



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Tuesday, July 5, 2022
5:30 PM

Pre-Council

Conference Room
1A/1B
Columbia City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:27 p.m.
Council member Peters arrived at 5:35 p.m.

Present: 7 - Peters, Skala, Pitzer, Fowler, Waner, Buffalo, 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:

-Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys pursuant to Section 610.021(1) RSMo.

-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.

At approximately 5:31 p.m. Council Member Skala made a motion for the City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri, to immediately go into a closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Foster.

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

At approximately 5:33 p.m., the City Council went into closed session in Conference Room 1A/1B pursuant to RSMo Sections 610.021(1) and (2).

The Council adjourned the closed meeting and returned to the open portion of the meeting at approximately 6:24 p.m.

This item is open to the public: CAAP and 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report

Sustainability Director, Eric Hempel presented Council with the 2021 Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report. This report has two sections; the Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report and the Municipal Greenhouse Gas Inventory report. The 1st scope includes emissions produced within the city limits and released into the community atmosphere. The 2nd scope includes all greenhouse gasses that are emitted outside of Columbia. Columbia City Council reaffirmed Columbia's commitment to take action to reduce

climate pollution (Resolution 89-19A) on June 17th, 2019, by adopting the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). One of the main purposes of the CAAP is to reduce GHG emissions community-wide through targeted municipal, residential, industrial, and commercial activities. The CAAP outlines goals for reducing community greenhouse gas emissions by 35% by 2035, by 80% by 2050, and by 100% by 2060. The CAAP goals for reducing municipal operations emissions are 50% by 2035 and 100% by 2050. Each year, the Office of Sustainability staff conducts greenhouse gas inventories to measure both community and municipal operations GHG emissions.

Hempel went on to discuss Greenhouse Gas Emissions by sector. Those sectors include Natural Gas, Solid waste, water & wastewater, transportation, industrial energy, residential energy and commercial energy. Between 2020 and 2021, emissions increased in each sector other than solid waste. The largest increase was in the transportation sector as vehicle miles traveled in 2021 returned to nearly pre-pandemic levels.

Hempel said the City of Columbia's electric utility is the largest provider of electricity in Columbia, making the use of renewable energy by the utility vital for reducing energy sector emissions. Sustainability will be doing more research to find why there are so many increases.

Hempel said emissions are determined by activity and emission factors. Emissions factors (EFs) represent the amount of greenhouse gases emitted per unit of energy provided. Emissions are expressed in units of MTCO₂e, and energy is expressed in units of MMBtu. The City of Columbia electric utility consistently has the highest EF of the four utilities. Sourcing from an increasing percentage of renewable energy is fundamental to reducing EFs and achieving community emissions reduction goals.

Sourcing electricity can help us achieve our community emission reduction goals. Hempel then discussed Municipal Emissions. This looks at emissions from our activity as an organization. The City's municipal emissions have trended downward since the 2015 baseline, with an overall 12.2% reduction. Sustainability plans to continue reducing its municipal emissions through activities outlined in the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP).

Mayor Buffaloe asked if the CEC & CAAP reports will be moved to get them together. Eric said yes.

Hempel plans to work with Brandon Renaud on evaluating USD programs' climate positive impacts.

II. ANY OTHER ITEM COUNCIL WISHES TO DISCUSS

None.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:56pm