

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Council Chambers
Second Floor of City Services Center
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

July 9, 2019
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner Pugh and Councilors R. Gary Allen, Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Charmaine Crabb, R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Judy W. Thomas and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson (arrived at 9:37 a.m.). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey Glisson.

ABSENT: Councilors Glenn Davis and Bruce Huff.

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) Monthly Financial Snapshot (Unaudited) FY19-May 2019; (2) Proposed City Vehicle/Car Allowance Policy; (3) Southern Anti-Racism Network 20th Anniversary Conference Program Schedule Booklet; (4) Georgia Smart Communities Challenge Presentation; (5) Shared Electric Scooter in Columbus; (5) Government Center Update Presentation.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Presiding.
2. **INVOCATION:** Dr. Walter Taylor- The Life Center.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by the Thayer YMCA.
4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for the June 18, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilor Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

2019 WOMENS USA INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL CUP:

Mayor Henderson recognized those employees and volunteers who worked the 2019 Women's USA International Softball Cup at South Commons Softball Complex.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

- Prepare a resolution to be provided to the individuals involved with the event. (*Request of Councilor Allen*)

Councilor Garrett made a motion to prepare a resolution for all of the participants, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the seven members present with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS

PROCLAMATION: Reentry Awareness Month
RECEIVING: Mayor's Commission on Re-entry

Waleisah Wilson (Newlife-Second Chance Outreach) accepted the proclamation read by Councilor House proclaiming July 2019 as Reentry Awareness Month.

PROCLAMATION: **Reentry Month**
RECEIVING: Mayor’s Commission on Re-entry

Members of the Mayor’s Commission on Re-entry accepted the proclamation read by Councilor House proclaiming July 2019 as Reentry Month and officially establishing the commission.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES:

(1) 1st Reading – REZN-04-19-0664: An ordinance to amend the text of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) in regards to Table 3.1.1 by permitting Self Service storage and Warehousing and Distribution, General by Special Exception in UPT (Uptown) and CRD (Central Riverfront District) Districts. The Planning Advisory Commission and the Planning Department recommend **approval**. (Requestor - Ken Henson)

Mr. Ken Henson (Requestor) was present to answer any questions; however, there were none.

(2) 1st Reading - An Ordinance providing for the levy, assessment, and collection of taxes for the public school system of Columbus, Georgia; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

(3) 1st Reading - An ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code to revise the Columbus Code section 13-170 pertaining to exemptions for certain non-profit entities from putrescible solid waste fees; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro Tem)

RESOLUTIONS:

(4) Resolution (190-19): A resolution declaring a necessity for the immediate acquisition of airspace easements in the airport zone at the Columbus Metropolitan Airport; authorizing the filing of a declaration of taking and appropriate condemnation by the City Attorney or his designated representative for the acquisition of said easements; and for other purposes. (Request of Columbus Airport Commission) Councilor Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

(5) Resolution (191-19): A resolution appointing Clautretta F. Williams as Clerk of Recorder's Court of Columbus, Georgia. (Recorder's Court Committee) Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

Recorder’s Court Clerk Clautretta Williams approached the rostrum to thank the members of Council on her newly appointed position as the Clerk of Recorder’s Court for Muscogee County.

OTHER:

(6) Discussion of City Vehicle/ Take Home Car Policy (Take Home Car Committee)

Councilor Allen (Take Home Car Committee Chairman) addressed Council regarding the proposed City Vehicle/Car Allowance Policy.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE MAYOR:

- Put together a committee to address the concern with the shortage of police officers to include Councilors, police officers, the police chief and his command staff. *(Request of Councilor Barnes)*

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Information on how many vehicles will go outside of Muscogee County with implementation of the proposed policy. *(Request of Councilor Crabb)*
- Address the concerns raised by the City Manager. Also, we need to get some input from the citizens to hear their concerns and answer any questions. Provide a copy of all of the concerns outlined by City Manager Hugley. *(Request of Councilor Barnes)*

PUBLIC AGENDA

{Public Comments were provided by the individuals listed below; unless otherwise stated.}

1. Ms. Waleisah Wilson, representing Newlife-Second Chance Outreach, Inc., Re: An announcement to the community of the opportunities scheduled that will benefit returning citizens and the community.

REFERRAL(S):FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Request for the City Manager to have event information run on CCG-TV. *(Request of Councilor Woodson)*.
2. Director Amber L. Clark, representing Columbus Airport Commission, Re: A waiver of permit plan review fees for the Columbus Airport Terminal Project.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh made a motion to approve the request to waive permit plan fees as recommended by the City Manager, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

3. Ms. Bobbi L. Starr, representing Micah's Promise, Re: To provide council members with update on recent developments in the fight against domestic minor sex trafficking. ***Not present.***
4. Ms. Theresa K. El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: A follow-up on February 2019 whistleblower complaint on policies and procedures inside the Crime Prevention Department. ***No action taken.***

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA1. **FY20 PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACT:**

Resolution (192-19): A resolution authorizing to enter into an agreement for indigent services between Circuit Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County in the amount of \$2,152,733 from July 2019 to June 2020 and authorize payment to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) in the amount of \$1,623,114 paid in monthly installments of \$135,259.46 of which is included in the total amount. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

Approval is requested to enter into an agreement between the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County for Indigent Defense Services in the amount of \$2,152,733 and to authorize monthly payments to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) for said services in the amount of \$135,259.46 per month. The monthly amount is included in the total contract amount of \$2,152,733 and it covers the cost of personnel services as well as a 5% administrative fee.

2. SUBMISSION DUE DATE FOR COMPONENT UNIT EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS:

Resolution (193-19): A resolution requiring all component units to submit their finalized external audit reports to the City no later than November 30th of each calendar year. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

Approval is requested by resolution to require all component units to submit their finalized external audit reports to the City no later than November 30th of each calendar year.

Director Angelica Alexander (Finance) approached the rostrum to give a brief explanation of this item and answer questions from the Council.

3. PURCHASES:

Approval is requested of items "A" to "D":

- A. Annual Ambulance Service License Fees for Fire/EMS

Resolution (194-19): A resolution authorizing payment to the Georgia Department of Public Health, in the amount of \$17,900.00 for ambulance service license fees. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

- B. Benches and Receptacles for Historic District

Resolution (195-19): A resolution authorizing the purchase of ten (10) benches and five (5) receptacles from Keystone Ridge Design (Butler, PA), in the amount of \$18,874.50. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchasing, utilizing New Jersey State Contract #16-FLEET-00118, awarded to Keystone Ridge Designs for the provision of park and playground equipment. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

- C. BOSSdesk Software

Resolution (196-19): A resolution authorizing the purchase of BOSSdesk Software from SHI International (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$21,803.93, via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD00000060-0003. Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

- D. Declaration of Surplus Crown Vics and Donation to the State of Georgia

Resolution (197-19): A resolution authorizing the declaration of the following three (3) Crown Vics as surplus, in accordance with Section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government; and authorize the donation of the surplus vehicles to the State of Georgia:

Vehicle #	VIN/YEAR	Current Mileage
17655	2FABP7BV2AX101250 / 2010	125,809
17679	2FABP7BV5AX103400 / 2010	135,276
17687	2FABP7BVXAX103408 / 2010	127,011

Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

4. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS: *(THE UPDATES WERE PRESENTED IN THE ORDER AS NUMERICALLY INDICATED BELOW.)*

- A. State of Georgia, Supreme and Appellate Court Construction Process, Marvin Woodward, Deputy Executive Director, Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission (GSFIC) Construction Division. *Called forward to the beginning of the City Manager's Agenda.*

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge approached the rostrum to introduce the next presenter.

Deputy Executive Director Marvin Woodward (Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission) came forward to give a presentation on the State of Georgia, Supreme and Appellate Court new facility construction process.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- For discussions to be held at the July 30, 2019 Work Session on construction of new government building and provide as much information to Council beforehand. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*

- B. Smart Cities Grant - Forrest Toelle, Information Technology Director

Dr. Forrest Toelle (IT) approached the rostrum to introduce the next presenter.

GIS Coordinator Scott Evans (IT) came forward to give an update on Georgia Smart Community Challenge and the Smart Cities Grant.

- C. Shared Electric Scooters Update - Rick Jones, Planning Director

Director Rick Jones (Planning) approached the rostrum to give information on the potential use of shared scooters in Uptown Columbus.

Director Ross Horner (Uptown Columbus) approached the rostrum to respond to questions asked by Council and introduced the next speaker.

Nima Daivari, Lime Georgia, Community Relations came forward to give a presentation a proposed trial program being offered by Lime Georgia.

RFEFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Designated areas to be placed between the Columbus State University campuses. *(Request of Councilor Crabb)*
- Information from the Planning Department on other cities that have had scooters and banned them in their communities. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*

- D. Government Center Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to give an update on the Government Center.

- E. Monthly Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director. *Delayed.*

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA:

ENCLOSURES, ACTION REQUESTED:

1. **RESOLUTION:** Cancelling the August 6, 2019 Proclamation Session.

Resolution (198-19): A resolution cancelling the August 6, 2019 monthly Proclamation Session of the Council of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

- 2. **Minutes of the following boards:**
Airport Commission, February 27, 2019.
Airport Commission, March 12, 2019.
Airport Commission, April 23, 2019.
Board of Tax Assessors, #20-19, #21-19 and #22-19.
Columbus Golf Authority Called Meeting, May 6, 2019.
Columbus Golf Authority, May 28, 2019.
Columbus Golf Authority, June 10, 2019.
Convention & Visitors, Board of Commissioners, May 15, 2019.
Hospital Authority, May 28, 2019.
Housing Authority, May 15, 2019.
Planning Advisory Commission, May 1, 2019.
Uptown Facade Board, May 20, 2019.

Councilor Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS- ACTION REQUESTED:

Due to lack of quorum, the board appointments were deferred until the next regular business meeting.

3. **MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. **PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES’ BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

A nominee for the seat of Charles Staples (*does not desire reappointment*) on the Pension Fund, Employees’ Board of Trustees as a Business Community Representative for a term that expires on June 30, 2019 (*Mayor’s Appointment*). There were none.

B. **YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the seat of the Mayor’s Appointment on the Youth Advisory Council. Mayor Henderson nominated Kayla Green.

4. **COUNCIL’S DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENT- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. **YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the District 1 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Barnes nominated Kayla Hamilton.

A nominee for the District 2 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 3 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 4 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 5 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb nomination Anna Fugh.

A nominee for the District 6 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 7 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Woodson nominated McCayla C. Henderson.

A nominee for the District 8 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 9 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Thomas nominated Aiden Townsend.

A nominee for the District 10 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor House nomination Spencer Robinson.

5. **COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:**

A. **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Will Barnes (*eligible to succeed; interested in serving another term*) on the Downtown Development Authority for a term that expires on August 15, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Stephen Butler (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Downtown Development Authority for a term that expires on August 15, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Kriss Cloninger (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Downtown Development Authority for a term that expires on August 15, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Billy Blanchard (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Downtown Development Authority for a term that expires on August 15, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Allen Taber (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Downtown Development Authority for a term that expires on August 15, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

B. **KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Becky Butts (*resigned*) on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission for a term that expires on June 30, 2022 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none. The Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission is recommending the nomination of Dr. Kar'retta Venable for this seat.

C. **LAND BANK AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Ken Henson, Jr. (*resigned*) on the Land Bank Authority for a term that expires on October 31, 2022 (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb would nominate Deidre Tilley.

D. **TREE BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Candice L. Wayman (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board for a term that expired on July 1, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

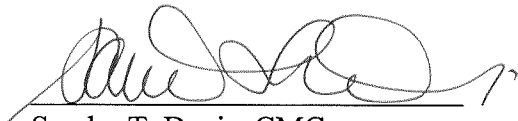
PUBLIC AGENDA (continued):

- Ms. Theresa K. El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, continued her appearance on the public agenda.

Dismissal of Muscogee County Jail Federal Oversight

City Attorney Fay stated for the record, in 1999 the Department of Justice initiated federal oversight of the Muscogee County Jail due to various issues that have been addressed over the past 20 years. Judge Land has issued an Order of Dismissal and the judicial oversight has been completed.

With there being no further business to discuss and due to lack of quorum, Mayor Henderson declared the July 9, 2019 Council Meeting adjourned with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilors Allen, Crabb, Garrett and Woodson being absent at the time of adjournment and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting with the time being 1:23 p.m.



Sandra T. Davis, CMC
Clerk of Council
Council of Columbus, Georgia