

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Council Chambers
C. E. “Red” McDaniel City Services Center- Second Floor
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

February 22, 2022
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

M A Y O R ’ S A G E N D A

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III, and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen (arrived at 5:31 p.m.) and Councilors Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 6:24 p.m.), R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Bruce Huff (arrived at 5:34 p.m.), Judy W. Thomas, Toyia Tucker and Evelyn “Mimi” Woodson (via Microsoft Teams). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem Tameka Colbert were present.

ABSENT: Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes was absent.

The following documents were distributed to the members of Council: (1) Pricing Results Presentation – Series 2022 SPLOST Bonds; (2) Monthly Financial Snapshot (Unaudited) FY2022-January 2022; (3) Critical Vacancies Update Presentation

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Rabbi Shmuel Polin at Temple Israel of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Henderson

UPDATE:

2. An update on COVID-19

Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson gave an update on COVID-19 and its impact on our community. He stated the numbers continue to trend downward, with two hundred cases per one thousand. He thanked the citizens of this community for taking precautions and being careful as we continue to work our way through this.

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the February 8, 2022, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance (22-009) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-11-21-2151: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a

district located at **1104 Leslie Drive / 3276 Victory Drive** (parcel # 044-001-007 / 044-001-010 / 045-001-002 / 045-001-017) from RMF1 (Residential Multifamily 1) & GC (General Commercial) Zoning Districts to PUD (Planned Use Development) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval. (Councilor Woodson) Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

2. **Ordinance (22-010) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-11-21-2155: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **7217 Warm Springs Road** (parcel # 109-001-008A) from GC (General Commercial) Zoning District to RMF2 (Residential Multifamily 2) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (as amended on 1st Reading with condition) (Mayor Pro Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.
3. **Ordinance (22-011) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-12-21-2347: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2807 Bradley Circle** (parcel # 007-006-015) from RMF2 (Residential Multifamily 2) Zoning District to SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Woodson) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.
4. **Ordinance (22-012) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-12-21-2348: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **5339 Thomason Avenue** (parcel # 188-017-007) from SFR2 (Single Family Residential 2) Zoning District to NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District with conditions. Planning Department recommends conditional approval. PAC recommends approval) (Councilor Garrett) Councilor Garrett made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.
5. **Ordinance (22-013) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance enacting a districting plan for Columbus, Georgia's Council seats; and for other purposes. (As amended 2-8-22) (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

City Attorney Clifton Fay announced the old councilor districts will stay in effect for the election in May 2022, and the next election cycle will be based on the new redistricting maps.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

- Ask the Director of Elections and Registration to provide a presentation to the public, informing the citizens of how these changes outlined in the redistricting plan will take effect and how it will work going forward. (*Request of Councilor Thomas*)

MAYOR’S AGENDA (continued):**PRESENTATION (ADD-ON):**

3. 2022 - 2024 PlanFirst Community Designation Certificates for the City of Columbus. (Presented by Ebony N. Simpson- Planning Outreach & Training Coordinator from Georgia Department of Community Affairs)

Ms. Ebony N. Simpson approached the rostrum to present the City of Columbus with the PlanFirst Community Designation award and certificate for successfully implementing the Comprehensive Plan since 2016. She thanked the Columbus Consolidated Government for their partnership and participation in the PlanFirst Program.

Planning Director Rick Jones came forward with Mayor Henderson to receive the award. He stated this award is one of the accomplishments the City of Columbus has worked towards and will cherish.

RESOLUTIONS

9. **Resolution (046-22):** A Bond Resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia to regulate and provide for the issuance of [\$150,000,000] in aggregate principal amount of Columbus, Georgia, General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds Series 2022 (the “bonds”), to provide money for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and equipping judicial facilities in Columbus, Georgia (“Columbus”) and to pay costs associated with issuance of the bonds, as authorized by a vote of the qualified voters of Columbus in an election held on November 2, 2021, pursuant to and in conformity with the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Georgia; to regulate and provide for the form of the bonds; to provide for the assessment and collection of a direct annual tax sufficient in amount to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to introduce the speaker from Davenport & Company and explained they had closed on the Columbus Building Authority bonds for approximately \$50 million in bonds, and within an hour they were able to sell the SPLOST Bonds.

Senior Vice President Courtney Rogers (Davenport & Company) came forward to provide a presentation on the pricing results of the Series 2022 SPLOST Bonds. He explained the financial position of the City of Columbus has steadily increased over the past five years, with positive operating revenues.

6. **1st Reading- REZN-08-21-1522:** An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6500 / 6516 Lynch Road** (parcel # 129-001-001 / 129-001-002) from SFR2 (Single Family Residential 2) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning recommends conditional approval and PAC recommends approval.) (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to amend the ordinance to add the following conditions: (1) No large commercial trailers or large commercial vehicles as defined in Columbus Code Section 20-1 will be parked or stored at this location; (2) No establishment which holds an on-premises alcohol license as a bar/pub, night club, or adult oriented establishment as such terms are defined in Columbus Code Section 3-1 nor any retail store which holds an off-premises liquor license shall be allowed to operate at this location, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

President and Operating Manager Harlan Price (Architectural Innovations Design Group, LLC) approached the rostrum to respond to questions from the members of Council. He explained the proposed use is for a convenience store, restaurant, and an additional undefined retail space.

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen explained there was a community meeting held with a good turnout of the residents from the area. He stated it was agreed that the residents want to see this property on Lynch Road to be a family friendly environment and with that in mind, him and Councilor House proposed conditions #6 and #7 as listed.

7. **1st Reading-** REZN-10-21-1929: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **877 Farr Road** (parcel # 089-011-004) from RMF2 (Residential Multifamily 2) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District. Planning Department and PAC recommend approval. (Continued on 1st Reading from 12-07-22) (Councilor Huff)

Councilor Bruce Huff stated there was a meeting held on February 4, 2022, regarding the proposed rezoning with the applicant, residents of the area, and himself. He explained there were discussions held where the residents expressed their concerns with higher crime being in general commercial areas, so they are requesting that this area remain residential multi-family and not change to general commercial. He explained to the residents present that this ordinance will be brought back before Council on 2nd Reading for a vote in two weeks, and at this point, he is urging his fellow councilors to vote against the proposed rezoning.

Mr. Tim Deese (Applicant) came forward to address the members of Council. He explained he has owned the property for more than forty years and has met with residents on more than four occasions to discuss their concerns and to gain an understanding of what the residents would like to see for this property. He explained his intent for this four-acre property is to sell it to a buyer for medical intended purposes only, and not for the use of businesses like the ones established at the end of Buena Vista Road or Farr Road.

Ms. Linda Parker (Resident) came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed rezoning. She explained the residents of the Farr Road area are against this property being used for anything other than residential. She stated their concerns arise from the crime that has been experienced in the other areas of Farr Road that is zoned for commercial.

Ms. Olive Vidal-Kendall (Resident) came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed rezoning. She stated she is representing approximately twelve other property owners in the Farr Road area that are eighty-five years old or older and could not attend the meeting to express their concerns. She explained once Mr. Deese has sold the property, he will not be able to control what is put on the property by the new owner.

Ms. Mary J. Quiller (Resident) came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed rezoning. She stated she stands with the other residents of the Farr Road area in their wish to keep the property zoned as residential.

8. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code to revise Section 13-109 to prohibit maintaining a swimming pool in a manner that causes a health hazard or noxious odors; and for other purposes. (Councilor Barnes)

City Attorney Clifton Fay explained the 1st Reading of this ordinance would be delayed since Councilor Barnes has sponsored it and he was not present for the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS (continued)

- 10. Resolution (047-22):** A Resolution amending Resolution Nos. 204-21 and 205-21 to designate an additional temporary alternative location for all Superior, State, Municipal, and Magistrate Courts sitting in Muscogee County to hold proceedings at 2100 Comer Avenue and to extend all temporary location authorizations up to and until December 31, 2022. (Request of Judge McBride) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

12. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Magistrate Court Update - Judge Steven Smith, Magistrate Court Judge

(NOTE: This update was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Item 12 "A")

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to present the request being submitted by Magistrate Judge Steven Smith for additional funding in the amount of \$4,000 for the FY 2022 Budget to compensate the Part Time Associate Magistrate Judge. She explained this request comes before Council pursuant to Ordinance No. 13-39, which requires any department or elected official to come before the Council to request additional appropriations before exceeding their budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the request to add \$4,000 to the FY 2022 Budget for the Magistrate Court to compensate the Part Time Associate Magistrate Judge, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

Magistrate Judge Steven Smith approached the rostrum to thank the members of Council for approving the request.

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Ralph Dowe, representing Fraternal Order of Police, Re: Public Safety perspective of FOP membership (Columbus Police Department Employees).

FOP President Ralph Dowe approached the rostrum to make remarks regarding the crime in Columbus and the Columbus Police Department (CPD). He shared information obtained by the FOP through a survey asking various questions about crime, policy changes, shortage of officers, and their confidence in the leadership of Police Chief Freddie Blackmon. He stated the men and women of CPD wish to find a solution to the shortage of officers, address the lowest moral that has been experienced in decades, and to provide the citizens of Columbus the service they deserve.

Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson thanked the members of the (FOP) for being there and wanted to assure everyone that he has always met with the members of the FOP when asked. He expressed his disappointment in that the appropriate process to address the concerns of the FOP was not followed. He went on to offer his gratitude for what the men and women in public safety do for the public, which is heroic, but a lot of cities are experiencing some of the same challenges as the City of Columbus.

City Manager Isaiah Hugley expressed his disappointment in hearing the comments made by Mr. Dowe. He addressed Chief Blackmon directly, stating he supports him and the officers of the Columbus Police Department during this unprecedented time. He stated in his twenty-seven years with the Columbus Consolidated Government, he has never witnessed a Police Chief be disrespected as he had witness that evening. He then called forward a presentation in celebration of Black History Month, sharing moments and individuals within public safety for the City of Columbus.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. FY23 Holiday Schedule

Resolution (048-22): A resolution whereas, all holidays are established with the exception of the floating holiday; and, whereas, the floating holiday is hereby recommended for Friday, December 23, 2022. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

2. 2021 State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs CDBG-CV Award (Feeding the Valley) – Project Specific Language Access Plan Adoption

Resolution (049-22): A resolution recognizing the Columbus Consolidated Government will adopt and comply with the project specific language access plan for the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs for Fiscal Year 2021, Community Development Block Grant – CV Program Funds. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

3. Donation Request for the 2022 Columbus Civic Center Unity Week

Resolution (050-22): A resolution to accept both financial and equipment donations from local business and organizations to be used for the 2022 Columbus Civic Center Unity Week & Juneteenth Jubilee. The first annual Unity Week & Juneteenth Jubilee will be the week of June 13th-18th. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Huff being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

4. Juvenile Drug Court Accountability Court State Grant Request

Resolution (051-22): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for a grant to fund the Muscogee County Juvenile Drug Court in an amount up to \$100,000.00 and if awarded, amended the multi-governmental fund by the amount of the grant award. There is a 12% local match requirement, and the grant period is from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

5. Family Drug Court Accountability Court State Grant Request

Resolution (052-22): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for a grant to fund the Muscogee County Family Drug Court in an amount up to \$50,000.00 and if awarded, amended the multi-governmental fund by the amount

of the grant award. There is a 12% local match requirement, and the grant period is from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

6. Adult Drug Felony Court Grant

Resolution (053-22): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit and if approved, accept a grant of \$298,441.52 or as otherwise awarded from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to fund the Muscogee County Adult Felony Drug Court from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 with a 12% cash local match requirement and also authorizing Dr. Andrew Cox as the sole provider for evaluation and clinical services for the program for fiscal year 2022/2023 and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the award amount. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

7. Bleacher Donation from Brookstone School

Resolution (054-22): A resolution authorizing the City to approve and accept the donation of five (5) metal bleachers from Brookstone School. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

8. Georgia Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS)

Resolution (055-22): A resolution authorizing to submit an application and, if approved, accept up to \$6,308.00 in funds from Maximus, Inc. for Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) Program of Bright from the Start Program, which will be a part of our afterschool program throughout the year, and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount of the award, and enter into contract with Maximus, Inc. for the management and delivery of funds issued from the Department of Early Care and Learning for the program for fiscal year 2022/2023. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

9. Street Acceptance – Logan Way and Liam Drive, Replat of Parcel “A” and Parcel “C” Part of Land Lot 83, 8th District

Resolution (056-22): A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the acceptance of a deed to Logan Way and Liam Drive, Replat of Parcel “A” and Parcel “C” Part of Lan Lot 83, 8th District on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

10. Veterans Treatment Court Grant

Resolution (057-22): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit and if approved, accept a grant of \$132,769.78 or ad otherwise awarded from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to fund the Muscogee County Veterans Treatment Court from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 with a 12% cash local match requirement and also authorizing Dr. Andrew Cox as the sole provider for evaluation and clinical services for the program for fiscal year 2022/2023 and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the award amount. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

11. PURCHASES

- A. Amendment 3 for Space Planning and Programming & Design Professional Services for Columbus Government Center Project – RFQ No. 20-0001

Resolution (058-22): A resolution authorizing the executive of Amendment 3 with the S/L/A/M Collaborative, Inc. (formerly CBRE/Heery, Inc.) in the amount of \$10,317,138.00 for professional design services for the City’s new courthouse. This project is Phase II of the New Government Center Project. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

- B. Amendment 1 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex – RFQ No. 20-0002

Resolution (059-22): A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 1 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$978,000.00 for Construction Manager as General Contractor (CM/GC) for pre-construction services related to the design development of the new courthouse. This project is Phase II of the New Government Center Project. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

- C. Amendment 2 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex – RFQ No. 20-0002

Resolution (060-22): A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 2 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$4,211,609.63 for an early equipment package for the former Synovus Bank Main Office Building and parking structure located on Broadway, which will serve as the new Government Center. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

- D. Fencing Materials (Re-Bid) (Annual Contract) RFB No. 22-0024

Resolution (061-22): A resolution authorizing the purchase of fencing material from Georgia Fence Wholesale, Inc. (Columbus, GA) for the estimated annual contract value of \$180,093.94. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

- E. Amendment 1 For Consolidated Plan, Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan, Annual Action Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice – RFP No. 21-0019

Resolution (062-22): A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 1 with Mosaic Community Planning, LLC (Atlanta, GA) in the approximate amount of \$35,000.00 for the 2022 Annual Action Plan and the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) and substantially amending prior year HUD Action Plans for the Community Reinvestment Department. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

F. Data Switches and Access Points for the Synovus Building and Comer Avenue Building – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (063-22): A resolution authorizing purchase of data switches and access points from CPAK (LaGrange, GA), in the amount of \$603,000.00 for the recently purchased Synovus Building, in the amount of \$26,670.00 for the temporary judicial space in the Comer Avenue Building, and in the amount of \$14,610.00 for the Sheriff's Office Training Division relocation to the Comer Avenue Building by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-T20120501-0006. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

G. Software License Renewal for EVOQ Content Software

Resolution (064-22): A resolution authorizing a three-year software license renewal agreement with DNN Corporation (Austin, TX), for the EVOQ content software in the amount of \$19,971.65 annually, for a total cost of \$59,914.95. The renewal agreement will ensure no increase in the license renewal for the next three years and will cover the term from 03/31/2022-03/30/2025. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

12. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Magistrate Court Update - Judge Steven Smith, Magistrate Court Judge

(NOTE: This update, as provided by Finance Director Angelica Alexander, was called upon earlier in the meeting after the City Attorney's Agenda.)

B. Solicitor General - Victim Witness Update - Suzanne Goddard, Solicitor General

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to present the request being submitted by Solicitor General Suzanne Goddard for additional funding in the amount of \$128,000 for the FY 2022 Budget for services provided to victims within State Court. She explained this request comes before Council pursuant to Ordinance No. 13-39, which requires any department or elected official to come before the Council to request additional appropriations before exceeding their budget.

Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the request to add \$128,000 to the FY 2022 Budget for the Solicitor General's Office for services provided to victims within State Court, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

C. Finance Monthly Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to provide the monthly financial update for January 2022.

D. Add-On: Columbus Consolidated Government Vacancies Update - Reather Hollowell, Human Resources Director

Human Resources Director Rather Hollowell approached the rostrum to provide an update on the vacancies in personnel for the Columbus Consolidated Government (CCG). She stated the country

experienced what has been referred to as “The Great Resignation” in 2021, where over 47.4 million U.S. citizens voluntarily quit their jobs. She explained the reasons given were higher pay, lack of adequate childcare, health concerns regarding Covid, burnout, better work opportunities, self-employment, and other various reasons. She provided the number of vacancies throughout the public safety and general government departments.

City Manager Isaiah Hugley responded to comments from Councilor Davis, explaining the pay is a big issue when it comes to recruiting. He stated that is why the compensation study that has just started is so important to help address some of the issues in filling the vacancies.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR:

- See about contracting out some of the specialized positions, such as the engineering positions.
(Request of Councilor Crabb)

BID ADVERTISEMENT

February 23, 2022

1. **Double Churches Pool Resurfacing – RFB No. 22-0028**
Scope of Bid
Provide all labor, equipment and materials to resurface the pool at Double Churches Park. Time is of the essence; the work must be completed by April 26, 2022.
2. **Side Loader 31-Yard Refuse Trucks – RFB No. 22-0027**
Scope of Bid
Provide a minimum of thirty (30), but not to exceed forty (40), side loader 31-yard refuse trucks with RFID Tag readers installed on the trucks.

March 2, 2022

1. **Stretcher Preventative Maintenance for Fire & EMS Dept (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0029**
Scope of RFB
Upon notification by Columbus Fire and EMS, the successful vendor shall provide preventive maintenance service on an annual basis for the department stretchers, stair chairs and cot fastening systems, to include future implementation of the Stryker powerload system. Costs for labor for repairs outside of preventive maintenance shall include price listing of replacement parts related to the stretchers, stair chairs and cot fastening systems, both manual and powerload.

The term of contract shall be for two (2) years, with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.
2. **Fiber Contractor Services (Re-Bid) (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0030**
Scope of RFB
Provide outdoor fiber runs, both overhead and underground, or a combination, to various locations of the Columbus Consolidated Government on an “as needed” basis.

The contract term shall be for five (5) years with the option to renew for five (5) additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

March 4, 2022

1. Supplemental EMS Coverage (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0022
Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government, on behalf of the Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, is requesting proposals for supplemental EMS coverage on a continual basis.

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

2. Management Services for Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0024
Scope of RFP

Consolidated Government seeks proposals from experienced governmental Management Entities (ME) to develop and oversee an evidence-based continuum of care within Muscogee County. This continuum of care will reduce recidivism by addressing the criminogenic needs of youth under the custody and/or supervision of the Court and by strengthening family supports. **The services shall commence on July 1, 2022.**

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

March 9, 2022

1. Removal, Recycling, Reuse or Disposal of Mattresses and Box Springs from Pine Grove Landfill (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0032
Scope of RFB

Provide services on an “as needed” basis for the removal, recycling, reuse or disposal of mattresses and box springs for the Columbus Consolidated Government Public Works Department.

The contract term shall be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

March 18, 2022

1. Lot Clearing and Solid Waste Removal (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0023
Scope of RFP

The Columbus Consolidated Government is seeking to contract with qualified vendors to perform Lot Clearing and Solid Waste Removal, on an “as needed” basis, for the collection of dumped bulky waste, the removal of solid and/or bulky waste on abandoned property as determined by the Inspections and Code Department, and for the purpose of collecting waste for court ordered evictions within Muscogee County.

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY

1. Letter from Chairperson, Audrey Boone Tillman, submitting the recommendations from the 2021 Charter Review Commission.

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

2. Travel Authorization Request for Councilor Bruce Huff to attend the 2022 ACCG's Annual Conference. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

Councilor Judy W. Thomas explained that Councilor Toyia Tucker has been travelling to conferences all over the State of Georgia and even recently attended a conference in Washington D.C. She stated she would like to adjust the travel budget to allow Councilor Tucker to attend the 2022 ACCG's Annual Conference.

Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis responded to a question asked by Councilor Crabb, stating her office handles the requests for travel received by the members of Council on a "first come first serve" basis and there is no amount allotted for each councilor. She also stated once the travel for Councilor Huff is expended, the travel budget for Council will be depleted for FY 2022.

Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson stated in the past, there was a specific amount allotted for each councilor and if you wanted to attend a conference and had already spent your allotment, you had to request the funds from another councilor.

City Manager Isaiah Hugley explained pursuant to Ordinance 13-39, each department is required to come before Council to request additional funds if they are expected to exceed their budget. He urged the members of Council to follow the same procedure as required by the other departments. He stated that he would take care of the registration fee, allowing the Council time to figure out how they wish to move forward.

Councilor Glenn Davis expressed his concerns regarding this request, stating he is sensitive to the subject matter; since, he was present in the past when the same issues arose. He agreed with the City Manager that the process should be followed just as required by the other departments.

Councilor Toyia Tucker explained she needed to attend this conference to maintain her certification as an elected official, which she was awarded in November 2021 after completing the required sixty-six hours of training. She added that she is the only certified elected official on Council.

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

Board of Tax Assessors, #03-22 and #04-22

Community Development Advisory Council, June 10, 2021

Convention & Visitors Bureau, Board of Commissioners, November 17, 2021

Development Authority of Columbus, January 13, 2022

Hospital Authority of Columbus, October 26, 2021

Planning Advisory Commission, December 15, 2021, and January 5, 2022

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barends being absent for the meeting.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION (065-22): A Resolution excusing the absence of Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes from the February 22, 2022, Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

4. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

A. COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & CULTURAL LIAISON ENCOUNTERS (CIRCLE):

A nominee for the seat of Akear Mewborn (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term expiring on March 1, 2022, on the Commission on International Relations & Cultural Liaison Encounters (*Mayor’s Appointment*). There were none.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the seat of Reverend Joseph Baker (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*Mayor’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Christy Lemieux (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*Mayor’s Appointment*). Mayor Henderson nominated Benjamin Link to succeed Christy Lemieux on the Community Development Advisory Council. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

C. CRIME PREVENTION BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Joseph M. LaBranche (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on March 31, 2022, as the Fort Benning Liaison on the Crime Prevention Board (*Mayor’s Appointment*). There were none.

5. COUNCIL’S APPOINTMENT- READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

A. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: Mr. Toney Johnson was nominated to succeed Cathy Williams as the **Historic Columbus Foundation** representative. (*Councilor Woodson’s nominee*) Term expires: January 31, 2025. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

6. COUNCIL DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:

A. CIVIC CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Spencer Cantrell (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term expiring on March 1, 2022, as the District 2 Representative on the Civic Center Advisory Board (*District 2 – Davis*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Roeaster Coles (*Not eligible to serve another term*) for a term expiring on March 1, 2022, as the District 3 Representative on the Civic Center Advisory Board (*District 3 – Huff*). There were none.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the seat of Tamika McKenzie (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, as the District 5 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 5 – Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of John Partin (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, as the District 6 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 6 – Mayor Pro Tem Allen*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Barbara Chambers (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, as the District 1 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 1 – Barnes*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Johnson Trawick (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on March 27, 2022, as the District 8 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 8 – Garrett*). There were none.

C. RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Lonnie Boyd (*Seat declared vacant*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2025, as the District 1 Representative on the Recreation Advisory Council (*District 1 – Barnes*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Latshia Stephens-Archibald (*Seat declared vacant*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2023, as the District 3 Representative on the Recreation Advisory Council (*District 3 – Huff*). There were none.

7. COUNCIL’S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Lindsay Ellis (*No longer a resident*) for a term expiring on October 15, 2023, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

B. COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & CULTURAL LIAISON ENCOUNTERS (CIRCLE):

A nominee for the seat of Harry Underwood (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expires on March 1, 2022, on the Commission on International Relations & Cultural Liaison Encounters (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Rose Spencer (*Not Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on March 1, 2021, on the Commission on International Relations & Cultural Liaison Encounters (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of SarahAnn Arcila (*Resigned*) for a term that expires on March 1, 2024, on the Commission on International Relations & Cultural Liaison Encounters (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

C. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for the seat of Russ Carreker (*Passed Away*) for a term that expires on April 30, 2024, on the Development Authority (*Council's Confirmation*). Councilor Davis nominated Charles Sheffield to fill the unexpired term of Russ Carreker on the Development Authority.

D. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Brian Luedtke (*Eligible to succeed*) as the Historic District Preservation Society Representative for a term that expires on January 31, 2022, on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of William Bray (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as the Columbus Homebuilders Association Representative for a term that expires on January 31, 2022, on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Davis nominated Jack Hayes to succeed William Bray as the Columbus Homebuilders Association representative on the Historic & Architectural Review Board.

E. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Darlene Small (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as Alternate Member 3 for a term that expires on December 31, 2021, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Shanita Pettaway (*Resigned*) as Alternate Member 5 for a term that expires on December 31, 2022, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

F. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Xavier McCaskey (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on March 31, 2022, on the Planning Advisory Commission (*Council's Appointment*). Clerk of Council Davis submitted Councilor Barnes' nomination of Dr. Xavier McCaskey to serve another term of office on the Planning Advisory Board.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- A. Animal Control Advisory Board
- B. Development Authority of Columbus
- C. Employee Benefits Committee
- D. Housing Authority of Columbus

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

1. Mr. Ralph Dowe, representing Fraternal Order of Police, Re: Public Safety perspective of FOP membership (Columbus Police Department Employees).
2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Planning Department, construction, potholes and 2022 homicides.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters of litigation and personnel as requested earlier in the meeting by City Attorney Fay. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting, and the time being 8:04 p.m.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:57 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss matters of litigation and personnel; however, there were no votes taken.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Thomas to adjourn the February 22, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilors Barnes being absent for the meeting, and the time being 8:58 p.m.



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