introduced by the Mayor unless otherwise indicated, and all were given first reading.

B68-18 Voluntary annexation of property located at the southwest corner of Highway KK and Scott Boulevard; establishing permanent M-N (Mixed-Use Neighborhood) zoning (Case No. 18-42).

B69-18 Rezoning thirty-eight (38) parcels in the West Ash and North Central Neighborhoods within an area bounded by Sexton Road on the north, West

Boulevard on the west, West Broadway on the south, and Tenth Street on the east with thirty-three (33) of such parcels rezoned from R-2 (Two-Family Dwelling District) to R-1 (One-Family Dwelling District), four (4) parcels rezoned from R-MF (Multiple-Family Dwelling District) to R-1 (One-Family Dwelling District), one (1) parcel rezoned from R-MF (Multiple-Family Dwelling District) to R-2 (Two-Family Dwelling District) (Case No. 18-51).

- B70-18 Approving the Final Plat of La Grange Place, Plat 4, a Replat of Lots 3 and 4 of the Plat of La Grange Place, located on the south side of Rollins Street and east of Providence Road (506 Rollins Street); granting a design adjustment relating to street right-of-way width (Case No. 18-41).
- B71-18 Authorizing a right of use license permit with Columbia Restaurant Investor's #1 for construction, installation, maintenance and operation of a private railing and terminal posts with string lighting within a portion of the Locust Street right-of-way.
- B72-18 Authorizing a contract for sale of real estate with the Hallie Holland Living Trust for the acquisition of property located at 912 East Walnut Street to be used by the Solid Waste Division for a collection site for refuse, cardboard and container recycling in the Downtown CID; appropriating funds.
- B73-18 Accepting conveyances for utility purposes.
- B74-18 Accepting conveyances and a temporary construction easement for sewer, drainage, and utility purposes; accepting Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Covenants.
- B75-18 Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code to change the existing thermal storage rider to an energy storage rider.
- B76-18 Authorizing a memorandum of understanding with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to facilitate the transfer of naloxone to trained local first responder agencies.
- B77-18 Authorizing an agreement with Beacon of Hope Foundation and Columbia Community Land Trust, Inc. to provide residents of Lynn Street Cottages with fruit and vegetable vouchers to promote healthy eating; appropriating funds.

- B78-18 Accepting a donation from United HealthCare for wellness promotion and programs for City employees; appropriating funds.
- B79-18 Appropriating funds from the sale of a 2003 Sutphen SA75 fire truck for major fire station repairs.
- B80-18 Amending the FY 2018 Annual Budget by adding and deleting positions in the Public Works Department - Custodial & Maintenance Services Division.
- B81-18 Amending the FY 2018 Annual Budget by adding and deleting positions in the City Utilities Department; amending the FY 2018 Classification and Pay Plan by reassigning classifications.
- B82-18 Amending the FY 2018 Annual Budget by adding and deleting positions in the Utility Customer Services Fund, Community Relations Department and Information Technology Department; amending the FY 2018 Classification and Pay Plan by adding, closing and consolidating classifications and changing a classification title; transferring funds; appropriating funds.

X. REPORTS

- REP24-18 Correspondence from the Business Loop Community Improvement District (CID) regarding CID board membership.

Mayor Treece commented that there were four applicants for three positions on the Business Loop CID Board of Directors. He explained he had reached out to all four and wished he could appoint them all as they each brought a different skill to the CID. He encouraged Mr. Burnam to reapply, and noted he would appoint Ryan Euliss, Linda Schust, and Jeffrey Spencer to the Business Loop CID Board of Directors with the consent of Council. He asked if anyone objected to those appointments. No one objected.

- REP25-18 Right of Way and Alley Vacation Process Update (Case No. 18-85).

Mr. Teddy provided a staff report.

Mayor Treece asked how the Unified Development Code (UDC) treated alley vacations differently. He wanted to know the process. Mr. Teddy replied they had form based zoning in the M-DT area, and along with form based zoning, there was a district concept called the regulating plan, which actually mapped all of the existing streets and alleys. It was stated in the Code that any changes proposed to any segment of any alley required a public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC). He explained they had received an application and would process it in that manner, and the PZC would provide the Council with a recommendation. Mayor Treece understood it would still come before the Council for that specific alley vacation. Mr. Teddy stated that was correct. If approved, the map would be amended to remove a portion of the alley from service or by realigning it.

Mayor Treece stated he was a proponent of the maintenance and preservation of alleys

as they provided an alternative access point for vehicles, pedestrians, and trucks that were loading and unloading, which was what they had been intended for in the first place. He felt alleys were a public asset and that there should be some compensation to the taxpayers when vacating them. He commented that there could be other utilities in the future they had not foreseen even if the alley was not being maintained for vehicle access. He stated he would lean away from any interruption of a continuous alley or common drive. He understood Ms. Kelley had mentioned the maintenance of the alleys in her neighborhood as being a back door or back yard access for many of the homes and garages as they had been intended.

Mayor Treece asked Mr. Teddy what kind of direction he was looking for from Council. Mr. Teddy replied the practice had been to bring any alley vacation requests to the Council prior to any commitment of resources in terms of removing utilities, etc. ever since an alley vacation had been provided to a church in advance of a church addition. They were asking if the Council would be comfortable with staff just receiving applications under the M-DT procedure if in the downtown and taking it to the PZC for consideration of a regulating plan amendment. He commented that he did not expect to receive a lot of these. Mayor Treece stated he would like for them to come before the Council as the forfeiture of an asset to ensure there was appropriate compensation and that they were being consistent. Mr. Skala understood Mayor Treece was advocating to continue with the current system and to add the layer of the M-DT to it. Mr. Teddy explained the report did not address compensation and staff would need guidance on what was possible by law to develop a policy if that was the desire of Council.

Mayor Treece asked if, generally speaking, east-west alleys were publically owned and north-south alleys were privately owned, or vice versa. Mr. Teddy replied most of the alleys in Columbia were east-west alleys so he thought it was the former. He was not sure about private alleys, but noted there were a few segments of public alley that ran north-south, but they tended to be short.

Mayor Treece asked Mr. Teddy if this provided him what he needed. Mr. Teddy replied yes.

REP26-18

Commission on Human Rights: Protected Categories.

Zach Rubin, the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights (HRC), stated he was not sure he had much to add beyond what had been presented in the memo. He commented that they were suggesting additional protective categories to go into Chapter 12, which contained the other protected categories for discrimination and bias. The four categories suggested had been deliberate and were those other cities had included. They were not random suggestions by the HRC. He explained the receipt of government assistance category was already a protected category in 13 different states and Washington D.C. and 58 different cities including the City of St. Louis. He asked the Council to consider sending this to the Law Department to determine if they could implement these additional protective categories for the City.

Mr. Thomas asked if this had to do with discussion the HRC had held in the past with regard to people with illegal documentation and the way the City should relate to them. Mr. Rubin replied it was related. Mr. Thomas understood it was an outgrowth of that conversation. Mr. Rubin stated that was a good way of putting it. He commented that they recognized they could not really do anything in the way of codifying protections for people who were undocumented in this country, particularly because there was law within the State of Missouri involving sanctuary cities with punishments attached. In lieu of doing something more decisive on that issue, they were suggesting people in the country legally that were often conflated with people who were in country illegally be offered additional protections.

Mayor Treece asked if there was general agreement to have the City Counselor look at these issues and determine how it might fit in the ordinance and the enabling authority of the HRC. Mr. Skala replied he was agreeable. Ms. Thompson stated they could look into it.

Mayor Treece commented that he appreciated the distinction between sanctuary cities and other refugee statuses that were here legally.

REP27-18 History of the Board of Adjustment.

Ms. Thompson provided a staff report.

Mayor Treece asked how far back this went. Ms. Amin replied she thought it was the mid-1930s. Ms. Thompson agreed.

Mayor Treece asked Ms. Thompson if she had a sense of how many requested variances had been granted over the last ten years. Ms. Thompson replied she did not recall, and noted she could provide Council the data in an excel spreadsheet so they could manipulate it however they wanted. Mr. Matthes explained the memo had provided the total since 1935. It also summarized the data for the past three years. Ms. Thompson stated there had been 66 cases whereby 58 had been approved, six had been denied, and two had been withdrawn.

Ms. Peters understood almost anything that had gone to the Board of Adjustment (BOA) had been approved. Ms. Thompson stated that was correct. Mayor Treece assumed that was largely a function of the people the Council had appointed. He commented that his premise was the approval of variances had become the norm so the exception was now policy, and it had contributed to a patchwork of zoning laws that created the need for reform through the UDC. He stated his preference would be to have a BOA that was enforcing and holding firm on some of these requests. He understood there were cases of hardship or financial hardship, but if an applicant received what had been requested 58 out of 66 times, there was not a need to pretend to follow the UDC.

Mr. Skala asked what practical difficulties and undue hardship meant. He wondered if one involved financial considerations. Ms. Thompson replied the general rule was that financial hardship alone did not suffice to create enough of a hardship, and the practical difficulties standard was less than undue hardship. Given the practical difficulties standard, there was the ability for an applicant to make a showing of financial hardship that was not completely self-imposed that might warrant a variance under the given circumstances. The standard was typically that the hardship should not be self-imposed, i.e., it should not be because the person preferred x, y, or z. It should be because that particular lot had a configuration or some reason that created a hardship that was not known.

Mayor Treece asked if staff typically made recommendations to the BOA on requests. Ms. Thompson replied since the BOA functions had been transferred to the Community Development Department, a staff analysis and recommendation was made. Prior to the UDC, those applications were filed with the City Clerk, and it was just a paperwork processing function that had been provided by staff.

Ms. Peters asked Ms. Thompson if she had a feel as to whether there were more or less cases going to the BOA since the adoption of the UDC. Ms. Thompson replied she thought it had been fairly consistent.

Ms. Peters stated she had served on the BOA, and it had been hard to determine what to do, but many times it was a matter of the developer not wanting to do what the City wanted. It was self-imposed. She hoped that would change with the UDC, and with who they appointed to the BOA.

Mayor Treece asked if the spreadsheet had included roll call votes. Ms. Thompson replied it did not, but pointed out they could provide information to the Council on any of the cases.

Mr. Skala understood approval of a variance required a supermajority vote. Ms. Thompson stated that was correct as 4 out of 5 yeases were required.

REP28-18 Update on the Weed Ordinance Revision.

Ms. Kottwitz provided a staff report.

Mr. Thomas asked if he was right in thinking that when staff had started to work on this last year, the plan was to introduce an ordinance for this growing season. Ms. Kottwitz

replied that had been what had been discussed. She explained a concern was that they would start enforcement by May 1. If the Council chose to enact legislation, it would be in the middle of the growing season. The practical concern was to make that shift. Mr. Thomas stated it sounded like a good decision to delay this as it was never really good to rush into big changes.

Mr. Thomas asked Ms. Kottwitz if she could amplify on how they would train on the new ordinance while the old ordinance was still on the books. Ms. Kottwitz replied there were several things they could do. She explained they could take inventory of those individuals and properties where this had been an issue. Last year, there had been about 1,500 weed cases, and the vast majority did not have a conflict of planting natives. They were situations where the property was entirely neglected. The number of cases with native plantings was small. She thought this season would allow for more open communication with those property owners, the ability to work with the Office of Sustainability to help train staff, and to determine the information and knowledge base staff would need in trying to enforce the change. Mr. Thomas understood if a complaint fell into this category, they could look at it through the lens of the current ordinance and proposed new ordinance to determine if it would serve the purpose they wanted. Ms. Kottwitz stated that was correct, and noted they also wanted to look for any unintended consequences. She explained that many that had replied to their call for public comment had been concerned about a balance, and staff wanted to be sensitive to that.

Mr. Thomas stated he supported the recommendation to delay the enactment of legislation until after this growing season.

Mr. Skala commented that balance was the key as no one wanted a piece of property to go to the wild side as it had the potential of becoming a nuisance problem in addition to a public health problem. He understood some had suggested requirements for delineated beds, and that discussion had not been a part of this. He asked Ms. Kottwitz if she envisioned that discussion would be a result of the review of the program during this growing season. Ms. Kottwitz replied she thought the discussion regarding setbacks or borders was something they would look at and analyze this summer. The flip side was that people that did a good job of managing their properties would be hurt if there were too many details in the ordinance. She felt that was another benefit of allowing staff to work through this growing season. She agreed they had not included those requirements in the draft that had been shared today. Mr. Skala stated he wanted assurances that they would think more about those details because he thought there had been discussions related to those issues.

Mr. Pitzer commended Ms. Kottwitz on what looked to be a thoughtful, deliberative, and exhaustive process. He believed staff had done a fantastic job soliciting input, responding to it, and being respectful of the original intent. He stated he supported the path they were on, and suggested they interface with the Mayor's Task Force on Climate Action and Adaptation Planning in terms of water conservation and a reduction in water runoff.

Mayor Treece asked Ms. Kottwitz how they would balance the interest of adjoining property owners with complaints, and whether the ordinance contemplated buffer zones, transition zones, or maximum percentages of landscape vegetation. Ms. Kottwitz replied the draft had not accounted for that. It mentioned the fact vegetation could not exceed the property boundary. She explained that when they had taken this proposed change to the Board of Health (BOH), the BOH had discussed the idea of a border or setback, but had not felt strongly about it because they did not think those that did a really good job of managing their property should be prohibited from growing what they wanted to the edge of the property. She commented that what she was hearing was that they needed to consider that in the next steps, and explained some other items that had not changed in the draft ordinance included issues where vegetation would cause a sight distance issue or nuisance plants, like poison ivy. She stated they would consider the issue of setbacks and borders on properties. Mayor Treece thought they wanted to consider how to be good neighbor with someone that had a well-manicured yard.

REP29-18 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Request.

Mayor Treece understood this report had been provided for informational purposes.

XI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

John Clark, 403 N. Ninth Street, commented that no one had applied to the Fair Housing Task Force from Wards 1, 3, or 6, and understood the Council had been dismayed by the lack of diversity. He stated he was equally disturbed by the lack of diversity and asked the Council to reconsider the composition of the Task Force before moving forward. He commented that Mr. Cole, the Housing Programs Supervisor, was very good at programs, but this was policy. The Land Trust was a great implementation and would have been much better if they could have tied it to an affordable housing policy. He stated they needed an affordable housing policy, which he thought would come out of this Task Force. A key issue would involve geographical distribution of affordable housing, and that was a contentious issue. The inclusive housing program in Boulder, Colorado was not policy. It was a program to implement a policy they had come to after two years of contentious argument. The policy was whether they would aim to have affordable housing more geographically distributed after looking at the positives and negatives. He commented that the 2004 Fair Housing Impediments Study had called for the policy to be in place before beginning to address the removal of barriers. He believed the best way to deal with the geographic issue was to have the members of the Columbia Community Development Commission be a part of the Fair Housing Task Force from the beginning. He also thought they needed someone from the County as well. He did not feel they would be able to solve the problem without the mandated format. He asked the Council to consider asking staff to prepare a draft resolution with a change in the composition of the Fair Housing Task Force. This was more than just getting a program through. It was real policy work that would be contentious. He suggested a subject matter specialist, such as Rigel Oliveri, as the Chair of the Task Force.

Eugene Elkin, 3406 Range Line Street, understood a housing seminar would be held this week. Mayor Treece stated it would be held Thursday and Friday. Mr. Elkin asked for the times. Mayor Treece replied 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, and noted he would speak at 1:00 p.m., and on Friday morning, he thought they started at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Trapp stated breakfast would be at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Elkin thanked the Council again for the \$36,000 provided to help the homeless as it made an impact even if it did not solve the problem.

Ms. Peters thanked the Street Division for keeping them safe during the litter pick-up event on Rock Quarry Road on Saturday.

Ms. Peters asked if they had heard anything with regard to the audit. Mr. Matthes replied he had received an e-mail today, but had not had the chance to review it. He noted he intended to place it on the next agenda.

Mr. Pitzer commented that he understood Section 2-208 of the City Code listed the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Director, and item no. 6 indicated the balancing of the books of all departments of the City each calendar month under the direction of the City Manager, who would make quarterly public financial statements to the Council. With the support of Council, he asked the City Manager how and when they might be able to comply with that section of the Code of Ordinance.

Mr. Pitzer understood the cash management and investment policy of the City was 35 years old as it had been written in 1983. He did not feel there was necessarily anything wrong with it, but thought it would be good for the Finance Advisory and Audit Committee

(FAAC) to review it to ensure it met the best practices and standards of today. The memo that had been written with the policy had mentioned it was based on some model state legislation on cash management because the Finance Director at the time had served on a committee for a national association that was developing it. He understood there were a lot of resources available through the State Treasurer's Office in terms of best practices and model language. He thought it would be a good for the FAAC to review the current policy to determine if it was fine or if it needed to be improved.

Mayor Treece asked if there was any objection to asking staff to follow the ordinance with regard to the quarterly financial statements. He noted he wanted to receive more financial information whether quarterly or more frequently.

Mr. Skala stated he would as well. He pointed out there had been some reconciliation of this, although not specific to the financials, in terms of the City Manager meeting with the City Council on a quarterly basis for background information. He assumed the Finance Director reconciled the accounts on a monthly basis already, and thought the reporting of it was reasonable, especially since it was embedded in the Code. Mr. Pitzer pointed out it specifically said it would be presented publically to the Council.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. Matthes for his thoughts. Mr. Matthes replied they had changed software and there had been a period of time that the financial reports had not been available, but they were now. He noted he could put them on the council meeting agenda every three months. Ms. Peters stated that would work for her.

Mayor Treece explained he had received a CD with financial information on it twice, and preferred paper copies. He commented that there were some departmental top lines he had found to be particularly helpful to show if they were over or under the budgeted amount of what had been approved. He thought that might prevent any surprise at the end of the year. He stated he would prefer to receive it all as he did not want to be spoon-fed the executive summary.

Mr. Skala commented that if these items would be included on a quarterly basis as part of the agenda packet and since they had previously discussed meeting with regard to some of the ongoing things that occurred within the City Manager's Office on a quarterly basis, he thought they might want to hold work sessions as well. He wondered if that was a reasonable option. Mayor Treece stated he thought it was.

Mayor Treece noted key indicators were a part of the budget process, and the work was done by hand and not in real time. He wondered if they could have a dashboard for every department based on the very numbers produced on a monthly basis to see where they were in real time. Instead of receiving something via e-mail, he wondered if they could just go to a dashboard to see where they were at financially.

Mr. Pitzer stated he was not sure what the software was capable of delivering, but believed it was an idea that worth looking into. He noted it might make sense to be provided a summary document that could be more easily digested along with the supporting documentation for anyone that wanted to dig further into it. He suggested it include any commentary staff might have with regard to both good and bad trends so they were not surprised later in the year.

Mayor Treece commented that he felt this was a part of their transparency initiative, and saved them all from having to ask for it.

Mayor Treece stated he thought it would be good for the FAAC to review the cash management and investment policy as suggested by Mr. Pitzer as well. He understood there were five policies the FAAC was supposed to review as part of their establishing legislation, which had included the cash and investment policy. Mr. Pitzer understood this was well within their purview. Mayor Treece agreed. He asked if there was any objection to asking the FAAC to review the cash management and investment policy for city funds. No one objected.

Mr. Skala commented that earlier this evening he had mentioned referring the pedestrian and street lighting issues to the Environment and Energy Commission (EEC), and wanted to ensure they received that message. He suggested the City Manager work with the Utility Department to start the process for a more comprehensive look across the City, and not just within specific neighborhoods.

Mr. Skala commented that tomorrow was Election Day and asked everyone to go out and vote.

Mr. Ruffin noted Wednesday, April 4 would mark the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and there were commemorative activities happening all over the country. Nothing major had been planned for the City of Columbia, but the NAACP would sponsor a memorial vigil in the gardens of the Blind Boone Home at 6:00 p.m. on April 4. It would be followed by a time of remembrance that would be sponsored by the Social Justice Discussion Group inside the Blind Boone Home.

Mr. Trapp commented that he happened to be in the lobby when someone had asked whether the U.S. flag should be mounted higher than the State and City flag, and asked staff to look into that.

Mr. Skala stated he was curious about that himself.

Mr. Trapp stated he had been a regular guest of the Gary Nolen Show and had been asked about the privatization of paratransit. He recalled asking the question a couple years ago when he had been working more in partnership with Services for Independent Living as they had an effective transportation program for individuals with disabilities and low income at a lower cost. One of the reasons they were able to provide the service at a lower cost was because they did not have to follow the federal transportation guidelines. He understood staff felt there would not be any bidders if they put out an RFP with the money they put toward paratransit. He also understood it would not cost a lot in staff resources or time to put out an RFP, and suggested that be done so they could then have the question answered as to whether the private sector had evolved to the point of being able to meet the federal guidelines and provide the service at a more effective and low cost manner than the City. He asked that this be done as part of the budget process.

Mr. Trapp noted there was an election tomorrow, and it had been a pleasure serving the community. He stated he looked forward to finding out what would happen.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Treece adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:52 p.m.