

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMISSION

City of Columbia & County of Boone
City Hall, Mezzanine Conference Room

Minutes of Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Present: Ken Midkiff, Jean Sax, Alyce Turner, Esther Stroh, Dick Parker, Jan Dye, Nick Peckham, Harley Wilcox

Absent: Craig Bunger

City Staff: Cera Hurley (Water & Light Liaison) Barbara Buffaloe (City Liaison) Jenny Veltrop (Water & Light Liaison) Pam Burris (Water & Light Liaison)

Guests: Pat Fitzgerald with City Utilities, Katherine with the Columbia Missourian, and Katelyn Campbell with the Tribune

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Jan Dye called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The December 22, 2015 minutes were approved with a motion from Jan Dye and a second by Dick Parker. Motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written with a motion from Jan Dye and a second from Esther Stroh.

PRESENTATIONS

Pat Fitzgerald with City Utilities presented the Upper Hinkson Creek sewer plan. He showed a GIS map of the proposed sewer lines marked in red. The project has been in the works since the 2007 bond issue that was approved by voters. It is now ready to finalize and the city is looking for bids to complete this final project. A second map was presented of an aerial view that includes highway 63, showing vegetation that will be taken down, and yellow lines that are the corridor for the sewer lines. Pat Fitzgerald stated it would cost \$7.5 million for 5.5 miles of sewer lines. Pat Fitzgerald stated the method the city wants to use to cross Hinkson Creek would be an open cut construction. The alternate method would be boring under the creek bed and not disturb the creek. However that method is five to six times more expensive than open cut and also concerning since would take months longer to construct it since is in the floodplain. The best management practice is to get in quickly, get the pipe installed, get it backfilled, and then get the creek restabilized. Pat Fitzgerald stated that the cut through the creek bed would be buried. Ken Midkiff stated that his concerns were that when the open cut trench was dug, that the substrate would be destabilized so any flooding would wash it down the stream. He reiterated that Hinkson Creek is not just any old creek, it is on the 303d list and there has to be caution about not causing additional pollution since it is already polluted, and then suggested that going under the creek instead of through it would be a better option. Jan Dye mentioned EEC's concern about heritage and old growth trees. Is there anything that can be done that can keep the construction crews from clearcutting? Pat Fitzgerald stated that a lot of the excavation was being away from the trees along the creek and that great lengths were taken to look at stream health and lessen the impact. Harley Wilcox asked if the pipe was polymer PVC. Pat Fitzgerald stated it was PVC pipe and would last 100 years or longer. He continued that with the bat study, it gave them a lot of good data to see the trees and they would try to stay away from the big trees and take trees out in winter time so as

to not disturb the bats that are raising young. Jean Sax asked if the excavated trees would be replaced. Pat Fitzgerald answered that they would come back naturally.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jean Sax stated that the tree task force wants to come discuss the ordinance changes they are recommending, and asked that it be added to the agenda. She also stated she was helping Ann write the letter. The tree task force will be part of the True/False Film Festival and have pocket parks and label trees species and their survival. They would also like to continue on as a task force.

Dick Parker stated he has been appointed to a committee to deal with the study of doubling the capacity of sewage treatment plant. The old Black and Veatch study is still being pursued.

NEW BUSINESS

CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jan Dye reported for the EEC Building Codes subcommittee. Issues to be addressed at the next subcommittee meeting: The BCCC has moved half of the residential buildings into the commercial building category that has lower efficiency standards. The BCCC has changed the wording of termite infestation from moderate to heavy; therefore they recommend people to use a termite system along with insulation. Nick Peckham stated there are several unexplained changes and modifications. The BCCC also wants to add an 11th person to that commission that is experienced in energy conservation. Alyce Turner asked if blower door testing is changing and Dick Park said yes. Dick Parker stated they should attempt to have our final report by the next EEC meeting. Nick Peckham asked if they could borrow the proposed building codes. Barbara Buffaloe answered that the city clerk has them on file. Jan Dye confirmed the subcommittee meeting for next week at 6:00 p.m. on February 2nd.

Staff Reports

Announcements

Dick Parker announced there will be another Energy Score subcommittee meeting on February 11th at 6:00 pm.

Jean Sax introduced Harley Wilcox as new Boone County member and asked him to tell about himself. Harley Wilcox stated he was born in Kansas City and lived there until the year 2000, when he moved to New Jersey with his family, then came back in March of 2013. He has worked in the pharmaceutical drug development research business for 34 years and has a background in chemistry and business. Jan Dye asked what made you want to join this commission. Harley Wilcox answered that he wanted to volunteer and has an interest in energy and environment, he's not sure his position is the same as everyone else's, but he does have interest in it.

ADJOURNMENT

Ken Midkiff made a motion to adjourn, a second from Esther Stroh. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.