

**COLUMBUS COMMON COUNCIL – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COLUMBUS CITY HALL
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010 – 6:30 PM**

The Columbus Common Council met as a committee of the whole to hold a public hearing on the wastewater management facilities plan dated May 2009 on Tuesday March 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Columbus City Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Parpart and notice of open meeting was noted as posted.

Present: Mayor Link, Council members Bomkamp, Bruns, Parpart, Sneath and Walker, City Clerk Donahue, City Treasurer Green, Police Chief Meister, PW Dir. Jensen, ED/ES Sobiek, Fire Chief Koehn, SC Dir. Steffen, Rec. Dir Sommerholder, interested citizens and the media. Excused: Perkins. Council President Parpart led the Council in the pledge of allegiance. Motion by Sneath second by Bruns to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried voice vote.

PUBLIC HEARING – WATERWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES PLAN, 05/2009

President Parpart led the Committee of the Whole in the public hearing on the wastewater management facilities plan dated May 2009. PW Director Jensen gave a brief review of the document and heard questions from the public and the Council. Jensen announced this is the first of two meeting on the facilities plan and at the completion of the user charge system and the intergovernmental agreement with Fall River the second public hearing will be held followed by the adoption of the plan. It was announced if anyone has further questions to contact Jensen. Parpart asked if there were more questions from the public or the Council. No further questions from the Council or the public, motion by Bomkamp second by Bruns to adjourn the public hearing. Motion carried voice vote.

Motion by Sneath second by Bomkamp to amend the agenda to hear the correspondence from the Town of Elba concerning the Udey Dam and the Firemans Park storm water plan to the beginning of the agenda. Motion carried voice vote.

Joe Roche reviewed several documents sent to the Wisconsin DNR and to the City of Columbus from the Town of Elba in opposition to the repair of the Udey Dam. Roche urged the Council to remove the dam, not repair it. Lewis White urged the Council to remove the Udey Dam.

PW Director Jensen gave a brief presentation on the overall storm water plan for the City and specifically for Fireman's Park. A study of what we have, what we need and how we will deal with it is planned for 2010. A design of a storm water management plan for the entire city will be developed as a result of the study as the long range plan. An immediate plan for the 2010 year includes the investigation of the storm water situation. Mayor Link stated dealing with storm water management will need to become a priority and funds dedicated to the project.

Ron Durst, 405 Brookside Lane, has watched the ditch in Parkview rise and fall over the last 30 years with 5 100 year rainfalls. There is no place for the water to go once it comes into the city especially after heavy winter snows. The water needs to be stopped before it comes into the City. The hospital and the dental clinic both send their water to the same pond and the pond is not handling the water. The highway and the farm fields send water too fast to the City. Durst asked the Council to leave the gates out of the dam after it is repaired.

Ron Curtis, 100 Brookside Lane, asked the Council to designated funds now to address the water problems in the Parkview area, and asked for a schedule of the work to be completed.

Jerry Kasper, 203 Brookside lane, concerned about when the Council will get busy on this issue. Kasper asked why the City is approving more subdivisions when the water we are getting now is not being handled. Kasper asked when the water t will be addressed.

Kyle Rider, 317 Parkview Drive, asked the Council to address the water problems soon and to communicate the action plan to the residents.

Department Reports were accepted as presented. Rec. Dir. Sommerholder; ED/ES Dir Sobiek; Warner Biedermann, LifeStar Division Supervisor (EMS); Police Chief Meister; DPW Jensen; SC Dir. Steffen; and Fire Chief Koehn.

Kim Bates, Manager, Columbus Main Street group, with a request for use of the City parking lot located on W James St for a Farmer's Market Wednesday afternoons from 3pm – 7pm beginning May 5 through the last Wednesday in October. For the first session the committee expects 5-7 vendors. Referred to the next regular Council meeting, March 16, 2010.

Police Chief Meister requested the Council consider a change to the parking designations on E Harrison St next to the Police Department to provide that 4 of the 7 spaces on E Harrison St be designated as parking for customers of the police department. Referred to the next regular Council meeting, March 16, 2010.

PW Jensen reviewed the City Engineer candidate selection process with the Council. A recommendation has been made by the selection panel to hire Ruckert Mielke as the City Engineer. Representatives from Ruckert Mielke spoke to the Council about their services available to the City. Recommendation to hire Ruckert Mielke as City Engineer referred to the next Council meeting, March 16, 2010.

Library Board President Kaland presented a timetable from Library Board on the design study report for a future expansion project for the library. Community meetings will be held in April. The report is expected to be final by June 15, 2010.

Resolution #8-10 "Resolution to Write-off Delinquent Personal Property Taxes" was reviewed and referred to the next regular Council meeting, March 16, 2010.

The claims for the month of March were referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, March 16, 2010. Questions on specific claims can be referred to city staff.

There being no further business for the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm on a motion by Bruns second by Walker. Motion carried voice vote.