

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Muscogee County School Board Chambers
Public Education Center
2960 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia, 31906

July 23, 2024
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem Tameka Colbert.

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) Documents Submitted by PA#4 Allie Johnson; (2) Documents Submitted Dr. Hank Hall, Re: Columbus Animal Care & Control; (3) Letter and Information Submitted by Finance Director Angelica Alexander, Re: Candlewood Suites Northeast – 19732 – Waiver of Penalties and Interest for Delinquent Hotel/Motel Taxes – March 2027

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Carole Collins of International Friendship Ministries, Inc. of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the July 9, 2024 Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. **RESOLUTION (234-24)** - A resolution approving the Honorary Designation Application submitted by the Columbus, Georgia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to rename Carver Park in honor of Former Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner Pugh. (*The Board of Honor met on July 3, 2024 and recommended approval.*) (**NOTE:** *This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the Clerk of Council's Agenda Item #1*) Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

President Brenda Williams, Columbus, Georgia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., approached the rostrum to thank the members of Council for approving their request to rename Carver Park in honor of the late Evelyn Turner Pugh for her 31 years of dedicated service to the community.

2. **RESOLUTION (235-24)** - A resolution approving Honorary Designation Signage at Double Churches Pool in honor of Miss Joni Ressmeyer. *(The Board of Honor met on July 3, 2024 and is recommending honorary designation signage in lieu of renaming the Double Churches Pool.) (NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the Clerk of Council's Agenda Item #1)* Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

Mr. Scott Ressmeyer approached the rostrum to thank the members of Council for approving the request to honor his late mother, Joni Ressmeyer, for her many years dedicated to teaching generations of children how to swim.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **2nd Reading-** REZN-05-24-0918: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1953 7th Avenue** (parcel # 016-025-001) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to General Commercial (GC) Zoning District with Conditions. (Planning Department Recommends Approval with conditions. PAC recommends denial.) (as amended) (Councilor Cogle) Councilor Cogle made a motion to delay this item for 30 days, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
2. **2nd Reading-** An ordinance to revise and clarify certain provisions of the Columbus Code which provide for the foreclosure of liens on property for which funds are due and owing to the consolidated government; and for other purposes. (continued on 2nd Reading from 6-11-24 and 7-9-24) (Councilor Garrett) Councilor Garrett made a motion to delay this item for 30 days, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
3. **Ordinance (24-044) - 2nd Reading-** An ordinance to revise and clarify certain provisions of Article XIII of Chapter 20 of the Columbus Code to revise and update provisions relating to parking management districts and enforcement areas; and for other purposes. (Councilor Cogle) Councilor Tucker made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
4. **1st Reading-** REZN-03-24-0635: An ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **8877 Veterans Parkway** (parcel # 079-001-006) from Residential Estate 1 (RE1) Zoning District to General Commercial (GC) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department recommends approval and PAC recommends conditional approval.) (Councilor Davis) **(Public Hearing Held)**

Mr. Sam McQuagg approached the rostrum to share his concerns regarding the proposed rezoning. He explained that he is the owner of the property across the road from 8877 Veterans Parkway and voiced his concern regarding the traffic that development would bring to the area and the accessibility issues that may arise.

City Attorney Clifton Fay proceeded with reading into the records the conditions for the rezoning.

Planning Director Will Johnson approached the rostrum to respond to questions from the Council as Mr. McQuagg voiced his concerns.

Ms. Theresa El-Amin came forward to share her opinions on the proposed rezoning as it pertains to development in the surrounding area and the need for affordable housing.

5. **1st Reading-** REZN-04-24-0772: An ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2601 Courtland Ave and 6250, 6214, 0 Forrest Road** (parcel # 114-001-008/7, 114-001-002, 113-002-008) from Single Family Residential -3 (SFR3) Zoning District to Single Family Residential -4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Tucker) **(Public Hearing Held)**

Ms. Kathy Long, Realtor with Rose Anne Erickson Realty, LLC, came forward to represent the applicant, Wizer Homes, LLC. She explained the purpose of the proposed rezoning would allow the residential developer to construct homes on smaller lots down from 60 feet lots to 50 feet lots to make the properties more affordable for purchasers at \$6,000 to \$7,000 less per lot.

Mr. Chris Walker came forward to speak in opposition to the proposed rezoning as a residential property owner in the area. He shared his concerns that the development of smaller homes could potentially reduce the value of the larger homes in the area.

6. **1st Reading-** An ordinance adopting new pay rates for the Civic Center temporary labor pool positions for the Consolidated Government and amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Ordinance No. 24-027; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) **(Public Hearing Held)**

Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin approached the rostrum to explain the proposed ordinance. She stated that it is difficult to retain employees for the Civic Center that are called on to work events at \$9.00, so they are proposing a pay increase to address the issue.

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Cody Collyer, representing Revolution Project, Re: Inquiries about the additions that will be made to the Muscogee County Jail.
2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, Re: Dispossessory, Evictions and Government Center restrictions.
3. Mrs. Claire Thomas, representing Animal Advocacy, Re: The importance of microchipping your pets.
4. Ms. Allie Johnson, representing Columbus Animal Allies, Re: Treatment of animals at Columbus Animal Care & Control.
5. Ms. Debbie Wooten, Columbus Animal Allies, Re: Animal welfare within our community.

6. Ms. Robina Forrand, Re: Practice and procedures of animal care facilities.
7. Mrs. Debbie Mayhew, Re: Columbus Animal Control Center.

Councilor Hickey made a motion for a formal investigation by the Columbus Police Department of the Animal Care and Control Center with a report of their findings and if there is a finding of violations by the employees involved that they should be placed on administrative leave, seconded by Councilor Thomas and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

After comments and referrals from the Council, **City Manager Isaiah Hugley** stated when he was made aware of the video that was circulating around, and he directed Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin to begin an investigation as the Public Works Department falls under her leadership. He then requested Dr. Hank Hall address the video and share the letter that Dr. Hall submitted with the Council and media.

Dr. Hank Hall (Retired Veterinarian) approached the rostrum to address the video as requested by the City Manager. He explained the protocol that he uses when conducting the euthanasia of an animal and shared his professional opinion of the video and his experience with the employees at Columbus Animal Care & Control Center. He also responded to questions from the members of Council.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Provide an immediate response to the Chairperson of the Animal Control Advisory Board, who requested an emergency meeting to address the recent incident. Allow the Animal Control Advisory Board to be involved in the investigation. *(Request of Councilor Garrett)*
- All continued education and annual licensing requirements of the new Veterinarian position at Columbus Animal Care & Control be covered by CCG. Add this information to the job description. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*
- Do not charge adoption fees at future “Come Save Me” events. *(Request of Councilor Tucker)*
- Find another location other than Columbus Animal Care & Control for the dogs being held for the Columbus Police Department as part of an investigation *(Request of Councilor Crabb)*
- Add to the investigation, the selection and treatment of the volunteers at Columbus Animal Care & Control, the treatment of the animals, and the management situation. *(Request of Councilor Cogle)*

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Easement Abandonment - 1024 Timber Creek Way

Resolution (236-24): A resolution authorizing the abandonment of a 20 ft. portion of the storm sewer, drainage, utility and spoils area easement as shown on a plat entitled “Partial Easement Abandonment, Part of Lot 11, Block “B”, Section 5, Timber Creek”. Authorizing the disposal of the easements in accordance with applicable State Law; reserving utility access easements and for other purposes. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

2. Georgia Bureau of Investigation Memorandum of Understanding

Resolution (237-24): A resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and lease office space for their operations in Columbus, Georgia for a Gang Task Force. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

3. Memorandum of Understanding with the Medical Center, Inc.

Resolution (238-24): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Medical Center, Inc. d/b/a Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown in order to meet the eligibility requirements to buy discounted outpatient drugs under Section 340B of the Public Health Services Act. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

4. Georgia Medicaid Fee for Service – Ground Ambulance Upper Payment Limit – Supplemental Payment Program

Resolution (239-24): A resolution authorizing approval to participate in the Georgia Medicaid Fee for Service Upper Payment Limit Supplemental Payment Program and authorize payment via Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) to the State of Georgia, as required, based on formula calculations performed by the Department of Community Health (DCH). 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. FY25 Public Defender Contract

Resolution (240-24): A resolution authorizing to enter into an agreement for Indigent Defense Services between Circuit Public Defender Office of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and Muscogee County in the amount of \$2,742,257 from July 2024 to June 2025 and authorize payment to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council (GPDSC) \$1,917,889 and for \$95,894, 5% administrative fee (GPDSC payment is included in the total amount of \$2,742,257). Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

6. Execution of Quitclaim Deed for 5013 13th Ave.

Resolution (241-24): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a quitclaim deed for the property located at 5013 13th Avenue, Columbus, Georgia 31901. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

7. Variance to Waive Permit Fees

Resolution (242-24): A resolution authorizing a variance to Section 2-18.4.1 of the Columbus Code, authorizing the City Manager to waive the required fees for the Runway 6-24 construction as requested by the Airport Director. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

8. BJA FY24 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program

Resolution (243-24): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office – Office of Justice Programs – Bureau of Justice assistance for funds to purchase body worn cameras the Sheriff’s Office, in the amount of \$300,000., or as otherwise awarded, with a 100% cash or in-kind match required, and amend the Multi-Governmental Fund Budget by the amount of the award. Funds will be utilized for expanding the current body-worn camera program to be inclusive of correctional staff in the Muscogee County Jail. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

9. Adoption of the 2024-2029 Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution (244-24): A resolution authorizing the adoption of the 2024-2029 Hazard Mitigation Plan as requested by the city council so that the adoption and draft plan can then be sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for formal approval. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has required that every county and municipality have a pre-disaster mitigation plan in place and requires the adoption of such plans in order to receive funding from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

10. Risk and Safety Day Donations

Resolution (245-24): A resolution authorizing the City to approve and accept financial donations from external organizations and businesses to offset the costs of hosting a free Risk and Safety Community Event. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

11. PURCHASES

A. Change Order 2 – Warm Springs Road Culvert Project

Resolution (246-24): A resolution authorizing the execution of Change Order 2 with Southeastern Site Development, Inc. (Newnan, GA) in the amount of \$26,441.49 for the Warm Springs Road Culvert Project. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

B. Baker Center Driveway Project – RFB No. 24-0039

Resolution (247-24): A resolution authorizing the execution of a construction contract with Woolford Contracting Company, LLC (Fortson, GA) in the amount of \$94,280.00 for the Baker Center Driveway Project. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

C. Bus Route Signs & Poles (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 24-0036

Resolution (248-24): A resolution authorizing the purchase of bus route signs & poles from Vulcan, Inc./Vulcan Sign Division (Decatur, GA) for the estimated contract value as follows: Year 1 - \$11,514.00, Year 2 - \$12,496.00 and Year 3 - \$13,378.00, and total estimated contract value of

\$37,388.00. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

D. Dodge Chargers for Muscogee County Prison – BuyBoard Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (249-24): A resolution authorizing the purchase of four (4) Dodge Chargers from Cameron County CDJR (Cameron, TX), in the amount of \$35,900.00 each and a total cost of \$143,600.00. The purchase will be made by cooperative purchase via BuyBoard, Contract #724-23. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

E. Declaration of Surplus and Donation of Three (3) Vehicles

Resolution (250-24): A resolution authorizing the following three (3) vehicles as surplus in accordance with Section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government:

VEHICLE NUMBER	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#	MILEAGE
10318	2004	CHEVY	C-3500	1GBJC33U34F179864	132,156
11217	2010	FORD	E-350	1FMJK1G56AEB64858	117,101
3179	2008	FORD	F-250	1FTSX20568ED08736	415,479

And authorize donation of the vehicles to Uptown Columbus and the Business Improvement District. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

F. Vehicles for the Sheriff’s Office – Buyboard Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (251-24): A resolution authorizing the purchase of the vehicles listed below from Grapevine Dodge Chrysler (Grapevine, TX), in the total amount of \$1,185,657.00 for the Sheriff’s Office. The purchase will be made by cooperative purchase via BuyBoard, Contract #724-23. The following vehicles will be purchased:

VEHCILE	QTY	PRICE	COLOR	OPTIONS	TOTAL PRICE
2023 POLICE DURANGO AWD	1	\$43,185.00	WHITE	POLICE 5.7L HEMI V8	\$43,185.00
2024 POLICE DURANGO AWD	5	\$44,908.00	WHITE/BLACK	POLICE V8	\$224,540.00
2024 POLICE DURANGO AWD	11	\$44,908.00	WHITE/BLACK	POLIVE V8 DISABLED RR	\$493,988.00
2024 RAM 3500 CREW 4X4 SB	1	\$53,946.00	BLACK	6.4L HEMI SHORT BED	\$53,946.00
2025 RAM 1500 CREW 4X4	1	\$58,900.00	BLACK	3.0 HURRICANE SO	\$58,900.00
2025 RAM 1500 CREW 4X4	1	\$59,428.00	BLACK	3.0 HURRICANE SO	\$59,428.00
2023 DODGE CHALLENGER SCAT	1	\$63,120.00	BLACK	6.4L HEMI	\$63,120.00

2023 DODGE CHARGER SCAT	1	\$46,704.00	D GREY	6.4L HEMI	\$46,704.00
2023 DODGE SCHARGER SCAT	2	\$59,932.00	WHITE	6.4L HEMI	\$119,846.00
FREIGHT FOR 24 VEHICLES @ \$900					\$21,600.00
BUYBOARD ADMINISTRATIVE FEE					\$400.00
GRAND TOTAL					\$1,185,657.00

Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

12. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS:

A. Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance. **DELAYED**

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

- Due to inflation, look at increasing the spending threshold set in the procurement ordinance for us to be more in line with counties comparable in size. Bring information back to the Council to be considered. *(Request of Councilor Tucker)*

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Put together a welcome/introductory meeting for the Community Healthcare Fund Group and invite the consultants. Wants to add Councilors Cogle and Hickey to the group. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*

EMERGENCY PURCHASES

1. Information Only: Emergency Purchase

MEDIA SERVICES FOR THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE

On July 15, 2024, the Muscogee County Sheriff’s office notified the City Manager of an urgent deadline to pay for Media Services by Friday, July 19, 2024.

Media services were provided by WRBL, in the amount of \$20,700.00, and WTVM in the amount of \$39,000.00, for a total cost of \$59,700.00.

The Sheriff’s Office was approved a grant from the Georgia Governor’s Office of Highway Safety Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Grant in its mission to eliminate injuries and fatalities on Georgia roadways. The media services were needed to educate the public on pedestrian/driving behaviors and to implement highway safety campaigns and programs. The Sheriff’s Office selected television stations having the highest local viewership numbers, which ensured that the largest audience is reached. Consequently, the vendors are deemed only known sources for the services per the Procurement Ordinance Article 3-114.

On July 15, 2024, the City Manager authorized the payment due to exigent circumstances.

Funding is available in the FY25 Budget: Mul-Government Project Fund – Sheriff – Operation Safe Walk and Ride - Operating Materials; 0216 – 550 – 3020 – OSWR – 6728.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: July 23, 2024
TO: Mayor and Councilors
FROM: Finance Department
SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

July 31, 2024

1. **PI 0015285 Infantry Road and Follow Me Trail – RFB No. 24-0040**
Scope of Bid

Project PI No. 0015285 consists of an extension of the existing Follow Me Trail which will be constructed from the current southern end point to Infantry Road and will follow Infantry Road parallel to the roundabout on S. Lumpkin Road. The DBE goal for this project is 10%.

The Bidder is advised that the governing specifications for this project, including such items as bidding requirements, general conditions, technical specifications and related items, shall be in accordance with the State of Georgia, Department of Transportation Standard Specifications, 2021 Edition, and applicable Supplemental Specifications and Special Provisions. The Owner assumes the Bidder is a pre-qualified bidder with the Department of Transportation and therefore is familiar with the stated reference documents or has access to same.

August 7, 2024

1. **Flood Abatement Project 19th Street System – RFB No. 24-0016**
Scope of Bid

The project's Bid consists of 4,628 feet of 8-foot x 6-foot reinforced concrete box culvert, 128 feet of 84-Inch to 36-Inch, 129 feet of 24-Inch, 50 feet of 18-Inch, 16 feet of 15-Inch reinforced concrete pipe; 49 feet of 48-Inch, 192 feet of 24-inch, 237 feet of 16-Inch Ductile Iron Pipe; cast-in-place structures; precast concrete manholes, catch basins and headwalls; 45 feet of 12-inch and 80 feet of 6-Inch ductile iron pipe water main, including line stops, tapping sleeves & valves, water service changeovers and cleanup & testing of water lines; 229 square yards of light duty pavement replacement, 4,138 square yards of heavy duty pavement replacement and 2,277 square yards of asphalt resurfacing, 2,599 feet of 30-inch curb & gutter, asphalt milling and pavement marking; 5-inch thick concrete sidewalks, pedestrian access ramps and concrete driveway apron; Norfolk Southern railroad crossing; grading of a flood basin, Meritas Mill site and reconstruction of the ball field parking. Erosion, sedimentation & pollution control of the site.

August 9, 2024

1. **On-Call General Contractor Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0003**
Scope of RFP

The Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia invites qualified contractors to submit proposals to provide General Contractor Services, on an as-needed basis, for City-owned facilities throughout Columbus-Muscogee County.

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

August 16, 2024**1. Design and Construction Services for Columbus Convention and Trade Center Parking Garage– RFP No. 25-0002****Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage a Design-Builder to design and construct an approximately 500 space parking garage for the Columbus Convention Center.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all design and construction services related to the delivery of the new parking garage.

2. Comprehensive Inmate Healthcare Services for Muscogee County Jail (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0005**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government, on behalf of the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office, is seeking proposals for the provision of healthcare services for offenders incarcerated at the Muscogee County Jail. The requested services consist of medical, dental, and mental health, as well as healthcare personnel. Medical services include but are not limited to x-ray, laboratory, and prescription drug services for a rated capacity of 1069 inmates.

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

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA**ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

3. The Honorary Designation Application submitted by Jason Crowson / Stephanie Callahan for a plaque and memorial bench in honor of Mr. Richard Callahan at the Godwin Creek Golf Course was considered by the Board of Honor at the July 3, 2024 Meeting and the recommendation and vote result was to deny the application. *(The Council may vote to receive the application with no further action.)* Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the application, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
4. Email Correspondence from Mr. Dallis Copeland resigning from his seat on the Development Authority of Columbus. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation with regrets, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
5. Honorary Designation Application submitted by Deputy Chief of Police Herman Miles to name the Public Safety Building in honor of Former Police Chief William "Jim" Wetherington. *(The Council may vote to forward the application to the Board of Honor.)* Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to forward the request to the Board of Honor for consideration, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

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

Board of Tax Assessors, #22-24 & #23-24

Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority, February 22, and April 25, 2024

Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees, January 10, February 14, and March 13, 2024

River Valley Regional Commission, April 24, and May 22, 2024

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

7. **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. **COLUMBUS IRONWORKS CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Jessica M. Ferriter (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on October 24, 2024, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of S. Carson Cummings (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 24, 2024, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

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

A. **YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for a seat on the Youth Advisory Council as the District 1 Representative for the 2024-2025 School Year (*Council District 1- Hickey*). There were none.

A nominee for a seat on the Youth Advisory Council as the District 2 Representative for the 2024-2025 School Year (*Council District 2- Davis*). Councilor Davis nominated Libby Coleman as the District 2 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

A nominee for a seat on the Youth Advisory Council as the District 5 Representative for the 2024-2025 School Year (*Council District 5- Crabb*). There were none.

9. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- READY FOR CONFIRMATION:**

A. **ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:** Ms. Paige Shields was nominated to succeed Ms. Sabine Stull as the *Animal Rescue Representative*. (*Councilor Garrett's nominee*) Term expires: April 11, 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

- B. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:** Ms. Claire Anna Daniels was nominated to succeed Ms. Julee Fryer. (*Councilor Cogle's nominee*) Term expires: April 11, 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
- C. BOARD OF HONOR:** Mr. Wayne Anthony was nominated to fill the expired term of the late Bob Hydrick. (*Councilor Thomas' nominee*) Term expires: October 31, 2026. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.
- D. LAND BANK AUTHORITY:** Ms. Tomeika Farley was nominated to fill the expired term of Mr. Lance Hemmings. (*Councilor Huff's nominee*) Term expires: October 31, 2027. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

10. COUNCIL APPOINTMENT- VOTE TABULATION MAY BE DETERMINED:

A. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for the seat of Travis Chambers (*Elected to Council*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2028, on the Development Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Tucker nominated Audrey Tillman and Councilor Chambers nominated Karl Douglass for the seat formerly held by Councilor Travis Chambers (*Elected to serve on Council*). A vote tabulation was held with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Cogle, Crabb, Davis, Garrett, Hickey, Huff, Thomas and Tucker voting for Audrey Tillman; and Councilor Chambers voting for Karl Douglass. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion confirming the appointment of Audrey Tillman to fill the unexpired term of Councilor Travis Chambers on the Development Authority of Columbus, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

Councilor Travis Chambers stated for the record, he is in support of his nomination of Karl Douglass and Councilor Tucker's nomination of Audrey Tillman, both of whom are good choices for the Development Authority.

A nominee for the seat of Dallis Copeland (*Resigned*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2026, on the Development Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Doug Jenkins. With there being no further nominations for this seat, Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion confirming the appointment of Doug Jenkins to fill the unexpired term of Dallis Copeland on the Development Authority of Columbus, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

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

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Channon Emery (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 15, 2024, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

BOARD OF HONOR:

A nominee for the seat of Judge Bobby Peters (*Eligible to succeed – Interested in serving another term*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, on the Board of Honor (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Huff renominated Judge Bobby Peters to serve another term on the Board of Honor.

A nominee for the seat of Barbara Pierce (*Eligible to succeed – Interested in serving another term*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, on the Board of Honor (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Huff renominated Barbara Pierce to serve another term on the Board of Honor.

A nominee for the seat of Vivian Creighton Bishop (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, on the Board of Honor (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Huff renominated Vivian Creighton Bishop to serve another term on the Board of Honor.

B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of William Bandy (*Eligible to succeed- Not seeing reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2023, as the Senatorial District 29 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*).

C. UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Libba Dillon (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, as an Uptown Columbus, Inc. Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Niki Gedroic (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, as an Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of James Lewis (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, as an Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Debbie Young (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, as an Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Hannah Israel (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on October 31, 2024, as an Uptown Business Improvement District Representative on the Uptown Facade Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis stated the nominees for these seats would be brought back for confirmation once received from the appropriate organizations.

COUNCIL HEARING:

1. Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest for Hotel/Motel Excise Tax as submitted by Mr. Anil Patel, representing Jina Inc. dba Candlewood Suites NE in Columbus, Georgia.

City Attorney Clifton Fay stated according to Code Section 19-120, there is no authority for the Council to waive the penalty and interest on Hotel/Motel Excise Tax, but Council can give a credit to someone that has overpaid for the next year. He explained there was a report provided to the members of Council from the Finance Director showing where the payment was postmarked after April 20th for the March Reporting Period.

PUBLIC AGENDA (Continued for 3 additional Minutes):

2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, Re: Dispossessory, Evictions and Government Center restrictions.
4. Ms. Allie Johnson, representing Columbus Animal Allies, Re: Treatment of animals at Columbus Animal Care & Control.
5. Ms. Debbie Wooten, Columbus Animal Allies, Re: Animal welfare within our community.
7. Mrs. Debbie Mayhew, Re: Columbus Animal Control Center.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

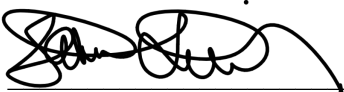
- Begin drafting a mandatory spay and neutering ordinance for Council to consider. *(Request of Mayor Pro Tem Allen)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into executive session to discuss matters of litigation, real estate, and personnel as requested by City Attorney Fay earlier in the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Crabb and Huff being absent for the vote, and the time being 9:11 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 10:40 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss matters of litigation, real estate, 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 Garrett to adjourn the July 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilor Thomas being absent for the vote, and the time being 10:41 p.m.



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