



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, May 2, 2022
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 5:03 p.m.

Present: 6 - Peters, Skala, Pltzer, Fowler, Waner, and Foster

This item is open to the public: Motion for the City Council to go into closed session in Conference Room 1A/1B to discuss:

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

At approximately 5:04 p.m., Council Member Peters 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 the 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, and 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. The motion was seconded by Council Member Waner.

Peters made a motion to go into the closed meeting, Waner seconded; motion carried.

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

At approximately 5:06 p.m., the City Council went into closed session in Conference Room 1A/1B pursuant to RSMo Sections 610.021(2) and (9). The pre-council work session was held, and those minutes will have the details of that discussion for the open portion of the meeting.

The Council adjourned the closed meeting and returned to the open portion of the meeting at approximately 5:55 p.m.

This item is open to the public: Review of Council Rules, Ethics & Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Buffaloe announced that the Review of Council Rule on Ethics and Conflict of Interest portion of the Agenda will be discussed at the Agenda Retreat, May 26-27, 2022.

This item is open to the public: Dates/times for the Budget Retreat

This item is open to the public: Solid Waste Collection Alternatives

City Manager De'Carlon welcomed Director David Sorrel to discuss the Solid Waste Collection Alternatives. Director Sorrell introduced his team, Steve Hunt and David Brown to help with answering questions that were directed to their respective departments.

Director Sorrel presented the Council members and Mayor a powerpoint presentation (also attached to these minutes) stating the status of current operations, then highlighted the options for future curbside collections including privatizing the system, continuing with the current logo bag program, eliminating the requirement to use logo bags and automate collections. A copy of the presentation was also emailed to the Mayor and Council members.

Director Sorrel discussed current procedures and operations, advantages, disadvantages as well as issues due to the high shortages of CDL drivers.

Council Member Waner asked how long staffing has been a problem. Director Sorrel replied there has been a steady increase in staffing shortages since 2015, however the last two years have been especially difficult due to the COVID pandemic. Director Sorrel explained the last two years the Solid Waste Division has relied on an outside contractor to keep the services running, due to not being able to provide reliable weekly trash collection.

Council Member Fowler asked, in reference to employees' work safety, what causes employees to fall from the trucks while they are running and if it occurs because they are trying to make up time due to shortages. Director Sorrell replied yes, but often the fall is due to the employee losing their balance while holding onto the truck.

Council Member Fowler asked why the City did not implement the 5 bag limit?

City Manager De'Carlon Seewood replied indicating that the city tried to implement that 5 bag limit. Seewood explained the idea with the logo bags was to limit the amount of trash generated in a home. There would be no way to control the amount of bags which could become difficult for the Solid Waste drivers to pick up within the allotted time schedule.

Director Sorrell encouraged Council members and the Mayor to think of questions or concerns they may have and bring those to the continued portion of this meeting on June 6, 2022.

II. ANY OTHER ITEM COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:58pm.