COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers	October 28, 2025
C. E. "Red" McDaniel City Services Center- Second Floor	5:30 PM
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906	Regular Meeting

M A Y O R ' S   A G E N D A

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett (via teleconference), Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff (arrived at 6:26 p.m.) 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: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III was absent. Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall was also absent.

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The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet: (1) MA#4 – Columbus Water Works 2026 Rate Update; (2) MA#5 – Transitional Audit of the Clerk of Council's Office October 28, 2025; (3) CM#9(A) – Homeowner Accessibility Rehabilitation Program

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) PA#3 Transnational Repression; (2) PA#5 Photos of Culvert on City Owned Property; (3) PA#7 Acknowledgement of the Community Dinner in The Mill District Community; (4) PA#8 Document, Re: Practicing Leadership Without Accountability. A Call for Codified Ethics & Responsive Governance

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen, Presiding

INVOCATION: Offered by Pastor Wayne Anthony, St. Peter UMC of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Girl Scout Troop 50272

MINUTES:

1. Approval of minutes for October 14, 2025, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent for the vote. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

PROCLAMATIONS:

2. **Proclamation:** Down Syndrome Awareness Month

Receiving: Toya Barnes

Councilor Travis Chambers read the proclamation into the record proclaiming October 2025, as *Down Syndrome Awareness Month,* highlighting the prevalence of Down syndrome, its genetic causes, and the diverse abilities of individuals living with the condition. Also recognizing the Down

Syndrome Association of Greater Columbus for its commitment to providing resources, advocacy, and opportunities that empower individuals and families throughout the Chattahoochee Valley.

3. Proclamation: House of Heroes 25th Anniversary Week

Receiving: Susan Wood and Pastor Wayne Anthony

Councilor John Anker read the proclamation into the record proclaiming the week of November 2-9, 2025, as *House of Heroes 25th Anniversary Week,* recognizing the 25th Anniversary of House of Heroes, Inc., honoring its long-standing mission to assist military and public safety veterans through free home repairs and improvements.

PRESENTATIONS:

4. Columbus Water Works – Rate Model Study

Presented by: Jeremy Cummings, President of Columbus Water Works

Jeremy Cummings, President of Columbus Water Works presented an overview of the city's 2026 proposed water rate model and long-term financial strategy. He explained that inflation, aging infrastructure, and stricter federal and state environmental regulations have driven the need for strategic planning and incremental rate adjustments. To sustain operations and fund upcoming projects, he recommended a 4.95% rate increase along with the introduction of a new Regulatory Compliance Fee. He noted that these adjustments would add an estimated $7–$9 per month for most residential customers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *Val McGowen.* – expressed concern about the timing of the proposed rate increase. He urged the council to delay the vote for at least 90 days.

Jeremy Cummings, President of Columbus Water Works responded to Mr. McGowan's concerns by acknowledging his request and confirming that it would be formally communicated to the Columbus Water Works Board and taken up at the next meeting scheduled for November 10th**.**

- *Dr. Marvin Broadwater Sr.* – expressed concern about the public engagement process surrounding the proposed water rate increase and suggested that the Water Works hold an additional public hearing specifically for residents to express their views.

Jeremy Cummings, President of Columbus Water Works responded by stating that a public hearing for the water rate proposal was held on October 16th at Columbus Technical College and was open to the public for participation and feedback.

5. Transition Audit Report for Clerk of Council

Presented by: Donna McGinnis, Internal Auditor/Compliance Officer

Internal Auditor/Compliance Officer Donna McGinnis explained that a transitional audit was authorized in July 2025 and aimed to evaluate internal processes, document management, staffing efficiency, and compliance within the Clerk of Council's Office.

Forensic Auditor Benjamin Meadow explained the audit methodology and fieldwork completed for the transitional audit of the Clerk of Council's Office. He observed that the office manages a large volume of long-term records under significant time pressure, often correcting incomplete or improperly formatted documents submitted by other departments. He emphasized that improved document management systems and standardized processes would significantly enhance efficiency and reduce administrative strain within the Clerk's Office

Forensic Auditor Grant Conway described the audit scope and field observations, noting a cooperative, team-oriented culture in the Clerk of Council's Office and the tools/facilities used to run operations.

Forensic Auditor Jonathan Smith outlined the audit team's formal recommendations following completion of the transitional audit of the Clerk of Council's Office. He presented four key action items aimed at improving efficiency, compliance, and service delivery:

1. Implement a Contract Management System
2. Fill the Vacant Support Position
3. Adopt AI Technology to Improve Efficiency:
4. Fully transfer cemetery plot availability and confirmation duties from the Clerk's Office to the Public Works Cemetery Division

Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore discussed the office's core responsibility as the custodian of all city records, emphasizing that her office must maintain official, fully executed copies for public access and open records requests. She explained ongoing challenges with incomplete physical contracts and highlighted that the city currently lacks a formally adopted records retention policy, although a 1997 resolution authorized adherence to the state's retention schedule. To address this, she recommended that the city formally adopt the state's local government retention schedule by resolution to ensure consistent compliance across all departments.

She clarified that a document management system (not contract management software) would better meet her office's needs, given the large volume and variety of records handled.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR IT DEPARTMENT:

- A request was made for a review of available contract management systems to determine if the city already owns suitable software. *(Councilor Tucker)*

FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:

- A request was made to explore funding for new software in the midyear budget, pending cost evaluation. *(Councilor Tucker)*

FOR CITY ATTORNEY:

- A request was made to draft a Records Retention Resolution adopting the Georgia State Archives retention schedule. *(Councilor Tucker)*

In response to Councilor Tucker's request for the Information Technology (IT) Department to develop a citywide Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy, **Deputy City Lisa Manager Goodwin** confirmed that an AI policy has already drafted and will be shared with the City Attorney for review.

Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore stated that she will submit a written request outlining the specific needs of the Clerk of Council's Office for budget consideration**.**

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance (25-057) - 2nd Reading -** REZN-07-25-1385: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1420 Wynnton Road** (parcel # 026-024-001) from Residential Office (RO) Zoning District to Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Cogle) Councilor Cogle made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

2. **Ordinance (25-058) - 2nd Reading -** REZN-08-25-0015: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **9055 & 9067 Veterans Parkway** (parcel # 079-001-004/034) from Residential Estate - 1 (RE1) Zoning District to Residential Office (RO) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Davis)) Councilor Chambers made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

3. **Ordinance - 2nd Reading -** REZN-08-25-1511: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6839 Mitchell Drive** (parcel # 013-014-009A) from Single Family Residential - 2 (SFR2) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Tucker)) Councilor Cogle made a motion to delay the ordinance for 30 days, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

In response to Councilor Tucker's inquiry **Assistant Planning Director John Renfroe** clarified that the primary difference between the two zoning designations is the lot frontage requirement, specifically, that the parcel in question has approximately 208 feet of frontage**,** which would allow up to four homes to be constructed instead of two under the current zoning.

4. **Ordinance (25-059) - 2nd Reading -** REZN-08-25-1513: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **4627 Milgen Road** (parcel # 083-044-001B) from Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) Zoning District to General Commercial (GC) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

5. **Ordinance (25-060) - 2nd Reading -** REZN-08-25-1514: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **4459 Cusseta Road** (parcel # 090-033-011) from Single Family Residential - 1 (SFR1) Zoning District to Heavy Manufacturing/ Industrial (HMI) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Huff) Councilor Huff made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

6. **Ordinance (25-061) - 2nd Reading -** REZN-08-25-1515: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **800,802,804 7th Avenue, 800, 801,804, 805, 808, 809, 812 8th Avenue and 801, 805, 809, 811 9th Avenue** (parcel # 019-020-012/13/14/19/20/21 & 019-021-009/12/29/30/31/32/33/34) from Residential Office (RO), General Commercial (GC), or Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) Zoning District to Uptown (UPT) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.)(Councilor Cogle) Councilor Cogle made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

7. **Ordinance (25-062) - 2nd Reading -** An ordinance amending the "Official Street Map, City of Columbus, Georgia", by changing the official street name of the public roadway designated as "Masterbuilt Court" to Master Wall court, to be one street name consistent with the length of roadway; authorizing the street name change; repealing any conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem and Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mrs. Betty Lawrence, Re: The Time it Takes to Receive Business and Alcohol Licenses, and the Costs Associated with the Delays.

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen asked Ms. Lawrence to provide information to the City Manager's Office, noting that staff could follow up once they had the necessary context about the situation and the businesses involved.

2. Mr. Paresh Patel, Re: Request for Refund of Survey Fees Associated with Lottery Machines.

City Attorney Clifton Fay clarified that the citizen appears to be seeking a refund request, which must be submitted in writing under O.C.G.A. § 48-5-380. He advised that the proper procedure is to file the written request with the Clerk of Council whose office will process it for council consideration. He said once the request is formally submitted, the City Council could review and act on the matter.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR CITY ATTORNEY:

- A request was made to bring to Council the grandfather clause related to businesses operating coin-operated amusement machines (COAMs) for review at the November 4th Council Meeting. *(Councilor Tucker)*

FOR CLERK OF COUNCIL:

- A request was to pull the audio/video recording from the meeting where the COAM ordinance was passed, so Council members can confirm what was discussed and intended—particularly regarding the grandfather provision. *(Councilor Cogle)*

FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:

-A request was made to investigate reports of harassment within the Revenue Department involving businesses attempting to purchase business licenses. *(Councilor Hickey)*

3. Mr. Pieter Friedrich, Re: Requesting Action to Prevent the Imposition on Free Speech of Residents.

4. Ms. Rosetta Demming, Re: Appreciation for Excellent Services.

5. Ms. Leigh Matty, Re: Culvert Maintenance on City Owned Property

Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin clarified that the issue in question involves private property, not city-owned land. The City's responsibility is limited to ensuring the outfall remains open and unobstructed to allow proper water flow.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:

-A request was made to inspect the drainage area near the VA Clinic to determine whether water flow is obstructed and to confirm property ownership responsibilities between the City and the homeowners' association. *(Councilor Davis)*

-A request was made to clear the city right-of-way along the roadway of overgrowth. *(Councilor Davis)*

-A request was made for Code Enforcement to review nearby property to the north of the VA Clinic where unauthorized land disturbance and tree removal may be occurring. *(Councilor Davis)*

6. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing the Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: How to Run a City, United Way, Pay for Performance, and Lame Ducks.

7. Mrs. Lauren Chambers, representing The Mill District, Inc., Re: Community Dinner for The Mill District Community.

8. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Practicing Leadership Without Accountability. A Call for Codified Ethics & Responsive Governance.

9. Mr. Ify Agbasi, representing Children's 1st, Re: Purchase of Property Located at 1429 Morris Road.

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen stated that someone from the appropriate department would contact Mr. Agbasi to follow up on his concern within 30 days**.**

10. Mr. Gernard Hatcher, representing Neicy's BBQ, Re: Road Construction & Restaurant Closure.

At the request of Councilor Huff, **Deputy City Manager Lisa Hodge** explained that all right-of-way acquisitions follow a formal process whenever a road project is undertaken. She emphasized that the city only considers impacts within the defined construction parameters.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Annual HUD Entitlement, Capital Fund Program, and Moving to Work Funding – Environmental Reviews and Request for Release of Funds Approval

Resolution (366-25) - A resolution authorizing the City Manager, Mayor, the Deputy City Manager, and/or his/her designee are hereby authorized to execute environmental reviews and requests for release of funds for the building and site improvements annually performed through HUD Entitlement, Capital Fund Program (CFP), and Moving to Work (MTW) funds. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

2. BJA FY25 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program to Support Law Enforcement Agencies – Muscogee County Sheriff's Office

Approval is requested to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Assistance for funds to properly implement BWC programs that can strengthen the evidentiary foundation for criminal prosecutions, provide reliable documentation of officer-citizen encounters, and deter assaults on officers, with the federal amount requested being $200,000 and with a local in-kind match of 50% required ($200,000) totaling a project cost of $400,000 or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and on the table for discussion. Councilor Anker made a substitute motion to delay the resolution until the following meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(NOTE: Additional action was taken on Item #2 after the Clerk of Council's Agenda.)*

3. FY25 Office of Justice Programs Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) – Muscogee County Sheriff's Office

Approval is requested for the Mayor, or their designee to apply for, accept, and expend any awarded funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Assistance for funds to reduce violent crime and improve police-community relations through a range of cross-sector enforcement, prevention, and intervention strategies, in the amount of $2,000,000 or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award. Councilor Anker made a motion to delay the resolution until the following meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

4. Bright from the Start – Snack Grant – Parks & Recreation

Resolution (367-25) – A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to apply for and accept a grant of $67,989.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Department of Early Childcare and Learning Bright from the Start to continue the child and adult care food program and amend the multi-government grant funds by the amount awarded. The grant will cross over 2025 and 2026. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

5. Firehouse Subs Grant

Resolution (368-25) - A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant for a medium simulator manikin for Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services in the amount of $16,011.62, or as otherwise awarded, from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation with no matching funds required. The multi-governmental fund will be amended by the amount of the award. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

6. Peach Little League Hill, Creek, and Wilkinson Field Improvements Donation – Parks & Recreation

Resolution (369-25) - A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to accept the donation of improvements to Hill, Creek, and Wilkinson Field at Lakebottom Park. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

7. Donation of Peace Pole – Parks & Recreation

Resolution (370-25) - A resolution authorizing Columbus Parks and Recreation to accept the donation of a rotary peace pole at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park from the North Columbus Rotary Club. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

8. <u>PURCHASES</u>

A. Two (2) 2025 Ford Police Pursuit Explores for the Sherriff's Office – Georgias Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (371-25) - A resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) 2025 Ford Police Pursuit Explorers for the Sheriff 's Office via Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) at a unit price of $50,470.00 and a total cost of $100,940.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia State Contract #99999-001-SPD0000183-0006. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

C. Waste Management Software System and Equipment for Public Works HGACBUY Cooperative Contract

Resolution (372-25) - A resolution authorizing the purchase of a waste management software system and equipment from Routeware, Inc., (Portland, OR) in the amount of $383,557.00, for the first year, to include the SmartCity software subscription, implementation, tablets, telematic devices, etc., as well as vendor's freight and travel cost for implementation. The Mayor and/or his designee is further authorized to pay the annual recurring subscription fees in the approximate amount of $264,936.00, plus applicable increases, which will be budgeted in subsequent fiscal years. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative purchase via HGACBuy Contract #FL10-24A. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

B. One (1) Electric Paratransit Bus for METRA – Georgia State Contract Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (373-25) – A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) electric paratransit bus from ABC Bus, Inc. (Winter Garden, FL) at a cost of $430,266.21, plus any contingency costs due to manufacturing or FTA changes. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000212-0010. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

<u>Everett Fleming, Assistant Director of METRA,</u> explained that the city is phasing out hybrid buses due to their high maintenance costs and difficulty of repair. He noted that electric buses are now being introduced as part of the city's move toward more sustainable transit operations. He stated that electric buses are more cost-effective overall, citing their lower maintenance needs, fewer parts, and environmental benefits compared to diesel and hybrid models.

9. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. HARP Update - Rob Scott, Director, Community Reinvestment

Director of Community Reinvestment Rob Scott provided an update on the Homeowner Accessibility Rehabilitation Program (HARP). He reported that since its launch in July 2024, the program has received 779 applications, completed 25 home rehabilitations, and had several more underway. He highlighted several successful home repair projects that improved safety and accessibility for residents.

Topic of Discussion: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds

In response to questions raised by Councilor Hickey, **Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** confirmed that all federal ARP funds have been obligated and reported to the federal government, with spending allowed through December 2026. She added that about $132,000 remains from a separate state ARP small business grant, which is being finalized for distribution to applicants who had started but had not completed the process. She clarified that the remaining state ARP funds must be used for small business grants only but agreed to research potential ways the city could support food banks, possibly through partnerships with nonprofits like United Way.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: October 28, 2025

TO: Mayor and Councilors

FROM: Finance Department

SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

October 31, 2025

1. **Course Instructors for the HR Department/The Learning Center (Annual Contact) – RFP No. 26-0015**
   Scope of RFP
   The Department of HR/The Learning Center is seeking multiple contractors to provide instructors in various training modules to employees interested in growing and developing their skills within the Columbus Consolidated Government. Training will be conducted on an ‘as needed’ basis.

November 5, 2025

1. **Plumbing and Irrigation Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 26-0002**
   Scope of Bid
   Provide plumbing & irrigation supplies on an “as needed basis” to be picked up or delivered to Columbus Consolidated Government. The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

November 14, 2025

1. **Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Public Safety Building – RFP No. 26-0016**
   Scope of RFP
   Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage for Construction Manager as General Contractor (GC) services to construct renovations to the existing Public Safety Building located at 510 10th Street. The renovations will consist of mechanical,

electrical, plumbing system upgrades, interior alterations, interior finish upgrades, and exterior shell maintenance and replacement. The estimated construction budget for this project is $4,500,000.

The selected vendor will be responsible for providing preconstruction services to assist the City and the design team with review and selection of the final scope of work to accommodate the funds available. Following finalization of the scope of work, the vendor will serve as the GC to construct the improvements.

November 19, 2025

1. **Dragonfly Trail – Midtown Connector Phase I - RFB No. 26-0003**
   Scope of Bid
   This project consists of constructing a connection from the existing trail at the intersection of Warren Road and Wynnton Road following Bradley Street and Warren Williams Road to Dinglewood Park. The trail also travels through Dinglewood Park to the intersection of 18th Avenue and 13th Street. The project is within the City of Columbus property and public right of way. The project length is approximately 4,956 LF and includes a 10' wide concrete trail, landscape improvements, stormwater improvements, and trail amenities. Additional work associated with the project includes minor demolition and clearing, erosion control, grading, and signage.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. **Resolution (374-25)** – A Resolution approving an application submitted by Brandi Jones for an Honorary Designation to install an AED unit at Lakebottom Park in honor of her son, Anthony Bonner. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

2. **Resolution (375-25)** – A Resolution approving an application submitted by J. Phillip Thayer for an Honorary Designation plaque at Pop Austin Recreation Center in honor of Angie Shehane. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

3. Resignation – Douglas Lee Koppang has submitted his resignation from the Uptown Façade Board. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

4. **Minutes of the following boards**

   Board of Tax Assessors #32-25

   Board of Tax Assessors #33-25

   Board of Tax Assessors #35-25

   Board of Tax Assessors #36-25

   Board of Water Commissioners 08-11-25

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

5. 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. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for the seat of Tiffany N. Stacy *(Eligible to serve another term)* who served in the Resident Position for a term that expires on November 16, 2025, on the Housing Authority of Columbus *(Mayor's Appointment).* There were none.

C. 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.

6. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

A. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION: Kristasia Heath was nominated to fill the vacant seat for Senatorial District 29. *(Councilor Crabb's nominee)* Term expires: June 30, 2026. Councilor Tucker made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

7. APPOINTMENTS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

A. AIRPORT COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Art Guin (*Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expires on December 31, 2025 on the Airport Commission *(Commission's Nominee/Confirmed by Council)*. There were none.

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

A. 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.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Paul T. Berry, III *(Not interested in serving another term)* for a term expiring on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission *(District 5 – Crabb).* There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Scott Taft *(Not Eligible)* for a term expiring 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 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).* Councilor Chambers nominated Carl Tuttan to serve on the Youth Advisory Council. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Garrett.)*

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

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the vacant seat of the Georgia Veterinary Technician with a term expiring on October 15, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board *(Council's Appointment).* There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the Animal Rescue Shelter Representative with a term expiring on October 15, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board *(Council's Appointment).* There were none.

B. BOARD OF HEALTH:

A nominee for the seat of Yasmine Cathright *(Not Eligible)* with the term expiring on December 31, 2025, on the Board of Health *(Council's Appointment).* There were none.

C. BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS:

A nominee for the seat of Wes Kelley *(Eligible to serve another term)* with a term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Board of Water Commissioners *(Council's Appointment).* Councilor Crabb renominated Wes Kelley to serve another term on the Board of Water Commissioners.

D. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for a vacant seat for *a* term that expired on August 14, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat for *a* term that expires on August 14, 2026, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

E. <u>NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIVE DISEASES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES- COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD:</u>

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.

F. <u>PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:</u>

A nominee for the seat of Willie Butler *(Not Eligible) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Yolanda Sumbry Sewell *(Not Eligible) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Natalie N. McDowell *(Eligible to serve another term) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** Councilor Crabb renominated Natalie N. McDowell to serve another term on the Personnel Review Board.

A nominee for the seat of Delano Leftfwich *(Not Eligible) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat *(Alternate Member 1) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat *(Alternate Member 2) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat *(Alternate Member 3) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat *(Alternate Member 5) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** There were none.

G. <u>RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:</u>

A nominee for the seat of Lawrence R. Stanford *(Eligible to serve another term) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Recreation Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** Councilor Tucker renominated Lawrence R. Stanford to serve another term on the Recreation Advisory Board.

A nominee for the seat of Lane Ogletree-Battle *(Eligible to serve another term) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Recreation Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** Councilor Huff renominated Lawrence R. Stanford to serve another term on the Recreation Advisory Board.

A nominee for the seat of Rodney L. Lawrence *(Eligible to serve another term) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Recreation Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** Councilor Huff renominated Lawrence R. Stanford to serve another term on the Recreation Advisory Board.

A nominee for the seat of Brantley Pittman *(Eligible to serve another term) for a* term that expires on December 31, 2025, on the Recreation Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment)***.** Councilor Huff renominated Lawrence R. Stanford to serve another term on the Recreation Advisory Board.

H. UPTOWN FAÇADE BOARD:

A nominee for the vacant seat of the Uptown Business Improvement District Representative with a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Uptown Façade Board *(Council's Appointment).* There were none.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA (continued):

2. BJA FY25 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program to Support Law Enforcement Agencies – Muscogee County Sheriff's Office

Resolution (376-25) 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 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice programs, Bureau of Assistance, BJA FY25 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program to support law enforcement agencies, with the federal amount requested being $200,000 and with a local in-kind match of 50% required ($200,00) totaling a project cost of $400,000 or as otherwise awarded, and amend the multi-governmental fund budget by the amount of the award. Funds will be utilized to properly implement BWC Programs that can strengthen the Evidentiary Foundation for Criminal Prosecutions, provide reliable documentation of officer-citizen encounters, and deter assaults on officers. Councilor Anker made a motion to reconsider his original motion to delay Item #2 on the City Manager's Agenda and approve, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(NOTE: Action handled at the direction of the City Attorney.)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Pro Tem Allen entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss security plans for public buildings as requested by City Attorney Fay. Councilor Tucker made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 9:17 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 9:42 p.m., at which time, Mayor Pro Tem Allen announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss security plans for public buildings; however, there were no votes taken.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Allen entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Tucker to adjourn the October 28, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and the time being 9:42 p.m.

Lindsey G. McLemore

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