



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Final

City Council

Monday, April 3, 2023

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: 7 - Peters, Pitzer, Fowler, Waner, Buffaloe, Foster, and Lovelady

This item is open to the public: Status of Funding for Utility Assistance

Utilities Director, David Sorrell presented Council Members with information regarding utility assistance to customers, utility assistance programs, and additional funding that is needed for the utility assistance program.

Sorrell gave Council Members an overview of the total assistance given which includes external agencies as well. These totals are for FY 2021, FY2022 and FY 2023 YTD.

FY21

External Agencies: \$1,775,388 (includes \$318,132 in CARES Act funding administered by CMCA and \$395,394 donation from The Crossing in May 2021)

City Assistance: \$157,170

FY22

External Agencies: \$1,556,713

City Assistance: \$337,905

FY23

External Agencies: \$818,525

City Assistance: \$221,247

Total: \$4,866,948

Sorrell went on to discuss the remaining funds within assistance programs.

CASH Program remaining funds: \$13,330

HELP Program remaining funds: \$15,343

City Utility Assistance: \$68,656 (the City has appropriated a total of \$600,000 to the new City utility assistance program, \$300,000 on July 6, 2021 and \$300,000 with the FY 2023 budget).

Current remaining balance in the new Columbia Utility Assistance Program is \$68,656 (not counting CASH/HELP).

The City has appropriated a total of \$600,000 to the new City Utility Assistance program from the General Fund.

\$300,000 July 6, 2021 (start of the program)

\$300,000 with the FY 2023 budget

There is not sufficient funding to provide assistance through the remainder of the fiscal year. A request to appropriate an additional \$300,000 of funding has been included as part of the second quarter budget amendments being introduced on April 3, 2023.

This item is open to the public: Cost of Service Study Follow Up Discussion

Utilities Director, David Sorrell presented Council with information about bills by usage for residential gas heat, FY 2023 projected PCA Impacts and a letter from the Water and Light Advisory Board Chair, David Switzer. Staff asked Council if Council would like Staff to come back with ordinances to modify electric rates. The current plan is to have the rate adjustments made for July.

This item is open to the public: Electric Transmission Improvements, Substation Improvements and Use of Bond Funding

Staff asked Council if Council would like Staff to come back with ordinances to modify electric rates. The current plan is to have the rate adjustments made for July. Mayor Buffaloe indicated what Council is looking for is to lessen the impact on those who have requested assistance and increase energy efficiency. Mayor Buffaloe reiterated that Staff needs guidance from the Council and indicated Staff will bring back additional data and any relevant information that can help Council be better informed.

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

- Existing or proposed security systems and structural plans of real property owned or leased by a public governmental body, and information that is voluntarily submitted by a nonpublic entity owning or operating an infrastructure to any public governmental body for use by that body to devise plans for protection of that infrastructure, the public disclosure of which would threaten public safety. The disclosure of such information would impair the city's ability to protect the security or safety of persons or real property and the public interest in nondisclosure outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the information to be discussed pursuant to Section 610.021(19) RSMo.

Closed session was not needed.

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

Closed session was not needed.

II. ANY OTHER ITEMS COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

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