



~~POST SUMMARY MINUTES~~

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

August 11, 2026
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S A G E N D A

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Simi Barnes, Travis L. Chambers (arrived at 9:03 a.m.), Joanne Cogle (arrived at 9:21 a.m.), Cathy Cook, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Tyson Begly, Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore, and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: Councilor Bruce Huff was absent.

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. John Hamilton, St Thomas Episcopal Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Serenity Powell from Hannan Elementary

MINUTES:

Mayor's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

1. Approval of minutes for the July 28, 2026, Council Meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor's Agenda #2: No Action Taken (Proclamation read into the record by Mayor Pro Tem Allen)

2. **Proclamation:** Ridgecrest Rehab & Skilled Nursing Day

Receiving: Britt Hayes, President/CEO Hospital Authority of Columbus

PRESENTATIONS

3. River Valley Regional Commission Update - Jim Livingston, Executive Director, RVRC, and Hon. Carvel Lewis. *No Action Taken*
4. Engineering Department Operational Internal Audit Report – Donna McGinnis, Internal Auditor/Compliance Officer. *No Action Taken*

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

City Attorney’s Agenda #1: Vote Result: ADOPTED

1. **2nd Reading:** REZN 05-26-0955: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at 3849 N Linden Drive (parcel # 087-028-012) from Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 2 (SFR2) Zoning District.) (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Barnes)

City Attorney’s Agenda #2: Vote Result: ADOPTED

2. **2nd Reading:** An ordinance amending Article XIV of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code to revise and modernize the Article; to adopt current state rules and regulations; to provide for a penalty for violations; and for other purposes. (Request of Muscogee County Board of Health) (Mayor Pro Tem)

City Attorney’s Agenda #3: Vote Result: ADOPTED

3. **2nd Reading:** An Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Columbus Code to rename and update the provisions pertaining to the Animal Services Advisory Board; and for other purposes. (Councilors Tucker, Crabb, and Garrett)

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Tim Mason, Re: PAWS Humane. (*Rescheduled from 07-14-2026.*) ***Not Present***

2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Pay Equity – Speaking up for Women. ***No Action Taken***
3. Mx. Mary Reynolds, Re: Opposition to ICE Cooperation. ***Not Present***
4. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: Support for Sheriff Greg Countryman. ***No Action Taken***
5. Ms. Kim Decker, Re: Public Comment Decorum and Sign Regulations. ***No Action Taken***
6. Ms. Sanquenetta Requena, representing Xi Mu Upsilon Sorority Incorporated, Re: Community Baby Shower Event. ***No Action Taken***
7. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy, Re: Community Concerns & Elected Accountability. ***Not Present***
8. Mr. Corie Wilson, Re: Department Oversight & Accountability. ***Not Present***

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

City Manager's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

1. Street Acceptance – Flame Street, that portion of Georgia Fire Street, and that portion of Confetti Blush Drive

Approval is requested for the acceptance of Flame Street, that portion of Georgia Fire Street, and that portion of Confetti Blush Drive located in Old Town, a Mixed Community.

City Manager's Agenda #2: Vote Result: APPROVED

2. GDOT Street Lighting Agreement

Approval is requested to enter into an Agreement Between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Columbus Consolidated Government (City) for the purpose of the installation, operation, and maintenance of the lighting system that will be installed within the GDOT P.I.0019535 Round-a-bout SR 22/US 80 at Schomburg Road & Blackmon Road – TIA Project.

City Manager's Agenda #3: Vote Result: APPROVED

3. Intergovernmental Agreement with the Columbus Water Works

Approval is requested to authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Water Commissioners d/b/a Columbus Water Works to transfer the property located at 1125 Alexander Street (188 020 006) and beneficial use and improvements of portions of 1331 Alexander Street (188 020 005) & 1315 Alexander Street (188 020 008). These tracts will

provide future opportunities for CWW Administrative, Environmental Service, Field Service, and Maintenance personnel.

City Manager's Agenda #4: Vote Result: APPROVED

4. State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs Georgia Rehoused Application (Valley Healthcare)

Approval is requested to apply, and if awarded, accept the State of Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Acute Homeless Response and Prevention Services Grant through Georgia Rehoused on behalf of Valley Healthcare in the amount of \$250,000 and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount awarded. The grant will be utilized by Valley Healthcare Systems, Inc. to cover the cost of two (2) intensive case managers and case management resources for unsheltered homeless populations for two (2) years.

5. PURCHASES

City Manager's Agenda #5(A-F): Vote Result: APPROVED

- A. One (1) 2026 Chevrolet Suburban 2WD 4DR LS for Muscogee County Prison – Georgia Statewide Cooperative Contract Purchase
- B. FY27 Sidewalk Construction and Repairs for Engineering
- C. Onsite Imaging and Indexing Services for Clerk of Superior Court – OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract Purchase
- D. Rescue Pumper for Fire and EMS Department – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase
- E. E-1 Three (3) Sutphen Heavy Duty Custom Pumpers for Fire and EMS Department – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase/ E-2 GMA Lease for Three (3) Sutphen Heavy Duty Custom Pumpers for Fire and EMS Department
- F. Laundry Room Renovations for Muscogee County Prison

EMERGENCY PURCHASES

1. Emergency Purchases – Information Only

On July 28, 2028, the Engineering Director, R. Vance Beck, identified the need for repairs to a portion of the retaining wall on the Riverwalk. The repairs will stabilize a section of the wall where a brick has fallen. This will prevent the structure from failing and avoid potential injury to citizens.

The Engineering Department received a quote for the repair from Brasfield & Gorrie in the amount of \$70,000.00. Brasfield & Gorrie is one of the vendors awarded the contract for On-Call General Contractor Services (Annual Contract), RFP No. 25-0003, per Res. No. 460-24 dated November 19, 2024.

The City Manager approved the emergency purchase on July 28, 2026

Funds are available in the FY27 budget: LOST-Infrastructure Fund – Engineering – Infrastructure-LOST – General Construction – Riverwalk Renovations; 0109-250-9901-LOST-7661-94003-20270.

On Saturday, July 4, 2026, Warden Walker at Muscogee County Prison reported an unidentifiable person had breached the MCP property inside of the guard line. The civilian was on a bike and rode down the driveway, then turned around at the 4-way stop. Once out of sight, MCP had no way to determine exactly where the person went. Rutledge State Prison was also notified to be on the lookout. Due to this incident, Warden Walker requested an emergency purchase for additional rear-facing surveillance cameras to help prevent such occurrences, which could involve contraband introductions.

The department received a quote from Adapttosolve/Minuteman, in the amount of \$51,478.78. Adapttosolve/Minuteman is the City's annual contracted vendor to provide Security Surveillance and Security Access Equipment (RFP No. 23-0002).

The Mayor approved the emergency purchase on July 4, 2026.

6. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Operational and Performance Assessment Presentation - David Roberts, Partner, Mauldin & Jenkins. ***No Action Taken***
- B. Outdoor AED Project Update - Lauren McIntosh - Risk Management & Compliance Officer. ***No Action Taken***

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES – ACTION REQUESTED

Clerk of Council's Agenda #1: Vote Result: APPROVED

1. **Travel Authorization:** A travel authorization request for Councilor Simi Barnes to attend the ACCG Newly Elected Commissioners Conference in Athens, GA. (*State Mandated Training*)

Clerk of Council's Agenda #2: Vote Result: APPROVED

2. **Travel Authorization:** A travel authorization request for Councilor Cathy Cook to attend the ACCG Newly Elected Commissioners Conference in Athens, GA. (*State Mandated Training*)

Clerk of Council's Agenda #3: Vote Result: APPROVED

3. **Travel Authorization:** A travel authorization request for Councilor Cathy Cook to attend the 2026 National Foundation for Women Legislators Annual Conference in Nashville, TN.

Clerk of Council's Agenda #4: Vote Result: APPROVED

4. **Travel Authorization:** A travel authorization request for Councilor-Elect Sherrie Aaron to attend the ACCG Newly Elected Commissioners Conference in Athens, GA. (*State Mandated Training*)

Clerk of Council's Agenda #5: Vote Result: APPROVED

5. **Travel Authorization:** A travel authorization request for Councilor-Elect Becca Zajac to attend the ACCG Newly Elected Commissioners Conference in Athens, GA. (*State Mandated Training*)

Clerk of Council's Agenda #6: Vote Result: APPROVED

6. **Resolution:** A Resolution changing the regularly scheduled Council meetings for the month of November 2026.

Clerk of Council's Agenda #7: Vote Result: APPROVED

7. **Resolution:** A Resolution changing the regularly scheduled Council meetings for the month of December 2026.

Clerk of Council's Agenda (Add-On): Vote Result: APPROVED

RESOLUTION: A Resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the August 11, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. (ADD-ON)

Clerk of Council's Agenda #8: Vote Result: RECEIVED

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

Airport Commission 06-24-26

Clerk of Council's Agenda #9(C): No Action Taken

C. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Vacant
(Business Community)
Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Mayor's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	4 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 1 st Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 9
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 2

10. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – LISTED FOR CONFIRMATION:

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(A): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- A. COLUMBUS GOLF AUTHORITY:** Stephen Hyles was nominated to fill a vacant seat. *(Councilor Davis's nominee)* Term expires: June 30, 2030

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(B): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION (KCBC):** Shanise Thomason was nominated to fill a vacant seat for a representative of Senatorial District 29 (SD-29). *(Councilor Tucker's nominee)* Term expires: June 30, 2029

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(C): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- C. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION (KCBC):** Stephanie Quinones was nominated to fill a vacant seat for a representative of Senatorial District 29 (SD-29). *(Councilor Tucker's nominee)* Term expires: June 30, 2029

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(D): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- D. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:** Fernando C. Verdre was renominated to serve another term as the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Representative. *(Councilor Huff's nominee)* Term expires: August 14, 2030

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(E): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- E. **LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:** George C. McDowell was renominated to serve another term. *(Councilor Huff's nominee)* Term expires: August 14, 2030

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(F): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- F. **LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:** Zach Lee was renominated to serve another term. *(Councilor Huff's nominee)* Term expires: August 14, 2030

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(G): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- G. **PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION (PAC):** Rick Stallings was renominated to serve another term. *(Councilor Tucker's nominee)* Term expires: August 31, 2029

Clerk of Council's Agenda #10(H): Vote Result: CONFIRMED

- H. **PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION (PAC):** Ralph King was nominated to succeed Gloria Thomas. *(Councilor Crabb's nominee)* Term expires: August 31, 2029

11. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:

Clerk of Council's Agenda #11(A): No Action Taken

A. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (BHAR):

Vacant

Uptown Business Association

Term Expires: January 31, 2029

Open for Nominations
(Confirmed by Council)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 2 nd Monday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 6
Vacancies:	2	Senatorial District 29: 2

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

Clerk of Council's Agenda #12(A): No Action Taken

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Vacant

Term Expired: March 27, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 1 – Barnes)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 3 Year (Mayor Appts); 2 Year (Council Appts)

Term Limit: 2

Meetings: Quarterly – 2nd Thursday (March, June, September & December)

Women: 3 Senatorial District 15: 7

Vacancies: 2 Senatorial District 29: 4

Clerk of Council's Agenda #12(B): No Action Taken

B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Vacant

Term Expired: October 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 2 – Davis)

Vacant

Term Expired: October 31, 2028

Open for Nominations
(District 3 – Huff)

Vacant

Term Expired: October 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(District 4 – Tucker)

Vacant

Term Expired: October 31, 2028

Open for Nominations
(District 5 – Crabb)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms: 3 Year Term Limit: 2

Meetings: Monthly – 3rd Thursday

Women: 1 Senatorial District 15: 5

Vacancies: 4

Senatorial District 29: 2

Clerk of Council's Agenda #12(C): Nomination(s): Councilor Cook nominated Victoria Watson of Columbus High School to represent District 9 and Councilor Chambers nominated Jordan Borage to represent District 10; Vote Result: CONFIRMED the appointment of Victoria Watson (District 9) and Jordan Borage (District 10).

C. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

District 9 Nominee: _____

District 10 Nominee: _____

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

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(A): No Action Taken

A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:

Vacant
(Georgia Veterinary Technician)
Term Expires: October 15, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant
(Animal Rescue Shelter Representative)
Term Expires: October 15, 2026
Recommendations are submitted by a licensed animal shelter.

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Note: The Animal Control Advisory Board is currently developing recommendations for Council's consideration regarding the board's composition.

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Semiannually	
Women:	7	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	3	Senatorial District 29: 4

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(B): No Action Taken

B. BOARD OF HEALTH:

Yasmine Cathright

Not Eligible

Term Expires: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	5 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 4 th Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 0
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 5

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(C): No Action Taken

C. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Vacant

Term Expires: March 24, 2027

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	2 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	As needed.	
Women:	1	Senatorial District 15: 1
Vacancies:	1	Senatorial District 29: 3

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(D): No Action Taken

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

Sandra Gill

Does not desire reappointment

Term Expired: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Nancy Schroeder

Does not desire reappointment

Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Judge David Ranieri

Does not desire reappointment

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Term Expired: June 30, 2025

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: n/a
Meetings:	Monthly – 2nd Monday	
Women:	2	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29: 1

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(E): No Action Taken

E. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

Vacant

(Alternate Member 1)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

(Alternate Member 2)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Vacant

(Alternate Member 3)

Term expires: December 31, 2027

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Delano Leftwich

Not Eligible

(Alternate Member 4)

Term expired: December 31, 2025

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Monthly – 3rd Wednesday	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 2
Vacancies:	4	Senatorial District 29: 4

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(F): No Action Taken

F. REGION SIX REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:

Dr. Janet C. Bussey

Does not desire reappointment

Term Expires: June 30, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Bimonthly – 2nd Wednesday (Odd months)	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 3
Vacancies:	0	Senatorial District 29: 1

Clerk of Council's Agenda #13(G): No Action Taken

G. TREE BOARD:

Vacant

(At-Large)

Term expires: December 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Vacant

(At-Large)

Term expires: December 31, 2028

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Vacant

(At-Large)

Term expires: December 31, 2028

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Vacant

(Residential Development)

Term expires: December 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Vacant

(Commercial or Industrial Development)

Term expires: December 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(*Council's Appointment*)

Vacant
(Public Utility Representative)
Term expires: July 1, 2028

Open for Nominations
(Council's Appointment)

Membership and Meeting Information

Terms:	3 Year	Term Limit: 2
Meetings:	Meets as needed.	
Women:	4	Senatorial District 15: 4
Vacancies:	6	Senatorial District 29: 1

BOARD APPOINTMENTS (ADD-ON)

14. COUNCIL NOMINATIONS – ANY NOMINATION WOULD BE FORWARDED THE RESPECTIVE AUTHORITY:

Clerk of Council's Agenda #14(A): Nomination(s): Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Dr. Asante Hilts, Sonya Johnson, and Mimi Woodson for the seat of Sarah Banks-Lang, as recommended by the Hospital Authority of Columbus; Vote Result: APPROVED to forward nominations to the Hospital Authority of Columbus for selection.

A. HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Sarah Banks-Lang
Not Eligible
Term Expired: December 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council's Nomination)

For each vacancy, the Columbus Council submits a list of three eligible persons to the Authority. From this list, the Authority selects one of the individuals to fill the vacancy.

****The Hospital Authority has submitted Dr. Asante Hilts, Sonya Johnson, and Mimi Woodson for Council's consideration.***

Clerk of Council's Agenda #14(B): Nomination(s): Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Warren Steele, Travis Wade, and Tracy Sayers, as recommended by The Medical Center Hospital Authority; Vote Result: APPROVED to forward nominations to the Medical Center Hospital Authority for selection.

B. THE MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL AUTHORITY:

Brenda DeRamus

Not Eligible

Term Expired: December 31, 2026

Open for Nominations
(Council's Nomination)

For each vacancy, the Columbus Council submits a list of three eligible persons to the Authority. From this list, the Authority selects one of the individuals to fill the vacancy.

****The Medical Center Hospital Authority has submitted Warren Steele, Travis Wade, and Tracy Sayers for Council's consideration.***

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Pay Equity – Speaking up for Women. ***No Action Taken***

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Real Estate Acquisition and Disposal and Litigation as requested by City Attorney Fay. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Davis carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting, and the time being 11:14 a.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 12:01 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss litigation, potential litigation, and personnel; however, there were no votes taken.

ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:

City Attorney (Add-on Resolution): Vote Result: APPROVED

A resolution authorizing a payment of \$42,000 to settle claims filed by Amanda Guthrie.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Skip Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the August 11, 2026, Regular Council

Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Cogle and Tucker being absent for the vote, Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting, and the time being 12:02 p.m.