

CITY OF COLUMBUS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024

1. **Roll Call:** Mayor Hammer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Present: Mayor Hammer, Alders: Finkler, Lawson, Motiff, Reid, Roelke and Rostad. Also present: Administrator Matt Amundson, Clerk Caine, Larson, Kornmann, Bennett, Police Chief Weiner, Fire Chief Hazeltine, City Attorney Johnson, City Engineer Leitha, Amanda Blomberg with Baker Tilly, other city staff and interested citizens.
2. **The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.**
3. **Notice of Open Meeting:** Noted as posted.
4. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Rostad and second by Motiff to approve the agenda with the omission of Mayoral Appointments as there were none at this time. Carried by voice vote.
5. **Correspondence & Communications:** None.
6. **Presentation of 2023 Audit by Amanda Blomberg, Baker Tilly:** Blomberg presented the 2023 Audit results and financial highlights with the council, focusing on the results from the city portion (versus Utilities).
7. **Consent Agenda:** Motion by Roelke, second by Rostad, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the minutes from the June 20, 2024 Council Workshop, and the July 2, 2024 Council Meeting and Special and regular Committee of the Whole meetings. Motion carried on a voice vote.

New Business:

1. **Consider and Take Action on Alcohol License application for Magnolias Grill and Bar LLC:** Motion and amended motion by Finkler, seconds by Motiff to approve the Alcohol License application for Magnolias Grill and Bar LLC pending their completed final fire inspection. Motion carried on a voice vote.
2. **Consider and Take Action on the Certified Survey Map (CSM) for 366 E. Poet Street and 807 Farnham Street, Columbus, Wisconsin:** Motion by Roelke, second by Finkler to approve the Certified Survey Map for 366 E. Poet Street and 807 Farnham Street in Columbus, Wisconsin. Motion carried on a voice vote.
3. **Consider and Take Action on the Façade Grant Program Guideline Revisions:** Motion by Finkler, second by Reid to approve the Façade Grant Program Guideline Revisions. Kornmann shared that the revisions do not clearly state that the city council has the final approval of the guidelines so he recommended that be added to the motion to clarify the verbiage. Finkler amended her motion to approve the Façade Grant Program Guideline Revisions with the modification that the City Council has final approval, Reid seconded. Alder Lawson reminded council that HLPC has final authority to approve their fund distribution, so that option could also be made available to the Community Development Authority (CDA). Alder Motiff shared that the CDA has

stringent guidelines and also feels the CDA should be able to make their own final decisions on the approval of the grant monies. Amundson shared that the CDA is best positioned to understand and determine the award of the grants. If this was to have to come back to council, the approval would have to go from CDA to the Committee of the Whole then back to Council, which would take at least another month. He feels the CDA can move through the award of a grant in a more timely fashion. Motion carried on a 4-2 voice vote, with Alders Finkler, Reid, Roelke, and Rostad voting Yea; Alders Lawson and Motiff voting Nay.

4. **Consider and Take Action on the Beautification Committee's request for approval to sponsor a fundraising project through the painting of garbage cans to be used in the City parks:** Motion by Roelke, second by Lawson to approve the Beautification Committee's request to sponsor a fundraising project through the painting of garbage cans to be used in the City parks. Motion carried on a voice vote.
5. **Consider and Take Action on Request by area Veterans Organizations to display Veteran Banners in downtown Columbus:** Motion by Finkler, second by Reid to approve the display of Veteran's Banners in downtown Columbus. After a clarification of when the banners would be displayed, motion carried by voice vote.
6. **Consider and Take Action on Proposal from Rhyme to provide iPads for Mayor and Council Members:** Motion by Finkler, second by Motiff to accept the proposal from Rhyme to provide iPads for the Mayor and Council for city use. Motion carried on a 5-1 roll call vote with Alder Lawson voting Nay.
7. **Consider and Take Action on Acceptable Use Policy for Elected Officials:** Motion by Finkler, second by Lawson to approve the Acceptable Use Policy for Elected Officials. Motion Carried on a voice vote.
8. **Consider and Take Action on Claims in the amount of \$473,317.11.** Motion by Motiff, second by Lawson to approve the Claims in the amount of \$473,317.11. Motion carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.
9. **Report of City Officers – Police Chief Weiner, City Administrator, Mayor:** Chief Weiner gave an overview of the events that took place on the morning of July 4, 2024. The department has had a particularly rough 2024, so far, but they are doing really well. Chief personally thanked many people and departments; local, county and state; local businesses and entities for their assistance that day and beyond. It was a team effort. National Night Out is August 6, 2024 from 5:30pm until 8:00pm. There will be games and food available for the attendees. There are both a Blackhawk helicopter and a Flight for Life helicopter scheduled to be here, along with Bernie Brewer.

Administrator Amundson shared his thanks to Chief Weiner for his professionalism and communication during the 4th of July parade and events of the day. Admundson is planning on joining the 4th of July Committee as a volunteer. Mayor Hammer also extended thank you's to Chief Weiner, Chief Hazeltine, Troy Kehoe and Dalton Hiley for calling in their staff to assist with all of the events during the day. He asked our community to extend their prayers to our staff, and all those affected by these events. Hammer also reminded all that the second Concert in the Park will be taking place Wednesday, July 17th. There are still openings available to serve on the Senior Advisory Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Cable Commission and Plan Commission.

10. Adjourn: Motion by Finkler, second by Rostad to adjourn at 7:41 pm. Carried by voice vote.

DRAFT Submitted by Clerk Susan L. Caine

Disclaimer: These minutes are uncorrected; any corrections made thereto will be so noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.