



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, June 15, 2026
7:00 PM

Regular

City Hall
Council Chamber
701 E. Broadway
Columbia, MO

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2026, 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 Member JACQUE SAMPLE, Council Member CHRISTINA HARTMAN, Council Member BETSY PETERS, Mayor BARBARA BUFFALOE, Council Member VALERIE CARROLL, and Council Member VERA ELWOOD were present. City Manager De'Carlon Seewood, Deputy City Counselor Becky Thompson, City Clerk Sheela Amin, and various Department Heads and staff members were also present.

Mayor Buffaloe recognized the University of Nagano students visiting the MU Asian Affairs Center this year.

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2026 were approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mayor Buffaloe and a second by Council Member Elwood. Mayor Buffaloe noted the June 1, 2026 meeting minutes were not yet complete.

Mayor Buffaloe understood B143-26 would need to be removed from the agenda at the request of the applicant.

Mayor Buffaloe explained R117-26 would be moved from the consent agenda to new business at the request of staff due to the need for an amendment.

The agenda, including the consent agenda with R117-26 being moved to new business and B143-26 being removed completely from the agenda, was approved unanimously by voice vote on a motion by Mayor Buffaloe and a second by Council Member Sample.

II. SPECIAL ITEMS

SI9-26 Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Buffaloe suggested Council Member Sample be appointed as the Mayor Pro Tem, and asked if there was any objection. No one objected.

SI10-26 First Last Mile American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update.

Lester Woods introduced some of the staff associated with the First Last Mile Valet Service, indicated this program had come from a Source Summit roundtable discussion about four years ago as many felt transportation was a barrier to upward mobility, noted the priorities were getting people to and from employment opportunities, workforce participation, access to healthcare and other basic needs, and educational and training opportunities to allow for upward mobility and economic sustainability for those who participated in the program, explained over 7,000 rides had been provided over the last couple of years, including 2,317 through mid-May of this year, they had 9-11 staff members, and had eight specific partners, which included the University of Missouri College of Human Development and Family Services, MFA Oil, Love Columbia, the

Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development, Job Point, Flourish, Connections to Success, and the Missouri Works Initiative, commented that services were provided to people associated with those organizations as well as others who had come to them individually, stated the \$430,354.65 in investments in the last 2-3 years had come Boone County, the City of Columbia, REDI, Veterans United, and an anonymous donor, commented that transportation continues to be a challenge due to high costs, lack of reliable transportation, limited public transportation, lack of vehicles, and long travel times, pointed out that First Last Mile was trying to close that gap by providing a more reasonable way for individuals to gain and retain employment while also helping employers solve their problems of hiring people, described the challenges in gaining support from private organizations, including those employers along Route B, and noted they were continuing to work toward sustainable funding for the program.

III. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BC6-26 Board and Commission Applicants.

Upon receiving the majority vote of the Council, the following individuals were appointed to the following Boards and Commissions.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Zia, Roseanna, Ward 4, Term to expire May 1, 2031

CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD

Cartwright, Zachary, Ward 4, Term to expire November 1, 2028

Mayor Buffaloe suggested they continue accepting applications for the other vacancy on the Citizens Police Review Board and for the vacancy on the Climate and Environment Commission as there were new vacancies on both, and asked if there was any objection. No one objected.

COLUMBIA AND BOONE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD

Kelly, Jacqueline, Ward 4, Term to expire June 30, 2029

COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Christiansen, Ashlee, Ward 4, Term to expire October 31, 2027

DANGEROUS OR AGGRESSIVE ANIMAL ADVISORS

Rose, Tom, Ward 5, Term to expire June 15, 2029

DISABILITIES COMMISSION

Bowders, John, Ward 4, Term to expire June 15, 2029

Fields, Hazel, Ward 1, Term to expire June 15, 2029

Powell, Rene, Ward 1, Term to expire June 15, 2029

PERSONAL ADVISORY BOARD

Kendrick, Kyle, Ward 3, Term to expire September 30, 2027

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Lowe, Shane, Ward 4, Term to expire May 31, 2027

Stockton, Kate, Ward 4, Term to expire May 31, 2029

RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD

Harness, Scott, Boone County, Term to expire July 15, 2030

Hendrickson, Blair, Ward 5, Term to expire July 15, 2030

WATER AND LIGHT ADVISORY BOARD

Fracica, Philip, Ward 6, Term to expire June 30, 2030

Piontek, Emily, Ward 1, Term to expire June 30, 2029

Mayor Buffaloe noted Council Member Sample would continue as the Council liaison to the Youth Advisory Council, and asked if there was any objection. No one objected.

IV. SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

SPC27-26 Water and Light Advisory Board - Council Priorities on Water and Electric Utilities.

David Switzer, a representative of the Water and Light Advisory Board (WLAB), commented that the City's total revenue in FY 2025 had been \$484 million of which \$200 million, or over 40 percent, had come from the water and electric utilities and over \$18 million of revenue from the water and electric utilities had been transferred into the general fund this past year, noted the water and electric expenditures last year were over double that of the public safety expenditures, stated the importance of the next 5-10 years in terms of the utilities due to the transmission line project, AMI, continued water infrastructure projects, and meeting the electric capacity needs as identified in the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), asked that the Council allocate more time on the complex water and electric utility issues and for the Council to meet with the WLAB, believed a good place to start was with the IRP in terms of how they would meet their capacity needs, suggested at least two 2.5 hour work sessions involving the Council, the WLAB, and staff, for a broader discussion of the IRP as it would allow the Council to be in a better position to make decisions for the community, the WLAB to better align its recommendations with what the Council needed from them, and for staff to have clear guidance in order to pursue the various opportunities as they came along, and stated the WLAB was optimistic about the future of the water and electric utilities and looked forward to working with the Council to ensure these services continued to be excellent, reliable, and affordable for the people of Columbia.

SPC28-26 Matt Schacht - Requesting clarity on staff's notification that community media was defunded in a closed door meeting.

Matt Schacht, a Third Ward resident and representative of Vidwest, displayed a map of the current members of Vidwest along with a petition with over 630 signatures of people who wanted the City to fund community media, suggested any future contract jettison the old television channel and continue with the other good items involving community media, explained community media was a school, a gear library, a business incubator, and a third space for residents, pointed out that about one in five of its members identified as non-white and low-income community members were utilizing these services to empower themselves, start businesses, and gain skills, noted it was an access point, and commented that an investment in community media was an investment in the community's social infrastructure.

SPC29-26 Jeff Stack - Civil Liberties and City Officials' efforts to hide poverty via, essentially, a ban on panhandling and protests along public roadways/intersections (a.k.a. the public safety ordinance set to go into affect July 1).

Jeff Stack commented that he and Margaret McConnell were both strongly opposed to the ordinance set to go into effect on July 1 that would ban panhandling and constitutional protected protests on Columbia roadside medians.

Margaret McConnell, a Second Ward resident, understood the Council wanted to thrive, believed Ordinance No. 026217 harmed Columbia, commented that the study for which the City paid \$100,000 did not show any causal link between panhandling in medians and

traffic fatalities nor did it demonstrate that a median ban would provide a public safety benefit, stated the ordinance was not about public safety and would harm the community, particularly the vulnerable unhoused population, as it would remove their main source of income for basic human needs, which was not much to begin with as they likely only collected about \$60 on a good day, explained even a couple of good days did not provide enough for a rent or mortgage payment and only allowed for a hotel room with a toilet and shower along with a few extra meals, pointed out panhandling had been ruled as protected free speech by the courts because everyone had a right to say what they needed, asked those in attendance who valued their First Amendment rights and challenged the constitutionality of Ordinance No. 026217 to stand, and noted some of those standing were willing to risk arrest and all were willing to provide resources in a legal challenge.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

B101-26

Granting the issuance of a conditional use permit to Hinkson Valleyview LLC to allow the operation of a short-term rental on property located at 2002 Valley View Road; providing a severability clause (Case No.93-2026).

The bill was given third reading by the City Clerk.

Community Development Director Clint Smith provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

Noel Feldman, 2013 Valley View Road, stated he lived a couple of doors down from the subject property, explained 100 percent of the households in the neighborhood were opposed to the property becoming a short-term rental as they believed it would put their safety and quality of life at risk, felt this unanimous opposition should be enough for the applicant to withdrawn their request and for the Council to deny the request, noted his primary concern was for the safety of his daughter as the bottom of the cul-de-sac was a safe space for her to play and an uptick of unfamiliar motorists on a steep street without sidewalks would pose a serious threat, commented that the owners as well as their agent, Russell Boyt, had shown little interest in communicating with the neighborhood to seek common ground, pointed out that operating a short-term rental was a privilege, and thought that type of behavior should not be rewarded.

Alan Marshall, 810 N. Valley View Drive, understood the Council had received a letter from him and his wife, explained the property owner and proposed manager had indicated the home would be rented by professionals, such as traveling nurses, but those contracted assignments were approximately 13 weeks in length, which was considered a mid-term rental versus a short-term rental, noted there was no guarantee that the registered agent, who currently lived next door, would not move elsewhere or that the owners would move from Iowa, and asked why a money making venture for an out of state resident should outweigh the unanimous opposition of the neighbors who lived there year-round.

Megan Arns, 2004 Valley View Road, stated her opposition to the proposed short-term rental as she lived next door, expressed concerns with the lack of communication as well as the constant rotation of guests for up to 210 nights per year since the owners had not reached out and Russell Boyt, who would serve as the local manager, had not proactively contacted the neighbors nor had he share the owners' contact information, commented that they were not only concerned about the possibility of disruptive guests as they were also concerned with preserving the character, safety, and stability of a quiet residential neighborhood, explained Valley View Road and N. Valley View Drive were small dead end streets, occupied primarily by families with no sidewalks, a single street light, and

children who regularly used the streets as a shared community space, indicated the residents knew each other, recognized cars, and looked out for each other's children and property, pointed out a short-term rental, which provided transient lodging, would change that dynamic as the neighbors would lose the ability to know who was coming and going week to week, and noted they would welcome long-term tenants as they would become neighbors.

Eugene Elkin, a Second Ward resident, understood two small girls had been found dead in a short-term rental swimming pool in Florida, and suggested the City require short-term rentals to have high liability insurance.

Miranda Moore, 2012 Valley View Road, stated the neighbors had not been consulted or communicated with from the beginning nor when the Planning and Zoning Commission had suggested it, explained they had been told to take solace with the fact the agent lived next door and would fix problems promptly when notified, and noted they did not feel that would happen due to the lack of communication and falsehoods thus far.

Maris Ashby, 2003 Valley View Road, commented that this short-term rental did not give anything meaningful back to the neighborhood, noted it would take a beautiful single-family home out of the small residential area where families lived, built relationships, and put down roots, take their privacy as the neighborhood did not have privacy fences and was not built for separation, and take away the ease of letting children play in the front yards and the cul-de-sac when that was the only option as the back yards were steep, explained this corridor was not designed to absorb rotating guests and there were already access and parking issues, which the City had helped manage during holidays and big events, reiterated that there was not a benefit to the neighborhood, pointed out that the lack of communication from the owners and agent was not a missed courtesy as it was about accountability and trust and there was not any assurance that they would be proactive or reactive going forward.

Russell Boyt, indicated he was representing the owners, felt there were a lot of mistruths, stated he and the owners had met with and provided contact information to a large group of homeowners after the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting and he had spoken to the Kalinkos, who were next to the subject property, to try to address their concerns, pointed out a neighborhood meeting had been held and neither he nor his wife had been invited, explained the home was purchased by Jon and Laurie Gehrke in September of 2025 after it had been on the market for 120 days, provided examples of how the Gehrke's were deeply rooted in the Columbia community, noted the home was purchased for the personal enjoyment of Gehrke's as they made several trips to Columbia annually and planned to retire here, believed it had the potential as a short-term rental due to its proximity to the University and the hospitals, commented that the driveway had two recognized parking spaces with room for another and a third space would be added next week, emphasized that he lived next door and would handle the day-to-day scheduling, maintenance, and concerns, and stated there would not be any on-street parking even though the main section of Valley View was 31 feet in width, which was enough for cars to be parked on both sides and wider than the streets in newer subdivisions, such as Old Hawthorne and The Brooks.

Laurie Gehrke, a resident of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and owner of 2002 Valley View Road with her husband, noted she had been a nurse for 45 years with the last 21 years as a pediatric flight nurse, stated it was not their intent to endanger the children of the neighborhood as they had raised six children on a cul-de-sac as well, explained she and her husband wanted to use the property as did their now adult children, commented that if they could not use it as a short-term rental, they would use it as a long-term rental and be forced to stay in hotels again when coming to Columbia, indicated they had spoken to and exchanged numbers with the neighbors after the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, and pointed out they had not been able to attend the meeting on May 4 due to her husband's surgical complications.

Susan Maze, a First Ward resident, commented that the short-term rental ordinance

included neighborhood protections, such as short-term rentals not being within 300 feet of one another, neighbors having a say, and the establishment of an 800 number to report violations after hours because currently it was impossible to register a complaint after 5:00 p.m. without a police report even with video evidence, noted that since the establishment of the short-term rental ordinance, she had noticed that neighborhood opposition, affordable housing, the concentration of short-term rentals, and factual discrepancies did not matter, and felt the ordinance that many had worked hard on did nothing to protect them from the issues.

Jon Gehrke stated he felt bad for creating this situation in a sense as they were not trying to negatively affect the neighborhood, explained they were trying to enhance the neighborhood and had put a lot of money in and around the house, noted they were hoping to be there soon on a full-time basis, but could not say when that would happen, indicated they had provided their phone number to all of the neighbors and he was available 24/7 if there was an issue, and pointed out he had grown up in Columbia and intended to come back when he retired.

The Council asked question and made comments.

B101-26 was given fourth reading by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: CARROLL, ELWOOD. VOTING NO: SAMPLE, HARTMAN, PETERS, BUFFALOE. Bill declared defeated.

B142-26

Amending Chapter 29 of the City Code to revise the use-specific standards associated with accessory dwelling units (Case No. 113-2026).

The bill was given second reading by the City Clerk.

Community Development Director Clint Smith provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

Adrienne Stolwyk, 212 Hirth Avenue, commented that she had been advocating for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) since the 2013 ordinance went into effect as well as adjustments as time had passed, stated she did not believe the lot size should be changed as it was not a concern she had heard from community members, noted smaller ADUs could be built on small lots with some design work and creativity, provided the ADU built by Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA) on a lot that was less than 5,000 square feet as an example, expressed concern for those who could qualify to have an ADU today but would not qualify tomorrow, suggested allowing ADUs on cottage lots if that was the concern, believed the rear yard setback needed a nuanced approach as had been mentioned by one of the Planning and Zoning Commission members as a single-story structure built up to the six-foot rear yard setback worked on many corner lots, and asked that the lesser setback still be allowed where it worked while progressively going to 15 feet in the new scenarios.

Eugene Elkin, a Second Ward resident, noted there was a nice new home at the corner of Sexton Road and Garth Avenue on the right side when traveling north whereby the main house faced the next street and it faced Garth Avenue, wondered if that lot was less than 3,000 square feet, suggested allowing perpendicularly placed structures on deep lots, and noted ADUs were a benefit to seniors.

Scott Claybrook, 602 Florence Avenue, thought they should celebrate the meaningful progress over the last 12 years as well as the allowance of an ADU in R-1 by right, explained ADUs added to the rental stock, created an affordability factor, and allowed for aging in place, believed the change in the lot size was an equity issue as it would affect those with lots in older neighborhoods, stated there had not been any communicated polling, support, concern, or data associated with the existing six-foot rear yard setback for R-2 and R-MF, and suggested a 15-foot set back for R-1 or abutting as well as R-2 and R-MF if the ADU involved a second story while still allowing a 6-foot setback in R-2 and R-MF if the ADU was a single story structure.

Louis Wilson, 404 W. Broadway, expressed his appreciation for the work of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Community Development staff, and the Council, noted there

was a need for housing, believed housing was best built on existing ground within the City as it could then be served by existing infrastructure, felt there was a lot of ground within the City, explained he lived on a 15,000 square foot lot and that less than a block from him were two people living on nearly 60,000 square feet of ground, commented that ADUs were a low impact way to build extra housing with less opposition than subdivisions while allowing individual homeowners with the opportunity to be a small scale developer, stated support for the recommended amendments, and asked for Council to consider the additional leniency proposed by Monarch Architecture because there were only a limited number of lots that size so it would not result in many additional requests and would add to the housing stock.

Katie Dunne, 708 Donnelly Avenue, commented that she closed on this 840 square foot home about a month ago from a larger home because it was zoned R-2 and allowed for an ADU, explained she had hoped the ADU would be available for one of her children during breaks or until they were able to be on their own as well as for her as she aged, stated she was in the design process now and had hoped to make the ADU accessible, and expressed concerns with how the proposed changes would impact her ADU design as her home was on a corner lot.

Shane Lowe, 1660 Highridge Circle, stated he loved the change to allow ADUs by right in R-1 as it was a sensible investment that could dramatically improve lives, understood the Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended tighter setback requirements in zoning districts where ADUs were already allowed, partly due to allowing ADUs to be taller, and suggested the setbacks be addressed on taller ADUs without imposing the additional restrictions on all R-2 and R-MF lots.

The Council asked question and made comments.

B142-26 was given third reading by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: SAMPLE, HARTMAN, PETERS, BUFFALOE, CARROLL, ELWOOD. 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 City Clerk.

- B144-26 Authorizing construction of Fire Station #10 located at 1020 S. El Chaparral Avenue; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.
- B145-26 Amending the FY 2026 Annual Budget by appropriating funds in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 associated with the Municipal Service Center South construction project.
- B146-26 Authorizing an FY 2025 CDBG grant agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia associated with the J.W. Blind Boone Center building renovation project.
- B147-26 Authorizing an agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri associated with the 2026 Missouri State Senior Games and Show-Me State Games.
- B148-26 Authorizing a tourism development sponsorship agreement with The Curators of the University of Missouri associated with the 2026 Missouri State Senior Games and Show-Me State Games.
- B149-26 Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the master services and purchase agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. associated with software, equipment, and technology services for the Police Department.

- B150-26 Authorizing a cooperative agreement with Boone County, Missouri for the Police Department's participation in a countywide 800 MHz interoperable radio system to improve communications among public safety agencies.
- B151-26 Authorizing a cooperative agreement with Boone County, Missouri for the Fire Department's participation in a countywide 800 MHz interoperable radio system to improve communications among public safety agencies.
- B152-26 Authorizing a cooperative agreement with Boone County, Missouri for the participation of Columbia Regional Airport in a countywide 800 MHz interoperable radio system to improve communications among public safety agencies.
- R114-26 Setting a public hearing: proposed replacement of Bridge #9 on the MKT Trail.
- R115-26 Setting a public hearing: consider the Water and Light 2026 Renewable Energy Plan.
- R116-26 Setting a public hearing: consider the FY 2027 Capital Improvement Project Plan for the City of Columbia, Missouri.
- R118-26 Authorizing artists' commission agreements with William Edgar, Glory Hartsfield, and Matthew Moyer associated with the North Village Park art benches project.
- R119-26 Authorizing a special event operations agreement with The Boone County Fair, Inc. for the 2026 Boone County Fair event at the Northeast Regional Park located at 5212 N. Oakland Gravel Road.
- R120-26 Authorizing a FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant Agreement with Love Columbia Corp, d/b/a Love Columbia, for property renovation located at 208 St. Joseph Street.

The bills were given third reading and the resolutions were read by the City Clerk with the vote recorded as follows: VOTING YES: SAMPLE, HARTMAN, PETERS, BUFFALOE, CARROLL, ELWOOD. VOTING NO: NO ONE. Bills declared enacted and resolutions declared adopted, reading as follows:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- R121-26 Authorizing the temporary closure of a portion of the sidewalk and parking lanes within North Village Park along Orr Street, St. James Street, Ash Street and Park Avenue, to facilitate the removal of the existing infrastructure and construction of new sidewalks and parking lane improvements.

The resolution was read by the City Clerk.

Parks and Recreation Manager Cavelle Cole-Neal provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.

**R121-26 was read by the City Clerk, and the vote was recorded as follows:
VOTING YES: SAMPLE, HARTMAN, PETERS, BUFFALOE, CARROLL, ELWOOD.
VOTING NO: NO ONE. Resolution declared adopted, reading as follows:**

- R117-26 Authorizing a third addendum to the payment services agreement with RecTrac, LLC d/b/a Vermont Systems, to add the WebTrac App Workgroup Plus software application associated with the management of Parks and Recreation Department programs.

The resolution was read by the City Clerk.

Deputy City Counselor Becky Thompson provided a staff report.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion to amend R117-26 per the amendment sheet, which replaced “add” with “remove” in two locations. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sample, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

R117-26, as amended, was read by the City Clerk, and the vote was recorded as follows: VOTING YES: SAMPLE, HARTMAN, PETERS, BUFFALOE, CARROLL, ELWOOD. 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.

- B153-26 Amending Chapter 12A of the City Code as it relates to stormwater waste disposal prohibitions.
- B154-26 Granting the issuance of a conditional use permit to Jonathan Lee-Warner and Rachelle Lee-Warner to allow the operation of a short-term rental on property located at 3303 Timberhill Street; providing a severability clause (Case No. 137-2026).
- B155-26 Rezoning property located on the north side of Diego Drive and the east side of Bethel Street from District R-MF (Multiple-family Dwelling) to District M-N (Mixed Use-Neighborhood) (Case No. 135-2026).
- B156-26 Approving the Final Plat of “Backus Subdivision Plat No. 3” located on the south side of E. Green Meadows Road and the north side of E. El Cortez Drive; authorizing a performance contract (Case No. 134-2026).
- B157-26 Accepting conveyances for utility, underground electric, sewer and public turnaround purposes; accepting Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Covenants; directing the City Clerk to have the conveyances recorded.
- B158-26 Authorizing a real estate contract with Make Holdings LLC to acquire a parcel of land located at West Gillespie Bridge Road to be used for greenspace purposes.
- B159-26 Authorizing replacement of Bridge #9 on the MKT Trail; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division.
- B160-26 Authorizing the FY 2025 Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) agreement with the Columbia Housing Authority for tenant-based rental assistance.
- B161-26 Authorizing Amendment No. 4 to the contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for overdose data to action program services.
- B162-26 Authorizing an agreement with Columbia School District No. 93 for the Teen Connection Project program services.

X. REPORTS

- REP34-26 Columbia Residential Parking by Permit Only (RPPO) Update.
- Assistant Finance Director Jim McDonald provided a staff report, and responded to Council questions and comments.
- Mayor Buffalo made a motion for staff to bring forward the appropriate legislation to release the funds related to the Residential Parking by Permit Only program. The motion was seconded by Council Member Peters, and approved unanimously by voice vote.
- REP35-26 2025 Annual Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Report.
- Sustainability Manager Eric Hempel provided a staff report, and responded to Council comments.
- REP36-26 Annual Surveillance Technology Report.
- Police Chief Jill Schlude provided a staff report, and she and Assistant Police Chief Lance Bolinger responded to Council questions and comments.
- REP37-26 Boone County/City of Columbia/University of Missouri - 2024 and 2025 Annual Stormwater Management Reports.
- Utilities Director Erin Keys and Sewer and Stormwater Engineering Manager Justin Fessler provided a staff report.
- REP38-26 History of Funding for CAT TV, Vidwest, and PEG Channel Fees.
- Cultural Affairs Manager Sarah Dresser provided a staff report, and she, City Manager De'Carlton Seewood, and Deputy City Counselor Becky Thompson responded to Council questions and comments.

XI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Eugene Elkin, a Second Ward resident, understood there was a recent recycling event, suggested the announcement of such events in the future as he had been unaware, suggested the Council listen to everyone who spoke on water and electric issues, indicated he had heard that the AI technology was stronger than the human cell, which was causing concern among government officials, and noted AI banks, which were being pushed by six billionaires, involved heavy water and electricity usage, was noisy, and would impact human jobs and human existence.

Susan Maze, a First Ward resident, stated she did not understand why the City was trying to avoid spending \$35,000 for a jobs and skill program for people living in unresourced areas when they spent millions on the Farmers Market and the North Village Arts District, noted she was conducting research on crime data in terms of who was being arrested, expressed displeasure that the City and the County felt the answers to mental health were more cops and jail cells, commented that the mentally ill who were ticketed for trespassing or violating the new pedestrian ordinance would likely not show up for their court date, understood a double amputee in a wheel chair had been in the Boone County jail for more than 24 hours due to open container ordinance violations, wondered how many college students received the same citations, believed there was a difference in how rules were enforced in poor neighborhoods versus wealthy white neighborhoods and provided a short-term rental located between Jefferson Middle School and Hickman High School as an example, felt the Council needed to be honest and straightforward if they were truly applying an equity lens, and emphasized that the problems in Columbia were related to mental health and social equity issues, not the homeless being mean.

Matt Schacht thanked the City for the report and public discussion regarding CAT-TV,

Vidwest, and PEG channel fees, noted that the PEG funding had disappeared in 2008, but the City had decided to continue to invest in that space, and with that investment came a culture, a space, and a whole community of people, explained that the cut in funding would take away the funding for the space, i.e., the rent, utilities, internet, and insurance, commented that while they appreciated the grants they received from the Office of Cultural Affairs, that funding would not keep the roof over their heads, pointed out that if they lost the space, they would lose the place where people gathered, formed relationships, mentored each other, and learned how to use new tools, stated that media had to be built, maintained and upgraded in a space, expressed concern regarding a domino effect in that they would not be able to provide services to certain non-profits without City funding, which in turn would affect the non-profits, one of which had a big economic impact on Columbia, asked for the City to continue to fund them for another year or two until a more permanent RFP for video services could be agreed upon was available, and reiterated that it would be tragic if they were to lose the space.

Carol Hazard, 1101 Jean Rae Drive, believed the report given by the Columbia Police Department lacked some information, such as the kind of software being used in the video surveillance systems, the kinds of programs that were running it, the control practices mentioned on page 4, how the Council maintained accountability of those practices, and transparency to the public in that regard, noted page 6 had indicated there was no substantiated complaint about the Flock system, wondered what system was being used for public complaints, what the criteria were for substantiation of a complaint, whether there was a link on the website, and how citizens could make complaints, understood 86 percent of the hardware was installed, which meant there were 110 Flock cameras as of May in Columbia, which meant there was one camera for every 1,316 people or 0.066 miles, provided Kansas City as a comparison as they had 150 Flock cameras, which resulted in one for every 3,400 people or 2.11 miles, questioned whether there was a lack of trust with the population that lived in Columbia, commented that the Flock website indicated all of their hardware had video camera capability, and asked what safety protocols were in place for children who were walking to and from school.

The Council and staff discussed various topics to include the high quality of board and commission applicants, which made appointment decisions very difficult, the hope that those not appointed would continue to look for additional vacancies and other engagement opportunities, the Third Ward having a couple of shots fired incidents involving youth and adults recently, which was an ongoing issue, encouraging the community to not utilize guns when they were upset, the recent loss of two people associated with the Third Ward due to mental health difficulties, the desire for people to understand it was okay to not be okay, the fact there were resources even though some resources were stretched along with the hope that people would reach out for those resources, appreciation for those that attending tonight's meeting, the importance of community spaces, such as parks, community events, etc., in terms of human connectivity and mental health, a reminder that every Wednesday, a group called 1 Million Cups, which included small business owners, met to help each other solve tough problems, the notification that every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m., a group of non-profits met at The Heist to talk about community building, and the Vehicle Stops Report released by the Missouri Attorney General.

Council Member Hartman made a motion for a work session to be held, preferably this year, on the Vehicle Stops Report released by the Missouri Attorney General in order to discuss the disparity data along with the potential to make improvements. The motion was seconded by Council Member Sample. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

The Council and staff continued to discuss various topics to include the request of the Water and Light Advisory Board for joint work sessions related to the Integrated Resource Plan.

Council Member Peters made a motion to schedule two 2.5 hour work sessions with the Water and Light Advisory Board, beginning in early fall. The motion was seconded by Council Member Elwood, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

The Council and staff continued to discuss various topics to include taking the time to participate in the various Juneteenth events throughout the week, including the Douglass Park clean up event on Thursday, this being neighborhood block party season, appreciation for board and commission members asking the Council to utilize their expertise, this being the first entirely women Council in Columbia's history, which was a cause for celebration, appreciation for the Small Business Grant recipient award and celebration event held this past Friday whereby they had heard from eight small businesses that were making a difference in the community, and the future discussion surrounding the potential for presentations and public comment for first read items.

Mayor Buffaloe made a motion for a report to be discussed at a future work session involving what it would look like logistically to have presentations and public comment for first read items. The motion was seconded by Council Member Peters, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

The Council and staff continued to discuss various topics to include Council Member Peters replacing former Council Member Foster as the Council liaison for homeless outreach work, which included participation in the Homeless Strategic Plan Steering Committee and the Affordable Housing Coalition, the successful recycling drop-off event that had been held this past Saturday as they had collected about one ton of mixed containers, 4.5 tons of fiber, and four tons of glass, this week being the start of weekly curbside recycling in which the City would collect fiber and mixed containers, which included 1 and 2 plastics and metal cans, the continual discussion to find possible container locations for glass recycling, the potential for additional recycling drop-off events, Columbia being one of only 441 government agencies to be recognized as a GFOA Triple Crown Award winner out of 19,000 total agencies, and the fact the next council meeting would be held on July 20 as there would not be a meeting on July 6 due to renovations to the meeting spaces.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 11:45 p.m.