



# City of Columbia, Missouri

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Monday, December 9, 2024  
2:00 PM

Work Session - Amended

Council Chamber  
Columbia City Hall  
701 E. Broadway

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Buffaloe called the meeting to order at approximately 2:02 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Buffaloe, Foster, Lovelady, Waterman, Meyer, and Peters

**Absent:** 1 - Carroll

#### Water & Light Advisory Board Recommendations

**Attachments:** [WLAB Renewable Ordinance Recommendations](#)

Utilities Director Dave Sorrell presented to Council the following recommendations which are the result of the WLAB's detailed review of the City's Renewable Energy Ordinance, Section 27-106.

- Change ordinance to a fiscal schedule to better coordinate with the City's fiscal calendar, easing record keeping and reporting by City Utility staff.
- Change the definition of "eligible renewable energy" in the ordinance, as follows:
  - Update the ordinance with a near-term achievable renewable energy incremental goal which supports a long-term community vision.
  - The City Utility should continue to support the ongoing effort of community energy efficiency to reduce both electricity demand and energy to reduce the quantity of renewable energy needed to meet the renewable goals.
  - The City should reconsider the current 3% rate cap and associated calculation methodology for evaluating renewable projects. The evaluation and approval shall protect rate payers from excessive rate increases associated from renewable energy costs.
  - Its recommended risk assessments are completed for renewable energy projects prior to approval.
  - Complete another review of the renewable energy ordinance goals by FY2030, and/or, earlier if circumstances change.

#### Climate & Environment Commission Recommendations

**Attachments:** [Climate & Environment Commission Recommendations](#)

Council and Staff then discussed the Climate and Environment Commissions recommendations.

After reviewing the recommendations to update the Renewable Energy Ordinance put

forth by the Water and Light Advisory Board (WLAB), the Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) proposes a change to Section 3 of the recommendation to better align the renewable energy goals of the Ordinance with those outlined by the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP).

Recommendations include:

The CEC recommends reconsidering the current 3% rate cap and associated calculation methodology for evaluating renewable projects while taking into consideration impacts on low-income residents. Renewable energy is a long-term investment and will lead to lower energy costs in the future.

The CEC recommends any triggers for reassessment of the renewable energy ordinance goals require the reassessment to move the renewable energy targets in a positive direction and avoid any new fossil-fuel generation contracts to meet baseload demand

**II. ANY OTHER ITEMS COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS**

None.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:24 p.m.