



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, February 2, 2026
5:00 PM

Pre-Council

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: 7 - Buffaloe, Foster, Waterman, Peters, Carroll, Sample, and Elwood

This item is open to the public: State of the Court

Judge Cavanaugh Noce provided information on the community support docket. He shared anecdotes about success stories related to the docket. He highlighted the expansion with Divert.

He noted the property services docket had expanded. Examples of cases on this docket include junk in the yard, tall grass, or any other building maintenance issues. He noted that these cases very rarely go to trial.

He noted that the four-day work week for Court employees is a benefit. He stated it was critically important to some staff.

He noted Municipal Court has 8.75 FTE, but are currently operating with 7 FTE due to a retirement. He noted that their caseload was growing, and that was something the Court had no control over.

Noce discussed the 2025 Community Survey, specifically the results related to Municipal Court.

Council member Nick Foster asked about the community support docket growing. Cavanaugh shared some anecdotes, including a recent one at Project Homeless Connect. He noted that the volume issues aren't necessarily related to individuals feeling like the municipal court system would work with him. He added that increased policing also plays a role.

He noted that the community support docket was nearing capacity.

This item is open to the public: Motion for the City Council to go into closed session 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.

-Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded pursuant to Section 610.021(3) 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.

-Sealed bids and related documents, until the bids are opened; and sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected pursuant to Section 610.021(12) RSMo.

-Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment pursuant to Section 610.021(13) RSMo.

At approximately 5:27 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; 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; the hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded pursuant to Section 610.021(3) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri; the 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; sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected pursuant to Section 610.021(12) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri; and individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment pursuant to Section 610.021(13) of the Revised Statutes of Missouri. The motion was seconded by Council Member Peters.

Yes: 7 - Buffaloe, Foster, Waterman, Peters, Carroll, Sample, and Elwood

This item is closed to the public: Closed Meeting.

At approximately 5:29 p.m., the City Council went into closed session in Conference Room 1A/1B pursuant to RSMo Sections 610.021(1), (2), (3), (9), (12), and (13).

II. ANY OTHER ITEMS COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The closed meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.