

# COLUMBIA BOROUGH COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

April 9, 2019 | 7:00 PM

Paul w. Myers Council Chambers

## MINUTES

1. Council President Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Councilpersons present: Murphy, Novak, Williams, Kress Hartman, Berntheizel, Burgard. Mayor Lutz was present. Councilperson FitzGerald was absent.

Junior Councilpersons Present: Misciagna, Cover, Black and Simpson were absent.

2. A moment of silence was observed.
3. Councilperson Williams lead the pledge to the flag.
4. Public Hearing: Applications for funding through the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program.

Hearing Opened: 7:03 PM.

5. Citizen Comments (Public Hearing Only)

Heather Zink, 31 South Ninth Street, Columbia, PA, asked if CDBG funds are matching. Borough Manager Denlinger responded. She also asked if RAC grant money counts as matching for CDBG grants. Borough Manager Denlinger responded.

Hearing Closed: 7:06 PM.

6. Council President announced that on April 9, 2019 at 6:00 PM Council held an information session to receive information only items from its Borough Manager and Solicitor. Additionally, he requested phones be silenced or turned off and side conversations be kept to a minimum.
7. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items Only are incorporated at the end of these minutes.
8. Motion to approve Borough Council Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2019 and Borough Council Work Session Minutes for April 2, 2019.

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
C. Berntheizel	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

9. Mayor Lutz

Mayor Lutz announced the Arbor Day Celebration on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the High School. The Shade Tree Commission and the Park Rangers work hard to grow this event. The Public is invited and encouraged to attend. Mayor Lutz informed Borough Council that two articles were distributed for their review. One in reference to Governor Wolf's visit and one detailing activities at Colonial Metals. Mayor thanked Mr. Wilson and Mr. Getz for assembling the new compact shelving in the Police Records Room. The shelving was given to the Borough by Lancaster General Hospital. The Mayor and Chief Brommer attended an awards presentation at the Boys and Girls Club. This past week, the Mayor spent time in the Columbia High School and Taylor School cafeterias. He was equally impressed with both schools and commended the discipline of the children and the healthy food options that were provided. Before this meeting, he was with Juniors and Seniors at the High

School and was encouraged and impressed with their accomplishments. He encouraged Council to take time to visit the schools.

Council President Kelly announced two additional Agenda Items:

12.a. To Include SVEMS March 2019 Report

12.d To Accept Board of Health/Planning/Zoning/EMS March 2019 Reports

10. Finance

a. Motion to consider Columbia Land Bank request to pursue acquisition of 306 Cherry Street

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
C. Berntheizel	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

11. Personnel

a. Motion to consider appointment of Robert Miller to the Pension Board

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
M. Kress Hartman	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

12. Public Safety

a. Councilperson Burgard presented Public Safety Reports for March 2019: Columbia Borough Police Department; Columbia Borough School Resource Office Reports; Columbia Borough Fire Department; Columbia EMS (CQRS) Statistical Report; SVEMS

b. Councilperson Burgard presented Codes Compliance Report – March 2019

c. Motion to consider request from Columbia EMS (QRS) for fuel cost assistance not to exceed \$5,000 in 2019

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
T. Burgard	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

Mayor encouraged Council to address The Agenda Only Citizen Comment referencing the financial situation of QRS and respond accordingly. Councilperson Novak requested the Police Report be resubmitted, to Council, with corrections.

d. Councilperson Burgard presented Board of Health/Planning/Zoning/EMS Reports -March 2019

13. Public Works & Property

a. Motion to consider Lancaster County Prison K-9 Group use of firing range

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
P. Williams	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

- b. Motion to consider Award of Grinnell Avenue stormwater improvement project to SD Logan Excavating at a cost of \$9,485.00.

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
P. Williams	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

- c. Motion to consider Resolution 19-11 Extension of Agility Agreement between Columbia Borough and PennDOT

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
P. Williams	C. Berntheizel	All Favored – Motion Carried

- d. Councilperson Williams presented Public Works Report – March 2019

14. Legislation

- a. Motion to consider Ordinance 910 to amend Chapter 5 of the code of the Borough of Columbia

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
J. Novak	C. Berntheizel	All Favored – Motion Carried

- b. Motion to table Consideration for moving forward with HARB request to submit expansion of Columbia Historic District to the PA Historic and Museum Commission for review. To be reconsidered at the May 14, 2019 Regular Borough Council Meeting.

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
J. Novak	T. Burgard	All Favored – Motion Carried

Councilperson Novak stated that an invite will be sent to the HARB Board to attend the May 7, 2019 Work Session.

15. Community Development

- a. Update on Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel (ULI TAP)

Borough Manager Denlinger stated that an outline of the event is included in the meeting packet. The Borough is working with ULI and co-chairs to finalize details. ULI continues to reach out to experts to serve on the panel and the Borough is reaching out to local business and community leaders to participate in the interviews. A preliminary presentation is scheduled but the final report will follow several weeks later. The event has gotten media attention already. It is unique for ULI/TAP to engage with smaller communities and everyone included is very excited. Councilperson Novak requested Borough Manager Denlinger go over the area that ULI is looking at. Borough Manager Denlinger stated the redevelopment area is framed by Locust Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Walnut Street. The two

primary parcels are The Hotel Locust and The Hotel Columbia. There are 2 parcels due west and two parcels due North, of the Hotels, also included.

16. Reports, Comments, and Announcements

- a. Solicitor- None
- b. Secretary/Treasurer- None
- c. Boards and Commissions

Planning Commission Chairperson, Mary Wickenheiser, updated Council on Columbia 2040, the current Comprehensive Plan process. There will be a public meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup> (6PM) at the Columbia Library. The two questions are: What Challenges does Columbia face? What can we do to conquer those challenges?

- d. Council Members- None
- e. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items Only are incorporated at the end of these minutes
- f. The Borough Offices will be closed Friday, April 19, 2019 in observance of the Good Friday Holiday and will reopen Monday, April 22, 2019 at 8:00 AM

At 6:00 PM on April 23, 2019 Council will hold an information session to receive information from its Borough Manager and Solicitor.

17. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 PM

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
P. Williams	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

**MOTIONED AND APPROVED** this 23rd day of April 2019, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Columbia, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

**BOROUGH OF COLUMBIA, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

By:



Kelly Murphy, Council President

ATTEST:



Rebecca S. Denlinger, Secretary/Treasurer

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CITIZENS COMMENTS

**AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

**Shirley McBride – 219 Perry Street, Columbia PA**

Questioned finances of QRS and their request for fuel costs from the Borough. She asked what the organization did with the proceeds from the sale of the Fire House. Council President Murphy responded.

**Mary Wickenheiser – 620 Chestnut Street, Columbia PA**

Voiced her continued opposition to the HARB Expansion. Mary corrected a reference she made at a previous meeting.

**Frank Doutrich – 1001 Ironville Pike, Columbia PA**

Requested an updated total cost of ULI/TAP. Borough Manager Denlinger responded. He questioned the expansion of HARB and how an expansion benefits him.

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**Sharon Lintner – 500 Chestnut Street, Columbia PA**

Inquired about the closing of CHI Dental Office on Locust Street and how it alters the design presented to HARB. Council President Murphy, Councilperson Berntheizel and Borough Manger Denlinger responded.

**JoAnne Fritz – 1060 Locust Street, Columbia PA**

Asked for information pertaining to grandfathering a specific property into an Ordinance governing Airbnb's. She asked how a commercial venue can be grandfathered into a residential zone. Several councilpersons responded. She questioned the status of the old Fish and Tackle on Front Street and if it is an Airbnb. She claims it is being rented. Ms. Fritz questioned the 11<sup>th</sup> and Ridge Avenue Colonial Metals property's status. Mayor Lutz agreed to find out more information on the property.

**Frank Doutrich – 1001 Ironville Pike, Street, Columbia PA**

Referred to the SRO Officer Weekly Log 26 included in the meeting packet. He mentioned/questioned several of the items. Mr. Doutrich referenced his experience visiting Columbia High School. He spoke on behalf of a neighbor who is selling his house because of the poor quality of life in Columbia. He is concerned about drugs. Mr. Doutrich asked for clarification on the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Polling Site and if it is now at the QRS Building. Mayor Lutz responded.

**Dennis Wolpert, 1019 Manor Street, Columbia PA**

Asked why so many people don't pay their taxes. He wants to know what the Borough is doing to collect the money. Several councilpersons and Borough Manager Denlinger explained the tax collection process. Borough Manager Denlinger stated she would forward an email response from Finance Manager Watts to Mr. Wolpert. Mr. Wolpert mentioned the property at 1020 Manor Street. Following the last Work Session, he witnessed two Borough Employees drive past the property and not stop.

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Borough Manager Denlinger agreed to follow up. Mr. Wolpert questioned why a Codes Manager is not present at the meeting. Borough Manager Denlinger responded. She invited Mr. Wolpert to make an appointment through her, if he is having difficulty contacting a staff member.

**Shirley McBride, 219 Perry Street, Columbia PA**

Expressed her concern for the town and how sad she is with its current condition. Asked Council to consider the senior citizens and their needs. Ms. McBride also questioned the rental fees for Columbia Crossing and expressed her disappointment that many residents, especially seniors, cannot afford the rental fees.

**Dennis Wolpert, 1019 Manor Street, Columbia PA**

Visited the River Park last weekend and meet a couple of cyclists from Virginia. He wanted to convey their comments about the park. They were very impressed and will return.