



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Final

City Council

Monday, September 16, 2024
5:00 PM

Pre-Council

Conference Room
1A/1B
Columbia City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Buffaloe called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Present: 6 - Buffaloe, Foster, Waterman, Meyer, Peters, and Carroll

Absent: 1 - Lovelady

This item is open to the public: Local 955 Presentation

Stubbs introduced himself as the representative for Local 955. He hoped that they would have more amicable agreement at the end. He went over the goals of his presentation. Hopefully that the city will bargain in good faith during the management rights. Review the city's refusal to bargain over wages, benefits, and working conditions for water distribution workers and its impact. And finally review bargaining of wage compression and identify the key points in which wage compression was not fixed.

Half of the 21 items offered by the union were rejected by the city. The city only offered a 1% adjustment to the step scales and one step increase. .5% less than what unrepresented workers receive.

Connor Fox explained why Local 955 did not like the offer. The union agreed to postpone negotiations to join the union.

Local 955 showed the previous contract. The city's bargaining agreement and the items were rejected. The city refusing to negotiate certain items goes against previous negotiations.

The city workers highlighted pay disparities and how they could be remedied if they join Local 955.

Stubbs said they would like their negotiations to meet in good faith and reward long term employees to be rewarded for staying with the city in one place.

A majority of 955 members are wage earners. They asked the City Manager to bargain in good faith, create a report that accurately covers the effects of the City's wage compression proposal, and set up a work session with local 955 stewards. They also asked staff to draft an ordinance to address the city's administration's union busting and refusal to bargain in good faith.

The Stewards opened the floor up to questions. Carroll said she wanted a copy of the presentation. Buffalo asked about wage compression that is not on the agenda. Buffalo asked whether or not members or just stewards had seen compression. Local 955 Rep stated that all members will receive compression information.

This item is open to the public: Motion for the City Council to go into closed session in Conference Room 1A/1B to discuss:

- Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys pursuant to Section 610.021(1) RSMo.
- Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor pursuant to Section 610.021(2) RSMo.
- Preparation, including any discussions or work product, on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives for negotiations with employee groups pursuant to Section 610.021(9) RSMo.

At approximately 5:20 p.m., Mayor Buffaloe made a motion for the City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri, to immediately go into a closed meeting in Conference Room 1A/1B of City Hall to discuss legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys pursuant to Section 610.021(1) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri; the leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor pursuant to Section 610.021(2) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri; and preparation, including any discussions or work product, on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives for negotiations with employee groups pursuant to Section 610.021(9) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waterman.

This item is closed to the public: Closed Meeting in Conference Room 1A/1B

This item is open to the public: Highway 70/63 Enhancement Discussion

Attachments: [I70/63 Interchange Enhancements Presentation](#)

Mayor Buffaloe called the open portion of the meeting to order at approximately 6:14 p.m.

Shane Creech went over the design narrative for the I-170/63 interchange. Creech said that interchange plans have changed over the years. A contractor with the city introduced herself and explained what is going to be changed with the new bridges. The Lochmueller representative highlighted the new light boxes that will appear on the connectors. There will be a solid wall underneath the bridge and give it a light gray color to give it a nice tone. She showed the enhancement components to the city council. If the city likes the elements in the new bridge, they can add those elements to other parts of the city. She also showed roundabout examples. She showed all the phased enhancement cost drafts. The grand total would cost about \$7.63 million.

Creech said the city should prioritize what is needed first and then complete more aesthetic elements in later phases. The representative said that those could be placed in phases. Waterman asked about the sources of funding.

Staff members answered some questions about funding and why the costs went up. Staff explained that the cost is high because this is a once in a generation project. The university and CVB are supportive. Companies and organizations are supportive. There

is currently a little less than \$1 million in private funding. Seewood said the city is trying to get more stakeholders involved so there can be more input and funding. Buffalo asked about getting more stakeholders involved after they see some images of the finished product. Buffalo asked about moving funds around and taking advantage of grants. Creech is not as sure about getting grants for this specific project, unlike sidewalks there are just less opportunities. The current project they are talking about is 63 East. Waterman asked about the distance of the project. Staff said it would go out to the Missouri River. Creech said that the state would like to add an additional lane to I-10. Staff said he would like to get a task force together to get funds added and create a plan of action. Buffalo thanked staff and the other stakeholders for their time and effort.

II. ANY OTHER ITEMS COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Buffaloe adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:38 p.m.