

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

The Columbus Common Council met as a committee of the whole on Tuesday November 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Columbus City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Council President Perkins and notice of open meeting was noted as posted. Present: Mayor Link, Council members Bomkamp, Perkins, Schumann, Sneath and Walker, City Attorney Lueders, City Administrator Kraemer, City Clerk Donahue, City Treasurer Green, interested citizens and the media. Excused: Bruns.

Perkins led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Sneath second by Walker to approve the agenda with Item #17 moved to Item #9. Motion carried voice vote.

Ross Rehfeldt, CAAC Board, presented data from the 2010 season at the pool, a review of the job descriptions for the pool manager and the recreation director, the annual review of the pool manager, and a draft of a renewal of the operation agreement between the City and the CAAC Board. Rehfeldt asked the Council to consider holding decision on the job descriptions until review of the material presented. The CAAC Board is interested in meeting with the City to discuss the proposed changes to job responsibilities.

Department reports were accepted as presented by: Steve Sobiak for ED/ES; Fire Chief Koehn; Library Board; Senior Center; Recreation; LifeStar Ambulance Service; and Police Chief Meister.

Mayor Link presented the request of the Hillside Cemetery Board to invest over year end the unexpended funds from the Cemetery Accounts to continue work on the repairs to monuments in the cemetery in 2011. Referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010.

Mark Jankowski, General Engineering, presented a procedure for dealing with a residential structure the builder has walked away from without finishing the structure. City Attorney Lueders informed the Council he has been aware of the problem and has communicated with the building inspectors on this matter. Chapter 38 of the local ordinances dealing with Public Nuisances appears to be the best option for dealing with the structure. Lueders asked the Council to provide direction to the building inspector and the attorney before any further action is taken. Mayor Link stated he feels the structure is blight on the neighborhood and the Council owes it to the neighborhood to take action. Referred to the City Attorney to send notice to the property owners. Lueders will return to the Council if no cooperation is received.

The job descriptions for the Recreation Director and the Pool Manager positions were reviewed with the Council by Kraemer. Kraemer asked Walker to meet with him, the Recreation Director and members of the CAAC Board to discuss the documents received tonight and the draft job descriptions in the packet. Sneath asked the Council consider allowing the CAAC Board the opportunity to run the pool without involvement from the City. Walker asked the Council consider there are three areas of expertise involved in the operation of the pool – lifeguard training and supervision, concessions, and pool operation and maintenance. Mayor Link reminded the Council the budget considerations are also important in this matter. Kraemer and Walker stated they will meet in the next 2 weeks with the CAAC Board and will report back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting, November 23, 2010.

Kraemer introduced Murray Sims of the Titus consulting company for a presentation of his qualifications to perform an analysis of combining the wastewater and water utilities in Columbus. A draft report could be produced between 30 days to 3-4 months for the Council's review. Sims proposed using Water & Light staff and City staff to keep costs down. Referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010.

The request for a waiver to the alcohol restrictions at the Senior Center was referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010.

The request for the creation of a permanent Room Tax Committee was referred to the City Attorney for an ordinance. Mayor Link suggested Council members who hadn't volunteered for the EMT committee volunteer to be on the room tax committee. A review of the Room Tax Use Guidelines was deferred until a permanent committee is created.

The request to create an EMT ad hoc Committee to study an EMT district for the service area of the ambulance service was referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010. Bomkamp, Bruns and Schumann volunteered to serve on the committee to study this option for ambulance service.

Kraemer and Donahue reviewed Chapters 4, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Chapter 5, Unlawful Harassment Policy, with the Council. Comments were asked to be forwarded to staff.

Police Chief Meister reviewed with the Council some proposed changes to the parking ordinance to address several issues Meister felt should be addressed. Mayor Link encouraged the staff to enforce the existing ordinances. Walker asked the matter be kept on the Council radar to revisit in early 2011. Parking lot changes and street parking changes will be referred City Attorney for an ordinance change. Signs that need to be installed should be installed as soon as possible. Winter street parking referred to a committee of the whole meeting in 2011.

The draft ordinance to amend Chapter 22 of the municipal code for Dog License fees was referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010.

The draft City of Columbus Fee Policy was reviewed and the NSF fee will be increased. Referred to the next regular meeting of the Council, November 16, 2010.

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

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