

**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

August 26, 2025  
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 John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, and Toyia Tucker. Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

**ABSENT:** Councilors Glenn Davis and Bruce Huff were absent.

**The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet:** (1) MA #51 Homeless Solutions Group PP (2) CA #14 SPLOST Background/Overview

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) PA#2 Timely Accountability for Post-Eviction and Illegal Tire Disposal on Right-of-Way

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Rev. Grace Burton Edwards, St. Thomas Episcopal Church

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

**MINUTES**

1. Approval of minutes for the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

2. **Proclamation:** Attendance Awareness Month

**Receiving:** Mrs. Gwenetta Sullivan-Echols, School Social Worker

**Councilor Toyia Tucker** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming September 2025, as *Attendance Awareness Month*, recognizing Muscogee County School District for its role in fostering success, academic achievement and long-term opportunities for all children, and for its efforts to address and reduce student absenteeism.

**Ms. Tonya Lindsey, School Program Manager of Social Work Services, Muscogee County School District,** thanked the Council for the recognition and emphasized the importance of daily

school attendance. She reported that the State of Georgia is focusing on chronic absenteeism, stressing that students cannot learn effectively if they are not in the classroom.

### **OATH OF OFFICE:**

#### 3. Youth Advisory Council - Administered by Mayor Henderson

Mayor Henderson administered the Oath of Office to the students of the Muscogee County School District who were appointed to the Youth Advisory Council for the 2025-2026 School Year.

### **RESOLUTIONS - CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS:**

**Crime Prevention Director Seth Brown** approached the rostrum to present the requests for FY2026 Crime Prevention Grants, introducing members of the Crime Prevention Boards, and responding to questions from the members of Council.

#### 15. Columbus Technical College - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Technical College for \$150,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (241-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Columbus Technical College for \$150,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Non-Violent Felon Employment Program. Councilor Tucker made a motion to allow Councilors Chambers and Hickey to be recused from voting on this resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by six of the members present, with Councilors Chambers and Hickey being recused, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

#### 24. Goodwill Industries of Southern Rivers - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Goodwill Industries of Southern Rivers for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (242-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Goodwill Industries of Southern Rivers for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Goodwill Industries of Southern Rivers. Councilor Garrett made a motion to allow Councilor Chambers to be recused from voting on this resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by seven of the members present, with Councilor Chambers being recused, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

#### 25. Hope Harbour - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Hope Harbour for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (243-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Hope Harbour for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Hope Harbour. Councilor Garrett made a motion to allow Councilor Cogle to be recused from voting on this resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution,

seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by seven of the members present, with Councilor Cogle being recused, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

35. Omega Lambda - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Omega Lambda for \$30,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (244-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Omega Lambda for \$30,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Mentoring Program. Councilor Garrett made a motion to allow Councilor Chambers to be recused from voting on this resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the meeting. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by seven of the members present, with Councilor Chambers being recused, and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

4. Better Work Georgia - A resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Better Work Georgia for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (245-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Better Work Columbus for \$15,000 for the purpose of funding the Trade School Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

5. Boy Scouts of America - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Boy Scouts of America for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (246-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Boy Scouts of America for \$20,000 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Boy Scouts of America. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

6. Boyz 2 Men - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Boyz 2 Men for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (247-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Boyz 2 Men for \$10,000 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Boyz 2 Men. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

**Councilor Crabb** stated for the record that it may have appeared Council voted on a matter without sufficient information. She clarified that Crime Prevention Director Seth Brown had previously provided emails and videos, which Council members had been reviewing for several weeks. She emphasized that Council's decision was informed and not made without sufficient knowledge.

7. Building Toward Wellness Community Coalition - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Building Toward Wellness Community Coalition for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (248-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Building Towards Wellness for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Building Toward Wellness Community Coalition. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

8. Children 1st - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Children 1st for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (249-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Children 1<sup>st</sup> for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Children 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

9. Clement Arts - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Clement Arts for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (250-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Clement Arts for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Clement Arts Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

10. Columbus Community Center - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Community Center for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (251-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Columbus Community Center for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Columbus Community Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

11. Columbus Community Orchestra - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Community Orchestra for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (252-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Columbus Community Orchestra for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Orchestra Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

12. Columbus Dream Center - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Dream Center for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (253-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Columbus Dream Center for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the Restorative Program. Mayor

Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

13. Columbus Scholars - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Scholars for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (254-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Columbus Scholars for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the education of juveniles within Muscogee County. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

14. Columbus Symphony Orchestra - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Columbus Symphony Orchestra for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (255-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Columbus Symphony Orchestra for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Making Music Matter Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

16. CORTA - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with CORTA for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (256-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with CORTA for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of CORTA. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

17. East Carver Heights - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with East Carver Heights for \$30,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (257-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with East Carver-Boxwood Soccer of Columbus for \$30,000.00 for the purpose of funding the Boxwood Mentoring/Soccer Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

18. Enrichment Services - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Enrichment Services for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (258-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Enrichment Services for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Enrichment Services. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

19. F.A.I.T.H. - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with F.A.I.T.H. for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (259-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Feeding, Accepting, Inspiring, the Hurting, Inc. (F.A.I.T.H.) for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Feeding, Accepting, Inspiring, the Hurting, Inc. (F.A.I.T.H.). Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

20. Flourishing Ladies - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Flourishing Ladies for \$50,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (260-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Flourishing Ladies for \$50,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Flourishing Ladies. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

21. Focus Program - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Focus Program for \$30,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (261-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Focus Program for \$30,000.00 for the purpose of funding the mentoring program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

22. Friends of Historic Claflin Inc. - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Friends of Historic Claflin Inc. for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (262-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Friends of Historic Claflin Inc. for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Friends of Historic Claflin Inc. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

23. Girls, Inc. - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Girls, Inc. for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (263-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Girls, Inc. of Columbus for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the College and Career Prep Courses. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

26. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Columbus (GA) Alumni Chapter - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Columbus (GA) Alumni Chapter for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (264-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Columbus (GA) Alumni Chapter for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Columbus (GA) Alumni Chapter. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

27. Kingdom Sports - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Kingdom Sports for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (265-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Kingdom Sports for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Kingdom Sports. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

28. Let's Grow STEAM Expo - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Let's Grow STEAM for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (266-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Let's Grow STEAM Expo for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Let's Grow STEAM Expo. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

29. Let's Grow STEAM - River City Race Program - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Let's Grow STEAM - River City Race Program for \$5,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (267-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with the Let's Grow STEAM – River City Race Program for \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Let's Grow STEAM – River City Race Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

30. Literacy Alliance - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Literacy Alliance for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (268-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Literacy Alliance of Columbus for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Literacy Alliance. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

31. Micah's Promise - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Micah's Promise for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (269-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Micah's Promise for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Micah's Promise Program.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

32. Muscogee County Juvenile Court - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Muscogee County Juvenile Court for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (270-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Muscogee County Juvenile Court for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Muscogee County Juvenile Court. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

33. Neighborhoods Focused on African American Youth, Inc. - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Neighborhoods Focused on African American Youth, Inc. for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (271-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Neighborhoods Focused on African American Youth, Inc. for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Neighborhoods Focused on African American Youth, Inc. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

34. Office of Dispute Resolution - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with the Office of Dispute Resolution for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (272-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Office of Dispute Resolution for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Legitimation Station. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

36. Open Door Community House - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Open Door Community House for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (273-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Open Door Community House for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Open Door. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

37. Overflow Outreach Ministries - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Overflow Outreach Ministries for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (274-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Overflow Outreach for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Overflow Outreach Program.



Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

38. Right from the Start - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Right from the Start for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (275-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Right from the Start for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Family Wellness Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

39. Second Chance - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Second Chance for \$65,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (276-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Second Chance W.O.R.K.S. for \$65,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Second Chance W.O.R.K.S. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

40. Service for Humanity - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Service for Humanity for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (277-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Service for Humanity for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Service for Humanity. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

41. Take the City - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Take the City for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (278-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Take the City for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Take the City. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

42. Truth Springs - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Truth Springs for \$50,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (279-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Truth Springs for \$50,000.00 for the purpose of funding the Trade School Program. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

43. Turn Around Columbus - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Turn Around Columbus for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (280-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Turn Around Columbus for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Turn Around Columbus. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

44. Urban League of the River Valley - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Urban League of the River Valley for \$40,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (281-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Urban League of the River Valley (ULRV) for \$40,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Urban League of the River Valley (ULRV). Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

45. Voices of the Valley Children's Chorus - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Voices of the Valley Children's Chorus for \$25,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (282-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Voices of the Valley Children's Chorus for \$25,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Voices of the Valley Children's Chorus. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

46. Whole Person Ministries - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Whole Person Ministries for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (283-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Whole Person Ministries for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Whole Person Ministries. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

47. Wright Fitness - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Wright Fitness for \$20,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (284-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Wright Fitness for \$20,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Wright Fitness. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

48. YMCA of Columbus, Georgia - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with YMCA of Columbus, Georgia for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (285-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with YMCA of Columbus, Georgia for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the YMCA of Columbus, Georgia. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

49. Young Life - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Young Life for \$15,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (286-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Young Life for \$15,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of Young Life. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

50. Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus - A Resolution and contract authorizing a request to enter into a local assistance grant agreement with Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus for \$10,000.00 in Crime Prevention funds.

**Resolution (287-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year contract with Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus for \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding the initiatives of the Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

**Councilor John Anker** stated for the record that some of the items presented raised concern for him. He referenced a comment suggesting that crime prevention is centered on philanthropy, cautioning that when public funds are involved, philanthropy must be carefully considered. He expressed interest in reviewing laws in gray areas to determine whether funds could be reallocated to less risky uses.

He further noted that while he does not consider one million dollars a large sum when directed toward those most in need, state laws govern philanthropy and the appropriate use of city funds. He clarified that he is not questioning the positive outcomes achieved but emphasized the importance of exercising caution with public money.

Additionally, Councilor Anker raised concerns about the potential for staff increases and stressed the need to carefully evaluate any workforce growth.

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

#### **FOR THE MAYOR:**

- A request was made for an Internal Audit to be conducted in the Crime Prevention Department. *(Councilor Cogle)*
- Request to conduct an analysis of local needs based on data collected by NACo. *(Councilor Tucker)*

FOR THE INTERNAL AUDITOR:

- A request that Councilors be provided with a list of all audits conducted within the city, indicating which have been completed and which remain pending. (*Councilor Tucker*)

PRESENTATIONS:

51. Task Force on Homelessness – Pat Frey, Vice President of United Way

**President & CEO Ben Moser, United Way,** announced the formation of the Homeless Solutions Group, naming Cathy Williams as group leader and confirming that all members have been selected. He reported that a facilitator bid has been secured and that advisory panels will be established to support the group's work.

He further stated that the timeline for the study has been reduced from twelve months to six months and confirmed that regular updates will be provided to Council. He then proceeded to name the group members.

**Vice President of United Way Pat Frey** presented an overview of the goals and projected timeline for the Homeless Solutions Group. She reported a total projected cost of \$34,748.00, which includes expenses for supportive housing institutions, professional facilitation, and incidental costs.

In response to a question from Councilor Chambers regarding the source of funding for the plan, **Finance Director Angelica Alexander** explained that the funding for the plan would come from reserves.

REFERRAL(S):FOR UNITED WAY:

- A request was made for Council to receive a copy of the previous homelessness plan, allowing them opportunity to review it for further discussion. (*Councilor Hickey*)

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

1. **2nd Reading-** REZN-03-25-0489: An Ordinance rezoning of **4389 Weems Road**, parcel # 082-018-026 from Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1 (RMF1) zoning district. The proposed use is Multifamily Residential Development. (Planning Department and PAC recommended Denial.) (Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to deny the adoption of the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Cogle being absent for the vote and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
2. **Ordinance (25-041) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-05-25-1001: An Ordinance rezoning **2112 11th Avenue**, parcel # 028-023-010 from General Commercial zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1 (RFM1) zoning district. (Planning Department and PAC recommend Approval) (Councilor Cogle) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by

Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

3. **Ordinance (25-042) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-05-25-1002: An Ordinance rezoning of **4306 3rd Avenue**, parcel # 013-001-031 from Light Industrial/ Manufacturing (LMI) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1 (RMF1) zoning district with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Garrett) Councilor Garret made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
4. **Ordinance (25-043) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-05-25-0928: An Ordinance rezoning **5674 Whittlesey Boulevard**, parcel # 072-016-002 from Planned Unit Development (PUD) and General Commercial (GC) zoning district to Residential Office (RO) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Garrett) Councilor Garret made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
5. **Ordinance (25-044) - 2nd Reading:** REZN-05-25-0929: An Ordinance rezoning of **5674 Whittlesey Boulevard**, parcel # 072-016-002 from Planned Unit Development (PUD) and General Commercial (GC) zoning district to General Commercial (GC) zoning district. Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval. (Councilor Garrett) Councilor Garret made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
6. **Ordinance (25-045) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-06-25-1133: An Ordinance rezoning **3564 Forrest Road**, parcel # 067-018-012 / 067-018-006 from Neighborhood Commercial (NC) and Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district to Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) Councilor Hickey made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
7. **Ordinance (25-046) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-06-25-1135: An Ordinance rezoning of **0 Cusseta Road**, parcel # 024-022-002 / 024-022-001 from Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 2 (RMF2) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Cogle) Councilor Chambers made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.
8. **Ordinance (25-047) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-06-25-1136: An Ordinance rezoning **1222 5th Avenue**, parcel # 018-010-010 from Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) zoning district to Uptown (UPT) zoning district. The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval. (Councilor Cogle) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting.

9. **1st Reading-** REZN-06-25-1179: An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 11-11 to provide a density change as it pertains to property located at **9101 Macon Road**. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Mayor Pro-Tem)

**Attorney Austin Gibson, Page Scrantom Sprouse Tucker and Ford, P.C.,** explained that his clients are requesting an amendment to an existing ordinance, which originally went into effect in 2011 and was amended in 2012. He stated that the primary purpose of the rezoning request is to increase the density from 214 to 342 units.

He described Midland Downs as a mixed-use development that was originally designed to include approximately 100 single-family units, along with a multi-family component and a commercial area. Through the amendment process, the proposal seeks to increase the density of the multi-family portion while slightly reducing the commercial component.

**CEO Philip Thayer, Thayer-Bray Construction, LLC,** highlighted several properties in the Columbus area that his company has developed and improved. He also shared the projected price points for units in the upcoming apartment development.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- *Eddy Stallworth*. – Expressed concerns that the increase in population could potentially cause issues with traffic, crime, and drainage.
- *Danny Arencibia* – Expressed concerns that residents received inadequate and untimely information regarding the proposed change and highlighted the community’s opposition to the development.
- *Jessica Hardin* – Commented on the notification process for the community and acknowledged the developers’ efforts to address the concerns raised by neighborhood residents.
- *Kenya (Last Name Not Stated)* – Expressed concerns about the lack of information regarding the development. She also raised concerns about the absence of schools in the area, as well as issues related to drainage, traffic, crime, and speeding.
- *Pamela Moffit* – Expressed concerns regarding the additional units in the development and the problems they may cause.

10. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending the “Official Street Map, City of Columbus, Georgia”, by changing the official name of the public roadway designated as “Debutana Drive” to "Debutante Drive; authorizing the street name change; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

*(NOTE: The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the members of Council.)*

*(NOTE: A brief recess was called by Mayor Henderson at 7:38 p.m., with the meeting reconvening at 7:49 p.m.)*

- 11. 1st Reading-** An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 15-35, Section 2, Columbus Police Department Pay Reform and Restructure Plan, as set forth in Administrative Policy No. 220-1002, to revise Court Pay, and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

*(NOTE: The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the members of Council.)*

## **RESOLUTIONS**

- 12. Resolution (288-25)** - A Resolution approving a Special Exception to allow for a Place of Worship, 250 or more seat and School, Public or Private in the existing building located at 3654 Forrest Road located in the Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) zoning district. (Councilor Hickey) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried by the seven members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote.

- 13.** A Resolution pertaining to signature authority for small business, non-profit, or economic/tourism grant programs funded by the American Rescue Plan. (Councilor Hickey)

*(NOTE: The resolution was delayed indefinitely at the request of Councilor Hickey to allow additional discussions. No objections were expressed by the members of Council.)*

- 14. Resolution (289-25)** - A Resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the preparation of a Notice of Sale, a Preliminary Official statement, the acceptance of bids for the sale of General Obligation Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2025; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**Finance Director Alexander** explained that the resolution on the agenda authorizes the issuance of bonds for the remaining \$50 million related to the 2021 SPLOST. She stated that as part of the SPLOST, Council approved the issuance of \$200 million in general obligation bonds for the construction of the new Judicial Center. She said in 2022, the City issued \$150 million of that total, and the current resolution seeks approval to issue the remaining \$50 million to complete the project.

**Senior Vice President Courtney Rogers, Davenport & Co.,** provided a presentation with background information and an overview of the SPLOST. He compared current interest rates with those from 2022, gave a market update, and outlined a recommended financing approach. He also presented a timetable and the steps involved in the financing process.

*(NOTE: At approximately 7:53 p.m., Clerk of Council McLemore stated Councilor Tucker will be attending the remainder of the meeting virtually.)*

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

***Last Application Received: August 22, 2025, 11:45 a.m.***

1. Ms. Paula Johnson, representing Audrianna Jamilia Nobles, Re: Daughter's Cold Murder Case.  
***Not Present***

2. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy, Re: Timely Accountability for Post-Eviction Debris and Illegal Tire Disposal on Right-of-Way.

In response to a question from Councilor Cogle, **Public Works Director Drale Short** advised that she recently met with staff to discuss these issues and is currently working to rectify the situation.

3. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Crime Prevention Programs, Rules and Standards.
4. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Crime Prevention Grants
5. Mr. Timothy Veal, Re: Community Concerns. ***Not Present***
6. Mr. Mark Lawrence, Re: Public Agenda – Kindness Always Matters.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Loan for Landfill Expansion Project**

**Resolution (290-25):** A resolution authorizing the Public Works Department of the Columbus Consolidated Government to apply for and accept a Georgia fund solid waste loan up to \$7,850,000 with a 15-year amortization period at an interest rate not to exceed 4.5% from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA). Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**Finance Director Alexander** addressed the discussion regarding the initial cost of the landfill expansion project. She reminded Council that earlier this year, consultants for the Public Works Department presented the need to move forward with Phase Five of the expansion, with a total request of approximately \$8 million.

She noted that Council approved \$1.3 million from the General Fund to support the project, leaving a balance of slightly more than \$6 million needed to complete the requested funding. She added that the fees will cover the debt service based on current interest rates with the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority.

**Public Works Director Drale Short** explained that the department is awaiting the road plans for the vertical expansion from the consultant. She stated that the heavy equipment operators cannot begin work until the layout has been received.

### **2. Proposed New Muscogee County Jail Location**

**Resolution (291-25):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the Mayor or his designee to issue a notice to proceed for schematic design services only, up to the current amount of the contract, for a proposed 1,600 bed new jail to be located on approximately 25 acres of city owned property at 601 & 602 11<sup>th</sup> avenue. Future design phases shall not begin until funding is identified and services are authorized by city council. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried by a seven-to-one vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Chambers, Cogle, Crabb, Garrett, Hickey and Tucker voting in favor and



Councilor Anker voting in opposition, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**Councilor John Anker** stated for the record that he did not receive answers to all his questions regarding the site selection, and that his vote would reflect this concern. He later stated that while he is in favor of the new jail, he will vote differently than most at this time because he believes that additional time is needed to fully understand the costs involved with such a project.

**Inspections and Code Director Ryan Pruett** explained that the resolution would authorize the City to issue a notice to proceed with consultants already under contract. He noted that several site options had been studied, and the fact that this property is city-owned was a key factor in its selection. He added that testing has already been conducted on the site, and if the resolution is approved, the design consultant would be authorized to begin the schematic design process.

### **3. FY25 Governor's Office of Highway Safety, State and Community - Highway Safety Program (HEAT- Muscogee) – Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic**

**Resolution (292-25):** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant of \$368,897.76, or as otherwise awarded, FY25 Governor's Office Of Highway Safety, State And Community - Highway Safety Program (HEAT – Muscogee), and to amend the Multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. funds will be utilized for combating impaired and aggressive drivers. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

### **4. FY25 Governor's Office of Highway Safety, State and Community - Highway Safety Program (Operation Safe Walk and Ride Columbus)**

**Resolution (293-25):** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant of \$79,400, or as otherwise awarded, FY25 Governor's Office of Highway Safety, State And Community - Highway Safety Program (Operation Safe Walk and Ride Columbus), and to amend the Multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. Funds will be utilized to provide a Comprehensive Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program that promotes safe pedestrian and bicycle practices, educates drivers to share the road safely with other road users, and provides safe facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists through a combination of policy, enforcement, communication, education, incentive, and engineering strategies. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent for the vote. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

## **5. PURCHASES**

- A. Adoption of GDOT Procurement Policy for the Procurement Management and Administration of Engineering and Design-Related Consultant Services

**Resolution (294-25):** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter of agreement to adopt the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) policy for the procurement, management and

administration of engineering and design-related consultant services that are federally funded and administered by GDOT. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

#### B. Vehicle Buildout services for the Sheriff's Office

**Resolution (295-25):** A resolution authorizing payment to 911iNet (Phenix City, Alabama) in the total amount of \$55,000.00 for vehicle buildout services for the Sheriff's Office. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

#### C. Declaration of Surplus Equipment

**Resolution (296-25):** A resolution authorizing the declaration as surplus, the equipment shown on the attached lists, as well as, miscellaneous office equipment and furniture, in accordance with Section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government; additionally, approval is also requested to declare any items as surplus, which may be added to the list prior to the auction. The equipment has either been replaced or placed out of service due to excess maintenance cost. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

#### D. Declaration of Surplus and Recycling of Various Vehicles

**Resolution (297-25):** A resolution authorizing the declaration of various vehicles listed below as surplus, in accordance with section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government; and is further authorized to recycle the vehicles for parts. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

#### E. Intercom Control System Upgrade for Muscogee County Prison

**Resolution (298-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of an upgrade to the intercom control system at Muscogee County Prison from American Detention Services (Decatur, AL) in the amount of \$329,750.00. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(At the conclusion of the City Manager's Agenda, Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

### **EMERGENCY PURCHASES**

#### 1. Emergency Purchase Information Only: Backup Generator, Diesel Tank and Trailer

2. Emergency Purchase Information Only: Eight (8) Ford Explorer PIU Interceptors Patrol Vehicles for the Columbus Police Department

## **CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA**

### **ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY**

1. Certificate of Need Application filed by The Medical Center, Inc. d/b/a/ Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown (PCRM) on August 18, 2025, for its project to provide open heart services.
2. Public Meeting Invite: Community Reinvestment Department & Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC) Meeting, Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

### **ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

3. Request to declare the seats of Gloria Strode and Carolyn Star-Ross as vacant on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to declare the seats as vacant, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
4. **Resolution (299-25):** A Resolution changing the regularly scheduled Council meetings for the month of November 2025. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
5. **Resolution (300-25):** A Resolution changing the regularly scheduled Council meetings for the month of December 2025. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
6. **Minutes of the following boards**
  - 457 Deferred Compensation Plan Board 05-01-25
  - Bd. of Historic & Architectural Review 02-10-25
  - Bd. of Historic & Architectural Review 03-10-25
  - Bd. of Historic & Architectural Review 12-09-24
  - Board of Tax Assessors #26-25
  - Board of Tax Assessors #27-25
  - Board of Water Commissioners 06-16-25
  - Development Authority of Columbus 07-10-25
  - Liberty Theatre Advisory Bd. 03-13-25

Liberty Theatre Advisory Bd. 05-21-25

Liberty Theatre Advisory Bd. 07-10-25

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

7. Resignation from John Sheftall from the Housing Authority of Columbus. **(ADD-ON)**

- NOTE: Confirmed on 05-13-2025, to serve on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (BHAR) as the Historic Columbus Foundation Representative.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution (301-25):** A resolution excusing Councilor Glenn Davis from the August 26, 2025, Council Meeting. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**Resolution (302-25):** A resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the August 26, 2025, Council Meeting. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED**

8. **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

**A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term expiring on March 24, 2025, on the Building Authority of Columbus, *(Mayor's Appointment)*. There were none.

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

A nominee for the seat of John Stacy *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expires on October 24, 2025, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is renominating John Stacy to serve another term on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried

unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

A nominee for the seat of Jemirian Pitts *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expires on October 24, 2025, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is renominating Jemirian Pitts to serve another term on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

A nominee for the seat of Jessica M. Ferriter *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expires on October 24, 2025, on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is renominating Jessica M. Ferriter to serve another term on the Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

#### **C. CONVENTION & VISITORS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (CVB):**

A nominee for the seat of Amy Bryan *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners. *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is renominating John Amy Bryan to serve another term on the Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

A nominee for the seat of Lauren Becker *(Not Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners *(Council's Appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Miles Greathouse *(Not Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners *(Council's Appointment)*. There were none.

#### **D. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of John Greenman *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expired on April 30, 2025, on the Housing Authority of Columbus *(Mayor's Appointment)*. Mayor Henderson nominated Gwendolyn Ruff to succeed John Greenman on the Housing Authority of Columbus. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

**E. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term that expired on June 30, 2025, as a representative of the Business Community on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

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

- A. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Bruce McPherson was nominated to serve another term. (*Councilor Cogle's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2029. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)
- B. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Karl Douglass was nominated to serve another term. (*Councilor Hickey's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2029. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)
- C. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Sherri Carmack was nominated to fill a vacant seat. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2027. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)
- D. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:** Anthony Johnson was nominated to fill a vacant seat for a representative of Senatorial District 15. (*Councilor Hickey's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)
- E. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:** Devon Moree was nominated to fill a vacant seat for a representative of Senatorial District 15. (*Councilor Hickey's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2027. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)
- F. RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:** Ricky Weeks was nominated to succeed Thomas Barron. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term Expires: June 30, 2029. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

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

**A. CIVIC CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 8 Representative for a term that expired on March 1, 2025, on the Civic Center Advisory Board (*District 8 – Garrett*). There were none.

**B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 2 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 2 – Davis*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 6 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 6 – Allen*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 8 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 8 – Garrett*). There were none.

**C. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Abdel Hernandez (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 1 - Hickey*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Tracy Walton-King (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 3 - Huff*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Paul T. Berry, III (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 5 - Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Walter Taylor (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 7 - Cogle*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Scott Taft (*Not eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 9 - Anker*). There were none.

**C. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the District 5 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 5 – Crabb*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Councilor Crabb is nominating Grayson Aldric Miley, Brookstone High School. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

A nominee for the District 9 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 9 – Anker*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 10 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 10 – Chambers*). There were none.

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

**A. BOARD OF HONOR:**

A nominee for the seat of Norma “Beth” Harris (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expires on October 31, 2025, on the Board of Honor (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Norma “Beth” Harris to serve another term on the Board of Honor.

**B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on June 30, 2026, as a Senatorial District 29 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

**C. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Gloria Strode (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on August 14, 2025, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none. Clerk of Council McLemore reminded Council this seat was declared vacant as Item #3 on her agenda.

A nominee for the seat of Cleteus D. Richardson (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on August 14, 2025, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Council’s Appointment*). Clerk of Councilor McLemore stated Mayor Pro Tem Allen is renominating Cleteus D. Richardson to serve another term.

A nominee for the seat of Arreasha Z. Lawrence Bryant (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on August 14, 2025, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Council’s Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Councilor Chambers is renominating Arreasha Z. Lawrence Bryant to serve another term.

**D. NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Judge David Ranieri (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

**PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)**

3. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Crime Prevention Programs, Rules and Standards.
4. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Crime Prevention Grants.



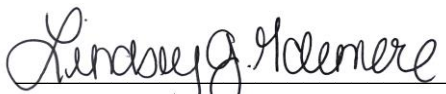
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and property acquisition and disposal as requested by City Attorney Fay. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting, and the time being 9:01 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 9:12 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and property acquisition and disposal; however, there were no votes taken.

**Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson** provided a brief update on the search to fill the position of City Manager, stating the Mercer Group held an open discussion with approximately 23 individuals appointed by members of Council. He expressed his belief that the discussion went exceptionally well and stated the job posting has been published.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the August 26, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Davis and Huff being absent from the meeting, and the time being 9:14 p.m.



Lindsey G. McEmore  
Clerk of Council  
Council of Columbus, Georgia

