

**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

September 26, 2023  
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 and Councilors Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Tyson Begly, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**ABSENT:** Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis was absent from the meeting.

**The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet:** (1) Land Bank Authority/Community Reinvestment Presentation; (2) Integrated Waste Transition Presentation; (3) Sheriff’s Office Administration Building Presentation; (4) American Rescue Plan Update Presentation; (5) Budget Review Process- Suggested Changes Presentation

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) Information on the Tri-City Prayer Initiative; (2) Blackmon Road Sidewalk Petition

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mayor Henderson

**MINUTES**

1. Approval of minutes for the September 12, 2023, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for approval, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**PROCLAMATION:**

2. **Proclamation:** Inaugural Tri-City Prayer Walk Day  
**Receiving:** Carmen Evans, Tri-City Prayer Initiative

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** read the proclamation into the record, proclaiming Saturday, October 21, 2023, as *Inaugural Tri-City Prayer Walk Day*, recognizing the event being held by the Tri-City Prayer Initiative, whose mission is to pray over the Tri-City Area to remove negative influences devaluing life through violence, murder, and other destructive measures, and to pray over the citizens, their homes, and our schools.

3. **Proclamation:** American Legion Day

**Receiving:** Commander Vickie Dykes, Eddie L. Roberts, American Legion Post 333

**Councilor Tovia Tucker** read the proclamation into the record, proclaiming Friday, September 29, 2023, as *American Legion Day*, recognizing the Eddie L. Roberts - American Legion Post 333 dedication to veterans and their families in the community.

**CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA**

**ORDINANCES**

- 1. **Ordinance (23-050) - 2nd Reading-** An ordinance amending the Columbus, Georgia Pension Plan for General Government Employees, and the Columbus, Georgia Pension Plan for Employees of the Department of Public Safety, and the Columbus, Georgia Employees Deferred Retirement Option Plan (collectively, the “Plans”) to clarify that the Plans will not recognize Qualified Domestic Relations Orders. (Recommendation of Pension Board) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
  
- 2. **1st Reading-** REZN-06-23-0111: An ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **119 Bascom Court** (parcel # 073-027-003) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to General Commercial (GC) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (continued on 1st Reading from 9-12-23) (proposed amendment) (Councilor Davis) Councilor Davis made a motion to delay the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of this ordinance until the October 10, 2023 Council Meeting to allow the parties involved to continue discussions, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

1. **Chips4Chips Funding Support**

**Resolution (341-23):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, to authorize the development of a memorandum of understanding between the Columbus Consolidated Government and the Development Authority to support the Chips4Chips Initiative for up to \$1.25 million. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council. (*NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager’s Agenda Item 1*)

**United Way President & CEO Ben Moser** approached the rostrum to respond to questions from Council, stating the funding agreed upon would only be used for Muscogee County.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Ms. Juanita Taylor, Re: Requesting no garbage fee increases.
2. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., representing Omega Lamplighters, Re: Student/Parent/Educator Forum "Supporting our Students through School & Life". ***Did Not Speak***
3. Mr. Louis Thomas, Jr., Re: the Columbus Parks and Recreation Department. ***CANCELLED***
4. Ms. Sharon Bunn, Re: Trash pickup and cans.
5. Mr. David Eaton, Re: Open Record Request. ***CANCELLED***
6. Mr. Joseph McNeil, representing Blinded Veterans Association, Re: Transportation for persons with disabilities.
7. Mr. Ricardo Glenn, representing Blinded Veterans Association, Re: Transportation.
8. Ms. Elizabeth Holmes, representing Blinded Veterans Association, Re: Transportation.

**METRA Director Rosa Evans** approached the rostrum to provide information on the upcoming public meetings regarding the changes to the service area. She stated there will be two meetings with one being on October 3, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room in the Community Room at the City Services Center, and the other being on October 5, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Suite at the Civic Center.

9. Mr. Wane Hailes, representing the Columbus NAACP, Re: Accountability of Law enforcement regarding recent shootings. ***Not Present***
10. Ms. Jacqueline Moffett, Re: The Buena Vista Road Project and maintenance of round-a-bouts in South Columbus.

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to explain the round-a-bout on River Road was part of the Adopt-a-Spot Program and was adopted by the Gateway Foundation, which funded the enhancements of the round-a-bout. She stated round-a-bouts that are not part of the Adopt-a-Spot Program are under contract with third party vendors who are responsible for maintenance that is required to meet the standards as set in the RFP.

**Public Works Director Drale Short** approached the rostrum to explain the maintenance of round-a-bouts is part of the ground maintenance contract, which was originally held by one vendor. She stated there were issues that arose, and they now have multiple vendors to handle ground maintenance around the City.

11. Ms. Jennifer Le Denney, Blackmon Road Middle School Families, Re: Unsafe School Zone Conditions.
12. Mr. Kalel Le Denney, BRMS Classmates, Re: Lack of Sidewalks.

**Mayor B.H. "Skip" Henderson** stated while attending awards ceremonies at Blackmon Road Middle School, he always hears of the need for sidewalks from the school administration. He explained this is an issue at many of the schools since there are not enough bus drivers and the parents having to bring their children to and from school are parking where other children are walking, making it unsafe for the children walking to see oncoming traffic. He explained the need for a comprehensive plan to address the issue and suggested getting with the City Engineers to rate the needs of each school and start allocating resources.

**REFERRAL(S):****FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Begin the comprehensive plan suggested by Mayor Henderson to address the need for sidewalks around schools in Muscogee County. *(Request of Councilor Tucker)*
- Check on the need for sidewalks and signage on American Way around Northside High School. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*
- Check on the concerns expressed by citizens regarding the handicap accessibility of sidewalks near stop lights. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*
- Check on parents parking their vehicles on the sidewalks around schools making it impossible for children to access the sidewalk. *(Request of Councilor Huff)*

**CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA****1. Chips4Chips Funding Support**

Approval is requested to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Development Authority to support the Chips4Chips Initiative for up to \$1,250,000. *(NOTE: This item was called upon earlier in the meeting after the City Attorney's Agenda.)*

**2. Portion of Right-of-Way Abandonment for Frist Court**

**Resolution (342-23):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the changing of the official street map and tax map of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia by officially closing and abandoning an approximately 260 ft. segment of Frist Court; authorizing the disposal of the said right of ways in accordance with applicable State Law; reserving utility and access easements and for other purposes. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**3. Sidewalk and Maintenance Easement Acceptance –That portion of a 6 ft. Sidewalk/Multi-Use Trail and Maintenance Easement located on 6855 Midland Commons along the right-of-way for Midland Commons Blvd. as shown on Easement Survey created by GEOSurvey**

**Resolution (343-23):** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of a 6 ft. sidewalk/multi-use trail and maintenance easement at 6855 Midland Commons Blvd. right-of-way, on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**4. 8889 River Road Cell Tower Lease – Third Amendment to Lease**

**Resolution (344-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a lease amendment and renewal through July 25, 2025, with Verizon Wireless for the purpose of leasing space at 8889 River Road to operate and maintain an existing telecommunications tower. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

5. **Clean Communities Investment Partnership Application Funding Opportunity EPA-R-HQ-NCIF-23**

Approval is requested to provide a letter of support for the application from Clean Communities Investment Partnership, Inc. (CCIP) for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) funding through the National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF)

Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and opened up for discussion.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay**, in response to questions from Councilor Thomas, stated this was his first time seeing the letter of support but that the letter can be reworded to reflect goals and aspirations only.

**Councilor Judy W. Thomas** stated she is apprehensive to vote in favor of this resolution before the City Attorney has had to the opportunity to review the letter of support thoroughly to ensure the Council is not obligating the City of Columbus for many years to meet unknown obligations.

**Councilor Bruce Huff** explained the purpose of the support letter is to allow this entity to apply for grant funding and not to impose obligations on the City of Columbus. Later in the discussion, he withdrew his motion to approve the resolution.

Councilor Begly made a motion to approve the resolution with the understanding the support letter would be modified, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and resulted in an inconclusive vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Begly, Garrett and Huff voting in favor, and Councilors Cogle, Crabb, Davis and Thomas voting in opposition; Councilors Barnes and Tucker were absent for the vote. *(See Below the final vote on this agenda item.)*

6. **PURCHASES**

A. Agricultural Chemicals (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 24-0002

**Resolution (345-23):** A resolution authorizing an annual contract for the purchase of agricultural chemicals on an “as needed” basis for the following vendors:

VENDOR	ESTIMATED CONTRACT VALUE
CENTRAL TURF & IRRIGATION SUPPLY (COLUMBUS, GA)	\$102,695.29
HERITAGE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY GROUP, INC. (MCKINNEY, TX)	\$64,151.16
OPTERRA SOLUTIONS, INC. (LEXINGTON, SC)	\$35,350.50
ORION SOLUTIONS, INC. (ROCKY MOUNT, VA)	\$4,615.00
SOUTHERN STATES COOPERATIVE (CARTERSVILLE, GA)	\$184,929.10
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT VALUE</b>	<b>\$391,741.05</b>

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

B. Fire Sprinkler Service and Inspections (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 24-0003

**Resolution (346-23):** A resolution authorizing the annual contract for provision of fire sprinkler service & inspections with Acom Fire Solutions (Columbus, GA), for the estimated annual contract value of \$13,500.00. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

C. Contract Extension for Temporary Staffing for the Civic Center (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 17-0021

**Resolution (347-23):** A resolution authorizing the extension of the temporary staffing for the Civic Center contract with Global Personnel Services (Columbus, GA), and labor finders (Columbus, GA) for an additional six-month period. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

D. Forty-Three Vehicles for Columbus Police Department – HGACBUY Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (348-23):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of forty-three (43) vehicles from Rockdale Country Ford, LLC (Rockdale, TX):

Description	Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
2024 Ford Pursuit Interceptor Utility Vehicles	22	\$55,978.75	\$1,231,532.50
2024 Ford Pursuit Interceptor Utility Vehicles	8	\$55,978.75	\$447,830.00
2024 Ford Explorer Vehicles	6	\$40,740.00	\$244,440.00
2024 Ford Expedition XL 4x2	3	\$59,739.00	\$179,217.00
2024 Ford Expedition XL 4x2	2	\$59,739.00	\$119,478.00
2024 Ford Expedition Max XL 4x2	2	\$62,215.00	\$124,430.00
BuyBoard Fee			400.00
Total Units	43	Grand Total	\$2,347,327.50

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

F. Tractors for Parks and Recreation Department – Sourcewell Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (349-23):** A resolution authorizing to rescind Resolution #179-23 for the purchase of six (6) tractors (John Deere 5050E) from Deere & Company (Cary, NC) at a unit price of \$28,400.700, and a total price of \$170,404.20; and approve the purchase of six (6) tractors (John Deere 5045E) from Deere & Company (Cary, NC) at a unit price of \$31,533.35, and a total price of \$189,200.10, by cooperative purchase via Sourcewell Contract #110719-JDC. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

G. Assessment of Premium Dial-A-Ride Services for METRA Transit System – Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (350-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) in the estimated amount of \$105,050.00 for an assessment of Premium Dia-A-Ride Services for Metra Transit System. The estimated amount is contingent upon additional services required outside the initial scope of work, to include an assessment of Microtransit Services. The purchase will be accomplished via the Chatham Area Transit Authority, Contracts and Procurement Department, Contract No. 2022-05. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

H. Amendments 10 & 11 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Complex – RFQ No. 20-0002

**Resolution (351-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 10 in the amount of \$1,374,613.00 and Amendment 11 in the amount of \$500,000.00 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associates, Inc., for construction manager as general contractor services for the Government Center Complex. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Begly and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

**E. Payment for Supplemental Yard Waste Collection Services for August 2023**

Approval is requested to submit payment to Amwaste, LLC (West Point, GA) for supplemental yard waste collection services in the amount of \$439,600.00 for the month of August 2023. Amwaste, LLC provided supplemental yard waste collection services for fourteen routes.

Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve payments to Amwaste for the months of August 2023 through December 2023, seconded by Councilor Thomas and opened for discussion.

**Councilor Charmaine Crabb** stated members of Council have made it clear they are concerned if Public Works can take over the routes covered by Amwaste at this time and provide the services expected by citizens. She stated Council has asked for a cost/benefits analysis on several occasions, which has not been provided, and she would like to see the requested analysis before changing services provided by Amwaste.

**Public Works Director Drale Short** approached the rostrum to respond to questions. She explained the process in addressing missed waste pick up.

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** stated he has an issue with spending money that the City of Columbus does not have. He explained that Amwaste faces some of the same issues that Public Works does in occasionally missing houses and once the call is made to 311, Public Works sends someone out to correct the problem.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** stated Public Works Director Short has assured that Public Works is prepared to take back over the routes covered by Amwaste and he trusts her assessment. He also stated that we do not have the money to continue paying another company to provide the services that we are prepared to solely handle.

**Public Works Director Drale Short** approached the rostrum to respond to questions from Councilor Huff. She stated that the one cart system has worked in many communities and will work in Columbus once the citizens understand how the system works.

**Resolution (352-23) (As Amended):** A resolution approving payment to Amwaste, LLC (West Point, GA) for supplemental yard waste collection services in the amount of \$439,600.00 per month for the months of August 2023 through November 2023. Councilor Begly made a substitute motion to approve payments to Amwaste for waste collection services for the months of August 2023 through November 2023, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Set up a meeting in each Council District to explain to citizens changes being made to waste pick up so citizens can prepare. *(Request of Councilor Huff)*

- G. Assessment of Premium Dial-A-Ride Services for METRA Transit System – Cooperative Purchase (*NOTE: This item was approved earlier in the meeting but was brought up for further discussion.*)

**Councilor Charmaine Crabb** asked a question in response to comments made by Mr. Joseph McNeil during the Public Agenda, where he stated that the Dial-A-Ride services have been altered in the past without an assessment. She then asked for an explanation on why an assessment is being done with the changes to service that Council has requested.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** explained if a city adds or deletes service, they are required to go through the Federal Process.

**Metra Director Rosa Evans** approached the rostrum to explain an assessment was conducted in 2016 and 2018 by consultants, where public meetings were held, and routes were changed. She then explained the Metra Transportation System Map that was shown and how the assessment is handled to address the needs of the citizens that utilize the public transportation system.

## 7. **UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Land Bank Authority Update - Lance Hemmings, Board Chair, Land Bank Authority, and Natalie Bouyett, Real Estate Specialist, Community Reinvestment

**Land Bank Authority Chair Lance Hemmings** approached the rostrum to provide a presentation on the Land Bank Authority. He provided the history of the Land Bank Authority and its successes.

**Community Reinvestment Director Rob Scott** approached the rostrum to share the mission and vision of the Community Reinvestment Department, He also shared the collective vision of the Community Reinvestment Department and the Land Bank Authority.

**Real Estate Specialist Natalie Bouyett** approached the rostrum to provide information on the collaborative effort of the Community Reinvestment Department and the Land Bank Authority to leverage resources in a manner that is most equitable for the community. She explained how the online application process has been simplified and the information that interested homebuyers can access on the website.

### **REFERRAL(S):**

#### **FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Wants to set up a meeting with Chairman Hemmings, Director Scott, and Real Estate Specialist Bouyett. (*Request of Councilor Huff*)

- B. Integrated Waste Transition Update - Drale Short, Director, Public Works

**Public Works Director Drale Short** approached the rostrum to introduce the update and briefly spoke about the diligent work of the Public Works Department to fill the vacancies of Waste Equipment Operators. Later in the presentation she provided information on a comparison of Columbus and Macon/Bibb in terms of services provided, fees, equipment, personnel, and resources.

**Integrated Waste Manager John Pittman** approached the rostrum to provide the Integrated Waste Transition Update. He explained the transition process and what citizens can expect with the implementation of the one cart system.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** came forward to explain the garbage fees collected and the landfill dumping fees by Macon/Bibb.



**REFERRAL(S):****FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Provide a proposal on how additional household waste cans will be handled. *(Request of Councilor Garrett)*
- Look at putting a notice with the water bill citizens receive for the next few months to ensure citizens are informed about the transition. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*
- Information on revenue by customer type for Macon/Bibb and Columbus. *(Request of Councilor Begly)*
- Total operation cost of the Recycling Center. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*
- Annual cost for maintenance of the landfill, excluding heavy equipment. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*
- Total cost to mitigate the partial closure of the landfill. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*

C. Sheriff's Office Administration Building Update - Ryan Pruett, Director, Inspections & Code

**Inspections & Code Director Ryan Pruett** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the Sheriff's Office Administration Building. He provided a timeline for the project and information on the additional needs that were requested by the Sheriff's Office but that could not be accommodated within the current budget.

**Muscogee County Sheriff Greg Countryman** approached the rostrum to comment on the need for a holding cell and other needs that were not included in the project.

**REFERRAL(S):****FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Revisit the addition of a courtroom to accommodate the third Recorders Court Judge that Council approved with the understanding that a courtroom be added to the Sheriff's Office. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*

**5. Clean Communities Investment Partnership Application Funding Opportunity EPA-R-HQ-NCIF-23** *(NOTE: This item had an inconclusive vote earlier in the meeting. It came forward for a second time with a motion made by Councilor Begly)*

**Resolution (353-23):** A resolution authorizing a letter of support for the application from Clean Communities Investment Partnership, Inc. (CCIP) for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) funding through the National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF). Councilor Begly made a motion to approve the resolution with the understanding the support letter would be modified, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and was approved with a six-to-four vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Barnes, Begly, Garrett, Huff and Tucker voting in favor, and Councilors Cogle, Crabb, Davis and Thomas voting in opposition.

**7. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS (continued)**

D. ARP Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager of Finance, Planning and Development

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the American Rescue Plan. She provided information on the funding received and the monies expended and/or allocated throughout each phase.

- E. Infrastructure Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager of Finance, Planning and Development

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to provide an update on various infrastructure projects.

During the presentation, **Inspections & Code Director Ryan Pruett** came forward to provide information on the Judicial Center.

**BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**DATE:** September 26, 2023

**September 26, 2023**

**1. Grounds Maintenance Services II (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 24-0008**

Scope of RFP

Provide routine grounds maintenance services for Area 1 (I-185 Interstate Sites) and Area 6 (Median and Roundabout Sites) on a weekly, monthly and yearly basis, to include fertilizing, weekly mowing, edging, weed control, irrigation, pruning, mulching, disease and insect control, etc.

Grounds maintenance services may also be required for Area 8 (Resting Gardens/Cemeteries) as a future option based on funding availability.

The term of the contract will be for two years, with the option to renew for two additional twelve-month periods.

**September 27, 2023**

**1. Transmissions & Transmission Services for Public Works (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 24-0009**

Scope of Bid

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

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

**October 11, 2023**

**1. Pool Slide Restoration for Double Churches Pool – RFB No. 24-0012**

Scope of Bid

The Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is seeking quotes from qualified vendors to provide pool slide restoration for the Columbus Parks & Recreation Double Churches Pool. The work shall be completed during Fall 2023, after swimming season.

**2. Historic Bus Exterior Restoration and Repainting (Re-Bid) – RFB No. 24-0008**

Scope of Bid

Specifications define the requirements for the exterior refurbish and repainting of one (1) historic, vintage bus which is operated by METRA Transit System as the stationary “Freedom Express Bus Museum”.

**ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY****8. Legislative Agenda Draft**

The 16th Annual Hometown Connection/Legislative Agenda will be held on October 12, 2023 at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center, Foundry Room from 11 :30-1 :30. Attached you will find the 'Draft Legislative Agenda' for your review. If you have any additional items, please submit to Teasha Hollis as soon as possible.

On Tuesday, October 10th, the final Legislative Agenda items will be placed on my agenda as individual items for your consideration and approval. Those approved items will be presented to our Legislative Delegation during the Hometown Connection/Legislative meeting.

Legislative Agenda Draft Items are attached at the end.

**REFERRALS:**

Referrals 9.12.23

**CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA****ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED****1. Minutes of the following boards:**

Board of Tax Assessors, #30-23 and #31-23

Region Six Regional Advisory Council for Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, July 12, 2023

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED****2. MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:****A. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Tiffani Stacy (*Eligible to succeed- Interested in serving another term*) for a term that expires on November 16, 2023, as the Resident Member on the Housing Authority of Columbus (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson nominated Tiffani Stacy to serve another term. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**3. COUNCIL APPOINTMENT- READY FOR CONFIRMATION:**

**A. LAND BANK AUTHORITY:** Ms. Jackie Leonard was nominated to succeed Mr. Lance Hemmings. (*Councilor Tucker's nominee*) Term expires: October 31, 2026. Councilor Tucker made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**B. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:** Ms. Ku’Wonna Ingram was nominated to serve as a member on the newly created board. *(Councilor Huff’s nominee)* Term Expires: August 14, 2027. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**C. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:** Ms. Delois Carr was nominated as the Civic Center Director’s recommendation to serve as a member on the newly created board. *(Civic Center Director’s nominee)* Term Expires: August 14, 2027. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

Councilor Cogle made a motion to add two additional positions to the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board to represent the Latino and Indian Community, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**Councilor Toyia Tucker** requested that each Councilor have a District Representative in future appointments to this board.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** advised this change would have to be made by ordinance since the board was created by ordinance. He stated this ordinance would have to come back to Council for consideration and having a representative for each District can be decided at that time.

4. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENT- VOTE TABULATION:**

**A. COLUMBUS GOLF COURSE AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Stephanie Callahan *(Seat declared vacant)* for a term that expires on June 30, 2026, on the Columbus Golf Course Authority *(Council’s Appointment)*. Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore explained Councilor Davis nominated Gerald Miley and Councilor Crabb nominated Karen Stewart. A vote tabulation was taken, with Councilors Barnes, Cogle, Davis, Garrett, Huff, Thomas and Tucker voting for Gerald Miley, and Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Begly and Crabb voting for Karen Stewart. Councilor Tucker made a motion to confirm the appointment of Gerald Miley to fill the unexpired term of Stephanie Callahan on the Golf Course Authority, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

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

**A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the seat of Chris Poirer *(Resigned to accept another appointment)* for a term that expires on March 27, 2024, as the District 2 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council *(Council District 2- Davis)*. There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Sendreka Lakes *(Seat declared vacant)* for a term that expires on March 27, 2024, as District 9 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council *(Council District 9- Thomas)*. Councilor Thomas nominated Mike Welch to fill the unexpired term of Sendreka Lakes. Councilor Thomas made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

6. **COUNCIL'S CONFIRMATION– RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONS / AGENCIES:**

A. **UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Cesar Bautista (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2023, as the Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore stated that the Uptown Business Improvement District and Uptown Columbus, Inc. is recommending Cesar Bautista to serve another term. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to confirm the reappointment of Cesar Bautista, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

A nominee for the seat of Robert Battle (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2023, as the Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore stated the Uptown Business Improvement District and Uptown Columbus, Inc. is recommending Norman Easterbrook to succeed Robert Battle. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to confirm the appointment of Norman Easterbrook, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

A nominee for the seat of Ramon Brown (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2023, as the Uptown Columbus Inc. Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore stated Uptown Columbus Inc. is recommending Evelyn Veloz to succeed Ramon Brown. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to confirm the appointment of Evelyn Veloz, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

A nominee for the seat of Wayne Bond (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2023, as the Historic Columbus Foundation Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore stated Historic Columbus is recommending Frank Schley to succeed Wayne Bond. Councilor Tucker made a motion to confirm the appointment of Frank Schley, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

7. **COUNCIL NOMINATIONS- THREE NOMINEES ARE SENT TO THE AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION:**

A. **HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Warner Kennon, Jr. (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2023, on the Hospital Authority of Columbus (*Council's Nomination*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Sarah Banks-Lang (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2023, on the Hospital Authority of Columbus (*Council's Nomination*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Jennings Chester (*Rotating off the authority*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2023, on the Hospital Authority of Columbus (*Council's Nomination*). There were none.

Deputy Clerk of Council McLemore stated the Council submits three nominees to the Hospital Authority for each seat and the Hospital Authority then selects the successor for Council’s confirmation.

8. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:**

A. **ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Jayne Dunn (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on October 15, 2023, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

**PRESENTATION:**

A. Budget Review Process (Presented by Councilor Tyson Begly)

**Councilor Tyson Begly** approached the rostrum to provide a presentation on the budget review process and his suggestions on changes to the process.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**


Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into executive session to discuss matters of personnel, real estate acquisition and disposal as requested earlier in the meeting by City Attorney Fay. Councilor Davis made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 10:35 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 10:52 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss matters of personnel, property acquisition and disposal; however, there were no votes taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson** announced after a very thorough process, careful consideration, and nationwide search Interim Police Chief Stoney Mathis will be forwarded to Council for confirmation as Police Chief with the Columbus Police Department. He explained Georgia Law requires fourteen days between the selection announcement and Council’s vote.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Tucker to adjourn the September 26, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council, with the time being 10:53 p.m.

  
Lindsey G. McLemore  
Deputy Clerk of Council  
Council of Columbus, Georgia