

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

September 24, 2019
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S A G E N D A

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner Pugh and Councilors R. Gary Allen, Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Charmaine Crabb (arrived at 6:12 p.m.), Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson (arrived at 5:34 p.m.). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem Tameka Colbert.

<p><u>The following documents were distributed around the Council table:</u> (1) Pricing Results Presentation – Series 2019 Bonds (2) Transportation Update (3) Government Center/SPLOST Update (4) Columbus Consolidated Government 2020 Proposed Legislative Agenda</p>

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Presiding.

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. David Stallion- Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Girl Scout Troup 50264.

1. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for the September 10, 2019 Council Meeting and August 27, 2019 Executive Session. Councilor Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.
2. **Resolution (313-19)** - A resolution accepting and expending private donations to support Coming to Columbus "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" Event. Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh moved approval, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

Approval is requested to receive and expend private donations for approximately \$23,000 to support the Coming to Columbus "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" event. The event will highlight topics such as education, human services, economic development and areas of the good, the bad and the ugly in our City.

U.S. CENSUS PRESS RELEASE:

Mayor Henderson advised the citizens of Columbus that there was a press release concerning the 2019 Census Test. He advised that census workers would be walking through our communities in order to obtain an accurate account of the individuals living in Muscogee County. He said they have started walking through neighborhoods and they will do that through October 18, 2019. He said these workers should be carrying a badge along with a brief case obtaining information regarding the census. He said any citizen should be able to request credentials.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Would like to set up a meeting with Pastor Stallion in regards to hosting a meeting at Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church to inform the public of the proposed change of the garbage pickup day from Friday to Tuesday. *(Request of Councilor Huff)*

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA:**ORDINANCES:**

(1) 2nd Reading – Ordinance (19-046) - REZN-08-19-6197: An Ordinance amending Chapter 3 of the Unified Development Ordinance to revise Section 3.2.72.O pertaining to the regulation of small wireless facilities in the right of way and for other purposes. Councilor Allen moved to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

(2) 1st Reading - REZN-07-19-6145: An Ordinance rezoning property located at 2932, 2938 and 2944 Macon Road. The current zoning is RO (Residential Office). The proposed zoning is NC (Neighborhood Commercial). The proposed use is Commercial, Fast Food Restaurant. The Planning Advisory Commission and the Planning Department recommend approval. The applicant is Steven Faulkner.

Mr. Eric Hamner, 2890 Rice Mine Road NE Tuscaloosa, Alabama came forward on behalf of the applicant Steven Faulkner to speak on the proposed rezoning. He advised that the location would be the site for a Taco Bell.

RESOLUTIONS:

(3) Resolution - EXCP-01-19-0046: A resolution authorizing a special exception to allow operation of a Health & Wellness Facility at 710 Front Avenue. The property is located within the HIST (Historic) zoning district and requires a special exception. The Planning Advisory Commission and the Planning Department recommend **approval**. The applicant is Joann Cogle.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Barnes made a request to abstain from voting on the special exception. Councilor Allen made a motion for Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Barnes to abstain from voting on the special exception, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

Joann Cogle, applicant, 732 2nd Avenue, came forward to make comments regarding the special exception.

Jim Livingston, property owner of 710 Front Avenue came forward and advised that there have not been any concerns regarding parking at this location.

Councilor Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson which resulted in an inconclusive vote of five to two with Councilors Allen, Davis, Garrett, Huff and Woodson voting yes and Councilors House and Thomas voting no, with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Barnes abstaining from the vote and Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote. *(See below for final action)*

(4) Resolution (314-19) - EXCP-07-19-6001: A resolution authorizing a special exception to allow operation of a Health & Wellness Facility at 627 2nd Avenue. The property is located within the HIST (Historic) zoning district and requires a special exception. The Planning Advisory Commission and the Planning Department recommend **approval**. The applicant is Christopher Wilkes. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

Christopher Wilkes- applicant, 627 2nd Avenue came forward to make comments regarding the special exception.

(At the request of City Attorney Fay Item # 6 was called up as the next order of business.)

(6) Resolution (315-19)- A Resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, ratifying a bond resolution adopted by the Columbus Building Authority authorizing the issuance of its Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019 Bonds; and for other purposes. Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Council Crabb being absent for the vote.

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to introduce Mr. Doug Gephardt from Davenport & Company and Mr. John Pannell, Bond Counsel.

Doug Gephardt, Davenport & Company came forward with a presentation to provide the Mayor and Council with additional information regarding the resolution. He said over the life of the loan we will be saving 13.4 million dollars in avoided interest cost.

(5) Resolution (316-19)- A Resolution of the Council giving preliminary authorization to pursue the issuance of Columbus, Georgia, Water and Sewerage Taxable Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$52,000,000, in accordance with the request of the Columbus, Georgia Board of Water Commissioners. Councilor Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Council Crabb being absent for the vote.

Mr. Steve Davis came forward to introduce Alex Hinton the new Senior Vice President of Finance and Accounting for the Columbus Water Works.

PUBLIC AGENDA:

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

1. Ms. Loretta Wright, Re: 1. REZN-06-19-5904k- 2713 Norris Rd-Genti; 2.House Bill 346; 3.Hotels/motels; 4. Quality of Life and 5. Do the Mayor and members of council physically travel through all of Columbus to learn first-hand of social living and working conditions. **(Did not appear)**
2. Ms. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: An appeal to receive documentation that accurately reflects the contents of a police report filed by a Columbus Police Department law enforcement officer's account of events that involved her.
3. Mr. Jackson Turner, Re: Police pay. **(Did not appear)**
4. Mr. Jeff Johnston, Re: A request for Uber and Lyft drivers to apply for city permits to operate as independent contractors in Muscogee County just as the State Taxi Industry. **(Did not appear)**

NOTE: Councilor Charmaine Crabb arrived at the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA:

(At the request of Councilor Woodson, Item #3 on the City Attorney's Agenda was reconsidered due to the first vote being inconclusive.)

(3) Resolution (317-19) - EXCP-01-19-0046: A resolution authorizing a special exception to allow operation of a Health & Wellness Facility at 710 Front Avenue. The property is located within the HIST (Historic) zoning district and requires a special exception. The Planning Advisory Commission and the Planning Department recommend **approval**. The applicant is Joann Cogle.

Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Allen and carried by a vote of six to two with Councilors Allen, Crabb, Davis, Garrett, Huff and Woodson voting yes and Councilors House and Thomas voting no and Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilor Barnes abstaining from the vote.

NOTE: Councilor Charmaine Crabb left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

PUBLIC AGENDA (Continued):

5. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Economic development, poverty, crime: What's the connection?

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA:

1. GEMA/HS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL K9 PROGRAM GRANT

Resolution (318-19) - A resolution authorizing the Sheriff's Office to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security in the amount of \$6,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, for operating expenses of the explosive ordnance disposal K9 program, and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount of the award. Councilor Huff moved approval, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

Approval is requested for the Sheriff's Office to submit an application and, if awarded, accept a grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security for \$6,000, or as otherwise awarded, for operation of the canine explosive ordnance disposal program, and to amend the Multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. Funds have been provided to the State of Georgia from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies.

2. PURCHASES:

A. Annual Maintenance Renewal for Cisco Switches

Resolution (319-19) - A resolution authorizing the payment to Cpak Technology Solutions (LaGrange, GA) in the amount of \$50,212.90, for the annual maintenance renewal for Cisco Switches, covering the period from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020, via Georgia Statewide Contract # 99999-SPD-T20120501-0006. Councilor Huff moved approval, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

B. Eight (8) Chevrolet Tahoe Pursuit Vehicles – Georgia Statewide Contract

Resolution (320-19) - A resolution authorizing the purchase of four (4) 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe pursuit vehicles for the Columbus Police Department at a unit price of \$33,554.00, for a total price of \$134,216.00; and four (4) 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe pursuit vehicles for the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office [one (1) at a unit price of \$33,619.00, and three (3) at a unit price of \$33,094.00 for a total price of \$132,901.00]; from Hardy Chevrolet (Dallas, GA) for a grand total price of \$267,117.00, via Georgia State Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199409-0002. Councilor Huff moved approval, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

C. GMA Lease for Eight (8) Chevrolet Tahoe Pursuit Vehicles

Resolution (321-19) - A resolution to authorize and direct the City Manager to execute one or more lease supplements for a lease or leases under the GMA Direct Leasing Program; to designate such leases as qualified tax-exempt obligations; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes. Councilor Huff moved approval, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

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

1) Transportation Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward with a presentation to update the Mayor and Council on the current transportation projects to include funding, active construction and other projects under development or design.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Put a video on the website to educate the public on how to maneuver at a roundabout. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*

2) Government Center/SPLOST Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to provide an update on the Government Center / SPLOST to include potential SPLOST Projects and timeline for 2020 SPLOST General Election.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Make sure that everyone understands that this is not an approved list of projects when the list is put out to the public. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*
- If the list is going to be displayed during the meetings, can we put the word “suggestions” as a header on the list, so people will know that those items listed are only suggestions? *(Request of Councilor Woodson)*

Information Material:

Legislative Agenda Items 2020 – Draft

BID ADVERTISEMENTS:

September 25, 2019

Comprehensive Generator Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0010

Scope of Bid

It is the intent of the Columbus Consolidated Government to establish an annual contract with a qualified licensed contractor to provide, maintain and/or repair generators at various locations.

The contract term will be for three (3) years with the option to renew for two (2) additional twelve-month periods.

September 27, 2019

Design/Build Services for Lindsay Drive Slope Failure Repair – RFP No. 20-0003

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government is seeking proposals from a design / build team to evaluate, design, and repair a slope failure located between 8th Street and Lindsay Drive at Terminal Court

in Columbus, GA. Slope movement and continual erosion along this unstable slope has reached a point that the support of 8th Street is becoming compromised.

Inmate Food Service Management for Muscogee County Prison (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0005

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government invites qualified firms to submit proposals for food service management for inmates at the Muscogee County Prison. Inmate Food Service Management includes, but is not limited to, the furnishing of all required labor, food, beverages, materials, supplies, and chemicals necessary to provide food services for the inmates and staff at the Prison.

The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

October 2, 2019

Transmissions & Transmission Services for Public Works (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0011

Scope of Bid

Provide repair/rebuild services for various types of transmissions for Public Works Department - on an “as needed” basis.

The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

October 9, 2019

Tree Removal & Stump Grinding/Removal Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0012

Scope of Bid

Provide Columbus Consolidated Government with professional services on an “as needed” basis for the following options:

Option 1) Remove trees (and all related debris) throughout the City on an “as needed” basis.

Option 2) Provide stump grinding/removal services throughout the City on an “as needed” basis.

Vendors may bid on either or both options. The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

Inmate Work Vans (Commercial Cutaway) – RFB No. 20-0014

Scope of Bid

Provide ten (10) inmate work vans (commercial cutaway) to be used by the Parks and Recreation Department staff to transport inmates and pull equipment trailers for lawn mowers and equipment.

October 11, 2019

Medical Evaluation Services for Columbus Fire & EMS Department (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0006

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government invites qualified firms to submit proposals for medical evaluation services for employees of the Fire & EMS Department on an “as needed” basis.

The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex – RFQ No. 20-0002

Scope of RFQ

Columbus Consolidated Government (“Owner”) is soliciting statements of qualifications from firms interested in providing construction manager as general contractor services for Columbus Government Center Complex.

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) seeks to identify the most qualified potential providers of the above-mentioned services. Some firms which respond to this RFQ, and who are determined by the Owner to be especially qualified, may be deemed eligible and may be invited to offer proposals for these services.

October 16, 2019

Full-Size Crew Cab 4WD Pickup Truck – RFB No. 20-0015

Scope of Bid

Provide one (1) full-size crew cab 4WD pickup truck to be used by Engineering Department inspectors for various site inspections.

Full-Size Crew Cab 2WD Pickup Truck – RFB No. 20-0016

Scope of Bid

Provide one (1) full-size crew cab 2WD pickup truck to be used by Traffic Shop staff to transport and put out traffic counters, as also as a backup vehicle for the Sign Truck.

Mini-Hydraulic Excavator – RFB No. 20-0017

Scope of Bid

Provide one (1) mini-hydraulic excavator to be used by Rainwater Division staff to grade storm water ditches throughout Muscogee County.

Utility Vehicle 4WD – RFB No. 20-0018

Scope of Bid

Provide one (1) utility vehicle 4WD to be used by Landfill staff traveling throughout all closed and open landfills operated by Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) while evaluating landfills for repairs and compliance work.

CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA:

ENCLOSURES, ACTION REQUESTED:

1. **RESOLUTION:** A resolution excusing Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner Pugh from the September 24, 2019 Council Meeting. *(Withdrawn)*
2. **RESOLUTION:** A resolution excusing Councilor R. Gary Allen from the September 24, 2019 Council Meeting. *(Withdrawn)*
3. **RESOLUTION:** A resolution excusing Councilor Charmaine Crabb from the September 24, 2019 Council Meeting. *(Withdrawn)*
4. **FINANCE REPORT RESOLUTION:** A resolution receiving the report of the Director of Finance concerning certain alcoholic beverage licenses for the month of August 2019 and approving the same.

Resolution (322-19) - A resolution receiving the report of the Director of Finance concerning certain alcoholic beverage licenses and approving the same. Councilor Allen moved approval, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

5. **HONORARY DESIGNATION APPLICATION:** An application submitted by Friendship Baptist Church for an honorary designation for Reverend Dr. Emmett S. Aniton, Jr. to be located at Sixth Avenue and Eighth Street and Sixth Avenue and 9th Street. *(The request is to forward to Board of Honor.)*

Councilor Woodson made a motion to receive and forward the request, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

6. **NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH- MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD:** Copy of an Official Appointment Form submitting David Ranieri to serve another term of office.

Councilor Woodson made a motion to confirm Mr. David Ranieri to serve another term of office on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

7. **REGION SIX REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:** Letter of Resignation from Mr. Edward Barnwell.

Councilor Woodson made a motion to receive the resignation with regrets, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

8. **Minutes of the following boards:**

Board of Tax Assessors, #33-19.

Board of Water Commissioners, August 12, 2019.

Columbus Aquatics Commission, May 30, 2019 and July 19, 2019.

Columbus Civic Center & Ice Rink Advisory Board, July 18, 2019.

Community Development Advisory Council, March 20, 2019 and June 13, 2019.

Convention & Visitors Bureau, Board of Trustees, August 21, 2019.

Councilor Allen made a motion to receive the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS- ACTION REQUESTED:

9. **COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS TO BE CONFIRMED:**

A. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Byron Hickey nominated to serve another term of office as the District 1 representative- New Term Expires: October 31, 2022 *(Councilor Barnes' nominee)*. Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

10. **COUNCIL'S DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Rev. Willie Phillips (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Public Safety Advisory Commission for a term that expires on October 31, 2019 (*Councilor Woodson nomination*). There were none.

B. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for District 3 on the Youth Advisory Council. There were none.

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

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

Jayne Dunn nominated to fill the seat of Timothy Butts (*does not desire reappointment*) on the Animal Control Advisory Board for a term that expires on October 15, 2019 (*Councilor Garrett's nomination*).

Lindsay Ellis to fill the seat of Becky Carter (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Animal Control Advisory Board for a term that expires on October 15, 2019 (*Councilor Garrett's nomination*).

B. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

A nominee for the vacant seat of an alternate member on the Personnel Review Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2022 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

C. TREE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Candice L. Wayman (*eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board for a term that expires on July 1, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

HONORARY DESIGNATION REQUEST:

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh made a motion to submit a request to the Board of Honor to name the City Services Center after the late Councilor Charles. E. "Red" McDaniel, Jr. seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

PUBLIC AGENDA – Additional three minutes:

Ms. Audrey Holston Palmore, Re: An appeal to receive documentation that accurately reflects the contents of a police report filed by a Columbus Police Department law enforcement officer's account of events that involved her.

Ms. Loretta Wright, Re: 1. REZN-06-19-5904k- 2713 Norris Rd-Genti; 2.House Bill 346; 3.Hotels/motels; 4. Quality of Life and 5. Do the Mayor and members of council physically travel through all of Columbus to learn first-hand of social living and working conditions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

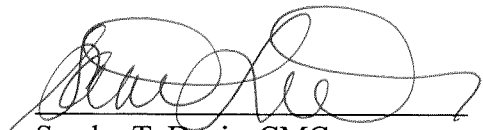
At the request of City Attorney Fay, Councilor Allen made a motion to go into executive session to discuss real estate and litigation matters, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Crabb and Davis being absent for the vote with the time being 7:05 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:43 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss real estate and litigation matters; however, there were no votes taken.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ADD-ON RESOLUTION:

Resolution (323-19): A resolution authorizing the payment of \$15,000.00 to settle all damage claims of Nealie Wright stemming from the incident which occurred on March 9, 2016.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Woodson to adjourn the September 24, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by those eight members present with Councilors Barnes and Crabb having left the meeting with the time being 7:44 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra T. Davis', written over a horizontal line.

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