



# Columbus Utility Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

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## Call to Order

Sandy Curtis called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

## Roll Call

### PRESENT

Joe Hammer  
Molly Finkler  
Laura Beckman  
Brook Andler  
Sandy Curtis

### ABSENT

Michael Thom  
Reagan Rule

## Notice of Open Meeting

The meeting was noted as being posted.

## Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the agenda.  
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

## Public Comment

1. Baker Tilly Presentation on Utility Financial Statements for 2022 and 2023  
Jodi Dobson of Baker Tilly presented the annual audit results.

## Consent Agenda

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Beckman to approve the consent agenda including minutes of the June 20, 2024 meeting, the June 20, 2024 workshop, and the July 18, 2024 minutes, the outage reports of July 13 & August 6, and the financial reports.  
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

2. Approve Minutes:  
June 20, 2024  
June 20, 2024 Commission Workshop  
July 18, 2024
3. Outage Reports:

July 13, 2024 - W1017 CTH K Blown Fuse due to lightning strike.

August 6, 2024 - E. Prairie St. & S. Water St. lines down due to storm.

4. Financial Reports:

Approve the Water, Wastewater and Light Cash Disbursements Report and Accounts Payable Report - Discussion/Approval

**Unfinished Business**

5. Substation #4 Low Side Bushing Replacement and Oil Report

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to expend an additional \$29,657.88 to complete the needed repairs.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

**New Business**

6. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) - Discussion

City Administrator, Matt Amundson & Utility Director, Jacob Holbert provided an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan. The next step is to share this information with Ehlers, the city's financial advisor to assist in structuring bonding and debt to accomplish this work. No action was taken on this item.

7. WWTP - HVAC Semi Annual PM and T&M Contract w/Bassett Mechanical

Utility Director, Jacob Holbert discussed the proposal from Bassett Mechanical for a preventative maintenance program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to postpone this item to the September meeting.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

8. Electric Utility Approval to Order Transformers for Inventory - 2025 Budget

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the purchase in the amount of \$637,650.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

9. Water Utility - Replacement of Fire Hydrant due to failed nozzle.

Motion made by Finkler, Seconded by Beckman to purchase the replacement water hydrant on Richmond Street in the amount of \$14,750

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

10. WWTP - Purchase of New Transducers for Sand Filter Process.

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the purchase in the amount of \$10,896

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

**Reports**

11. Utilities Report

Utility Director, Jacob Holbert provided the report.

12. Future Agenda Topics:

a. Rate Case Adjustments - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Clients

- b. Septage Receiving Rate Adjustment
- c. Concentration Based Multiplier on Sewerage Rate Charges
- d. Investigation and Implementation of FOG Discharge Violations

Wastewater Treatment Plant preventative maintenance contract with Bassett Mechanical, Rate Case Adjustments - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Clients, Septage Receiving Rate Adjustment, Concentration Based Multiplier on Sewerage Rate Charges, and Investigation and Implementation of FOG Discharge Violations will all be future agenda topics.

### **Adjourn**

Motion made by Finkler, Seconded by Beckman to adjourn at 7:32pm.  
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

\*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.

Please note that these minutes are subject to approval at a future meeting.