

**COLUMBUS COMMON COUNCIL**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023**

1. **Roll Call:** Council President Roelke called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm. Present: Council President Roelke, Mayor Hammer, Alders Finkler, Gray, Motiff, Reid, Steiner; Staff: Swartz, Bledsoe, Hazeltine, Weiner, Attorney Johnson, City Engineer Lietha
2. **Notice of Open Meeting:** Noted as posted
3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Hammer, second by Finkler to approve the agenda with swapping items #11 & #12. Carried voice vote.
4. **Citizen Comments:** None
5. **Committee / Commission Minutes:** Placed on file: Beautification 5/23/23, CUC 5/15/25, Hillside Cemetery 2/28/23, Ord Ad Hoc 5/31/23, 6/12/23, 6/19/23
6. **Review Task Order 2023-03 "2024 Street & Utility Reconstruction":** City Engineer Lietha gave overview of the task order: paving Fireman's park as an alternate; Commercial: from Dix to Maple; Selden: from Lewis to Charles; Richmond: from Lewis to Charles; bids out early for cost savings, and public information on street closures. Forward to 7/25 Regular meeting.
7. **Consider chicken application – 443 W Prairie St:** Forward to 7/25 Regular meeting pending the coop is built and inspected.
8. **Request for additional funds for Fire Dept pickup:** Chief Hazeltine gave an overview of the request noting the funds have been carried over from last year. He is requesting additional funds for outfitting for equipment & lights. Gray asked about the proceeds from the sale of the previous truck. Motiff suggested he budget for these items in 2024. Forward to 7/25 Regular meeting.
9. **Request from Fire Dept to accept donation from American Packaging:** Chief Hazeltine requested permission to accept a \$5000 donation from American Packaging. Forward to 7/25 Regular meeting.
10. **Review RFP's for Tower Drive, 1400 Park Avenue, 1149 W James Street:** Interim Administrator reviewed the staff analysis of each RFP. Tower Dr received two proposals: single family lots along the westside with smaller single family lots along Tower Dr and provides needed housing. Developer wants the City to provide infrastructure; second proposal includes single family townhouses 1,2,3 bedroom without garages. 1400 Park Avenue would keep the house and restore the barn as an event venue. Staff met with Greg Johnson from Ehlers regarding ARPA funds associated with the property. 1149 W James St: proposal for mini storage/office operation for start-up trade and technical entrepreneurs, proposal is for City to sell the property to the developer for \$1, and then split on a 50/50 TIF pay-go. Alders requested proposals be included in next packet.
11. **Convene to closed session per § 19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiation the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically: discussion about the current and future collective bargaining agreement between the City of Columbus and the Wisconsin Professional Police Officers.** Motion by Gray, second by Motiff, to convene to closed session. Roll call vote unanimous.
12. **Reconvene to open session:** Motion by Gray, second by Finkler to reconvene to open session. Carried voice vote.
13. **Convene to closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; and Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically: Discussion about the City Administrator recruitment update from PAA:** Motion by Motiff, second by Gray to convene to closed session. Roll call vote unanimous.

- 14. Reconvene to open session:** Motion by Gray, second by Finkler to reconvene to open session at 9:44 pm. Carried voice vote.
- 15. Adjourn:** Motion by Finkler, second by Gray to adjourn at 9:45 pm. Carried voice vote.

Submitted by  
Pat Goebel, City Clerk