

# 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

January 11, 2022  
9:00 AM  
Regular Meeting

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### MAYOR'S A G E N D A

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**PRESENT:** Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Jerry "Pops" Barnes (arrived at 9:20 a.m.), Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (via Microsoft Teams), R. Walker Garrett (via Microsoft Teams), John M. House, Bruce Huff (via Microsoft Teams), Judy W. Thomas (arrived via Microsoft Teams at 9:04 a.m.), Toyia Tucker (via Microsoft Teams) and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson (via Microsoft Teams). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**The following documents were distributed to the members of Council:** (1)

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Reverend Dr. Emmett S. Aniton, Jr. at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia

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

**UPDATE:**

2. An update on COVID-19

**Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** provided a brief update on COVID-19 and its impact on the community. He explained the number of positive cases continue to rise and the number of hospitalizations. He urged citizens to continue wearing masks, washing their hands, social distancing, and inquire with their physicians on the vaccinations.

**MINUTES**

1. Approval of minutes for the December 14, 2021, Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

**PROCLAMATION:**

3. **PROCLAMATION:** Micah's Promise Day

**RECEIVING:** Micah's Promise & Columbus Chapter of Jack and Jill of America

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** read the proclamation into the record, proclaiming Tuesday, January 11, 2022, as *Micah's Promise Day*, recognizing Micah's Promise and the Columbus Chapter of Jack and Jill of America organizations for their fight against human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of children.

**Executive Director Bobbi Starr** came forward to receive the proclamation, thanking the Mayor and Council for their continued support in the mission of Micah's Promise.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORDINANCES**

- 1. Ordinance (22-001) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-09-21-1841: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **4020 Jay Street** (parcel # 086-003-012) from NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District. Planning Department and PAC recommend approval. (Councilor Barnes) Councilor Barnes made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
- 2. Ordinance (22-002) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-09-21-1842: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6301 & 6313 Macon Road** (parcel # 111-008-003 / 111-008-003A) from NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department recommends conditional approval, and PAC recommends approval.) (Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
- 3. 2nd Reading-** REZN-10-21-1930: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **3202 Edgewood Road** (parcel # 068-066-014) from RMF1 (Residential Multifamily 1) Zoning District to RO (Residential Office) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department recommends approval with conditions, and PAC recommends approval.) (Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to deny the rezoning, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
- 4. Ordinance (22-003) - 2nd Reading-** An ordinance amending Section 4-63 of the Columbus Code to provide that the Columbus Aquatics Commission will meet quarterly instead of bimonthly; and for other purposes. (Councilor Huff) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
- 5. 1st Reading-** REZN-10-21-2007: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **6100 Whitesville Road** (parcel # 189-026-003) from NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department recommends conditional approval, PAC recommends approval) (Councilor Garrett)

**Councilor Glenn Davis** stated he wishes to delay the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of this item for two weeks, allowing him and Councilor Garrett an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the request. He stated he is not against the development but is concerned with the zoning going to General Commercial with it being so close to neighborhoods.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** stated the ordinance can come back on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading at the next meeting and if Councilor Davis still has questions or concerns, the item can be delayed further.

6. **1st Reading-** REZN-11-21-2094: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1163 Henry Avenue** (parcel # 184-024-013) from NC (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Huff)

**Mr. Darrin Adkins and Ms. Brenda Ewelike (Applicants)** came forward to respond to questions and explained the request to rezone is to allow them to consolidate their businesses.

**Ms. Nancy Hadley** came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed rezoning as a resident on Marion Street. She stated there is already an excessive amount of traffic in the area not from residents, but from drivers using it as a cut through. She stated it is her and other neighbor's worry that this traffic will increase with the businesses being so close.

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

#### **FOR THE DEPUTY CLERK OF COUNCIL:**

- Provide the petitioners his contact information and gather their contact information. (*Request of Councilor Huff*)

7. **1st Reading-** REZN-11-21-2097: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **323 16th Street** (parcel # 017-012-004) from LMI (Light Manufacturing / Industrial) and GC (General Commercial) Zoning District to UPT (Uptown) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Woodson)

8. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Article VII of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code to add a new Section 13-172.2 to establish requirements for disposing of solid waste removed pursuant to an eviction; and for other purposes. (Councilor Crabb)

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **11. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- D. Evictions Update - Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager

**Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin** came forward to provide an update on the eviction ordinance after it was called forward on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. She explained it is unlawful to place the debris from an eviction on city right-of-way, sidewalks or streets, the landfill tipping fees will be waived, and the material must be removed within three business days, or a citation will be issued by Code Enforcement. She stated a contractor can be retained by the city to remove debris and the property owner will be invoiced for the cost of the removal of material, and if the invoice remains unpaid for more than thirty days, a lien and sale of property can take place. (*NOTE: This update was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Item 11 "D"*)

**Public Works Director Drale Short** came forward to explain they are asking that the landlord provide the person they hire to take care of the eviction debris something in writing, stating this is in fact an eviction to include the date, and the landfill would then allow them to dispose of the debris at no charge.

**Mr. Fred Greene** came forward to express his concerns regarding the proposed ordinance as a property manager for over 30 years for Bickerstaff Parham and the Property Management Chair for Columbus Board of Realtors. He explained the Board of Realtors wanted to be involved with the process so they may be part of the solution to this problem. He stated he is concerned on whether the tenant has the right come back within twenty-four hours of the eviction to gather their personal belongings, because he believes they should not be able to return to the property.

**Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall** came forward to explain the sale under execution language included in the proposed ordinance. She stated this language is included in several other areas of the Columbus Code of Ordinances to address issues such as nuisance clean up and weed clean up. She explained typically the Finance Department handles recording the lien and the city has a chance to recover the unpaid fees if the property is sold.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** explained the city has the authority under the charter to foreclose on a property due to liens, but it is rare and is usually handled at the time a property is sold.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** explained the city will typically place a lien on a property due to unpaid fees. He stated though the city does not usually foreclose on properties due to unpaid fees, they do however let those liens rest against the properties until sold, steadily accumulating interest over the years. He explained this proposal has come about due to the frustration of citizens seeing tons of eviction debris left in their neighborhoods. He stated they would receive calls from the Mayor and Councilors to clean up the mess before the weekend begins, taking resources away from the services provided to the citizens.

**Mr. Tom Calhoun** came forward to express his concerns regarding the proposed ordinance as the property manager for Flournoy Calhoun Realtors. He explained this problem has arisen from the labor shortages due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and he does not believe that a permanent solution should be put in place for a temporary problem. He requested for Council to reconsider allowing tenant's property to be placed on the city right-of-way for the three days, since an eviction takes away the right of the tenant to return to the property for various reasons.

**Mr. Don and Ms. Theresa Johnston** came forward to express their concerns regarding the placement of the tenant's property at the time of eviction and the unknown fees that will be charged if the city's contracted vendor must have the eviction debris removed.

**Mr. John Whittington** approached the rostrum to express his concern as a small landlord regarding the debris being required to stay on the property, stating this could cause other issues for the property owners.

**Mr. Louis Robinson** came forward to voice his concerns as a landlord. He stated there are numerous issues with the proposed ordinance that could put landlords in a bad situation.

9. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance enacting the districting plan submitted by the Columbus Consolidated Government Districting Commission according to Section 6-102 of the Charter of Columbus, Georgia reapportioning Council District boundaries; and other purposes. (Columbus Consolidated Government Districting Commission) (Continued on 1st Reading from 12-07-21) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to delay the First Reading of the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(The official vote has been amended to reflect that Councilor Woodson voted in the affirmative for the delay to make it unanimous, which corrects an error stated on the record to list her vote in opposition to the delay.)*

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** stated they are still waiting on the legislature to approve these boundaries that were presented. He explained for this reason, he is requesting a delay until the next meeting.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

10. **Resolution (001-22):** A Resolution establishing qualifying fees for county offices of the Consolidated Government to be filled in the 2022 elections. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
11. EXCP-10-21-1931: A Special Exception Use request to allow for a 150-foot telecommunications facility located at 3202 Edgewood Road, Columbus, Georgia. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (This item will only be voted on if Item 3 above is approved.) (Councilor Crabb)

*\*No action taken on this item due to City Attorney's Agenda Item #3 being denied.*

12. EXCP-11-21-2096: A Resolution authorizing a special exception to operate a restaurant located at 405 Broadway. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Woodson) Councilor Crabb made a motion to delay, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

**Mr. Matthew Lipides (Applicant)** approached the rostrum to explain the proposed uses of the property as a restaurant with events. He provided information on the plans for parking to address some of the concerns addressed by residents in the area.

**Ms. Donna Anderson** came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed special exception as a resident on Broadway. She explained there is not adequate parking for a restaurant, which will result in patrons parking in front of residents. She stated there are many residences on Broadway that do not have driveways, therefore, forcing them to park in front of their homes.

**Planning Director Rick Jones** explained the proposed special exception will allow the restaurant in the historic district. He stated the principal use of the property would be for a restaurant, so anything additional that is held at the property must go along with the restaurant.

**Mr. Siavosh Etemadi** came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed special exception as a resident on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. He voiced his concerns regarding the lack of available parking to accommodate patrons of the restaurant.

**Mr. Chance Chancellor** approached the rostrum to speak on the proposed special exception as a representative of the Historic District Preservation Board and a resident on Broadway. He explained the board has not taken a position on the proposed special exception since they feel they do not have enough information.

**Ms. Samantha Wright** came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed special exception as a resident on Broadway. She voiced her concern regarding the lack of parking on Broadway, especially for the residents that do not have driveways.

**Ms. Fran Carpenter** came forward to speak in opposition of the proposed special exception as a resident on Broadway. She explained she is concerned about the other uses that will be allowed under the proposal and the impact it would have on the area.

Mr. Mark Davis approached the rostrum to speak in favor of the proposed special exception as a resident on Broadway. He explained the main issue for those opposed is that this special exception would bring change to the area. He stated this restaurant is an opportunity for economic growth and a gathering place to promote social development.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Ms. Patricia Frey, representing United Way/Home For Good, Re: Update on upcoming 2022 Point in Time Count for community's homeless population.
2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Housing Authority and Law Enforcement Concerns.
3. Ms. Yulonda Kent, Re: Abolishment and/or liability of gun violence affecting our city at apartments located on Lamore Street. *Cancelled*
4. Ms. Mary Sibiski, Re: Off-Premises Liquor Store market saturation in close proximity to a church and daycare.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. 2022 Legislative Agenda – Coin Operated Amusement Machines (Add-On)**

**Resolution (002-22):** A resolution requesting that the Local Legislative Delegation introduce legislation to amend O.C.G.A. 50-27-86 to allow further local government regulation of coin operated amusement machines. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

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

#### **FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:**

- Put together an ordinance to provide to Council regarding this issue. *(Request of Councilor Tucker)*

### **2. Memorandum of Agreement between the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council and the Columbus Consolidated Government in Reference to the Compensation of the Acting District Attorney**

**Resolution (003-22):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a memorandum of agreement between the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council the Columbus Consolidated Government to compensate the acting District Attorney at the same rate as is authorized by State Law for the District Attorney. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

### **3. South Columbus River District Tax Allocation District Fund Grant - Elliott's Walk**

**Resolution (004-22):** A resolution authorizing a grant from the South Columbus River District Allocation District Fund to the development known as Elliott's Walk, and improvements of

infrastructure to include grading, storm drainage, sanitary sewers, water lines, streets, sidewalks, and street light improvements in an amount not to exceed ten million one hundred seventy thousand, three hundred and sixty-six dollars (\$10,170,366); authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of a development agreement and ancillary documents in connection with such allocation; and for other purposes. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried by a seven-to-two vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Barnes, Garrett, House, Huff, Thomas and Woodson voting yes, Councilors Davis and Tucker voting no, and Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** explained the resolution and the need for affordable homes for low-income families and elderly in this economically depressed and blighted area. He explained the area was visited during a tour, where it was described as looking like a warzone and unsafe.

**Councilor Glenn Davis** expressed his concerns on the guidelines set by the State of Georgia for a request such as this, and whether that process is being followed accordingly. He stated he does not want his concerns to be misconstrued to seem like he is against the initiative, which he fully supports, but he feels it is his duty to voice these concerns. He requested correspondence between the Attorney General and the City Attorney be made part of the record. He maintained there is a need for more information.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** explained it is his legal opinion and that of the Attorney General that there is no legal conflict of interest under O.C.G. A. 36-44-21.

**Councilor Charmaine Crabb** explained when she planned to run for City Council, she had to stepdown from her position on the board for Neighborworks Columbus. She stated before she announced her candidacy for City Council, she met with the City Attorney where he explained the limitations surrounding her and her family's involvement regarding Tax Allocation Districts being they are real estate agents. She explained she would like to see this item delayed allowing an opportunity to get additional information on the Attorney General's opinion on the involvement of elected officials in general.

**Neighborworks President & CEO Cathy Williams** came forward to explain this is not to request bonding from the City of Columbus but is bringing forward traditional debt that will allow us to pay as we go using their own funds. She stated this program will actually be costing them money in order to provide the housing at an affordable price to the low-income families.

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

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

- Request for a meeting with the City Manager and Neighborworks President & CEO Cathy Williams to gain a better understanding of the funding involved. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*

*At the request of Councilor Davis, Exhibits A, B and C are attached and are hereby made a part of the official minutes.*

#### **4. Encroachment Agreement with Piedmont Columbus Regional**

**Resolution (005-22):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia authorizing the execution of an encroachment agreement with Piedmont Columbus Regional for refacing and other improvements to the retaining wall along the south right-of-way line of Talbotton Road between 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and North Avenue. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **5. FEMA - Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

**Resolution (006-22):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve the grant application for equipment in the amount of \$307,671.00, or as otherwise awarded, from FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Funds requested in the amount of \$307,671.00 with Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services paying the 10% match of \$27,970.09. The Multi-Governmental Fund will be amended by the amount of the award. Equipment requested will be 16 each of commercial rowers, Jacobs ladders, commercial ellipticals, cast iron kettlebell set, dumbbell set with rack, weight plates, power medicine ball rack, wall balls; 32 ab mats, 34 20# weighted vests, gym flooring, assembly and installation, shipping and handling, and training costs for 9 personnel to be trained as peer fitness trainers. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **6. FY22 - FY23 – Solicitor General Crime Victim Assistance Grant**

**Resolution (007-22):** A resolution authorizing the Solicitor General to accept a VOCA Grant award of \$203,419 or as otherwise awarded and approve funding of \$5,287 from the Five Percent Crime Victim Surcharge Fund to operate the Solicitor General's Victim Witness Assistance Program from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. Amend the Multi-Governmental Fund 0216 to reflect these revenue and expense. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **7. 2021-22 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Compensation Grant**

**Resolution (008-22):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application, on behalf of the District Attorney and, if approved, to accept a VOCA Grant of \$50,049 or as otherwise awarded from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia along with \$12,512 from the 5% Crime Victim Surcharge Fund, to provide funding for crime victim assistance in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and, amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by like amount. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **8. 2021-22 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Base Grant**

**Resolution (009-22):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application, on behalf of the District Attorney and, if approved, to accept a VOCA Grant of \$417,247 or as otherwise awarded from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia along with \$104,312 from the 5% Crime Victim Assistance Surcharge Fund allocated in the FY22 Budget, to provide funding for crime victim assistance in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and, amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by like amount. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **9. Memorandum of Understanding with StartUp Columbus, Inc for Small Business, Non-Profit, and Economic/Tourism Grant Program Administration Services**

**Resolution (010-22):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with StartUp Columbus, Inc. to administer the Columbus Consolidated Government Small Business, Non-Profit, and Economic/Tourism Grant Programs funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.



**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- A presentation that will provide a tutorial of the application process. (*Request of Councilor Tucker*)

**10. PURCHASES**

A. Uniform Dress Shoes and Boots (Annual Contract) - RFB No. 22-0003

**Resolution (011-22):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of uniform dress shoes and boots, on an “as needed” basis, from Cintas (Columbus, GA), for the estimated contract value of \$115,900.00, Galls, LLC (Lexington, KY), for the estimated contact value of \$65,475.00 and Maneuver Center Supply (Columbus, GA) for the estimated contract value of \$210,541.75; for the total estimated annual contract value of \$391,916.75. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

B. Frames, Grates, Covers & Inlets (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0020

**Resolution (012-22):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of frames, grates, covers & inlets from Ferguson US Holdings, Inc., Ferguson Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Ferguson Waterworks (Columbus, GA) for the estimated annual contract value of \$248,868.65. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

C. Roofing Services at Gallops Senior Center/Linwood Tillis Park – RFB No. 22-0017

**Resolution (013-22):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with JB’s Roofing and Construction (Douglasville, GA) in the amount of \$70,324.00 for roofing services at Gallops Senior Center and Linwood Tillis Park. The unit prices for any unforeseen work will be \$125.00 per board foot to replace damaged or deteriorated wood nailers and blocking \$4.50 per square foot to replace existing plywood deck; and \$4.50 per square foot for additional self-adhered leak barrier underlayment. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

D. Firefighter Cancer Insurance Policy Renewal

**Resolution (014-22):** A resolution authorizing payment to Apex Insurance Agency, LLC (Atlanta, GA), with Ace American Insurance Company as the carrier, for legislatively required cancer insurance for firefighters, in the amount of \$64,750.00. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

E. Classification and Compensation Study and Analysis – RFP No. 22-0013

**Resolution (015-22):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with Evergreen Solutions, LLC (Tallahassee, FL) for a classification and compensation study and analysis; and authorizing maintenance and other related costs which will be budgeted in future fiscal years. The recommended vendor’s cost proposal is within budget for the initial project. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## EMERGENCY PURCHASES

### 1. F-150 Police Responders for Sheriff's Office

#### **F-150 POLICE RESPONDERS FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE:**

On December 30, 2021, the City Manager approved the emergency purchase of six (6) Ford F-150 Police Responders for the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office due to exigent circumstances, per the Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-115, Emergency Procurement.

These vehicles and the related Emergency Truck Light Packages were approved in the FY22 Budget for use by officers in the performance of their daily duties. The State Contract vendor, Allan Vigil Ford, notified the Public Works Director on December 30, 2021, that the Order Bank for these vehicles will close on January 7, 2022, instead of the original published date of October 7, 2022. Consequently, the vehicles had to be ordered as soon as possible.

The vehicles will be purchased from Allan Vigil Ford at the unit price of \$42,019.00, and a total price of \$252,114.00. These are new vehicles.

Funding is available as: LOST- Public Safety Fund – Sheriff – Public Safety-LOST – Light Trucks; 0102-550-9900-LOST-7722 - \$242,166.00; and General Fund – Sheriff – Special Operations/Investigations – Light Trucks; 0101-550-2200-INFU-7722 - \$9,948.00.

## **11. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

### A. Classification and Compensation Study Update - Reather Hollowell, Human Resource Director

**Human Resources Director Reather Hollowell** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the classification and compensation study. She stated with the approval of the contract with Evergreen Solutions, LLC as consultants, they can move forward with the study. She explained the consultants will be conducting a market analysis and benefit analysis for all positions within the Columbus Consolidated Government.

### C. Alcohol Licensing Process Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** came forward to provide an update on the alcohol licensing process. She explained there was approved legislation in 2020 instructing the Department of Revenue to develop a central alcohol licensing portal that is intended to be a single, online platform where both local and state alcohol license applications can be submitted. She stated though the law took effect on January 1, 2021, the Department of Revenue needed additional time to implement the legislation. She announced effective January 12, 2022, all new alcohol licenses and transfer applications must be submitted through the Georgia Tax Center website.

### B. Waste Collection Update - Drale Short, Public Works Director

**Public Works Director Drale Short** approached the rostrum to provide an update on waste collection. She explained there are twenty-two vacant positions in waste collection. She explained there is no backlog for the household, recycling, and yard waste collection. She introduced a video to demonstrate how automated waste collection will work in the future.

### D. Evictions Update - Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager

*(NOTE: This update, as provided by Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, was called upon earlier in the meeting during the City Attorney's Agenda.)*

E. Railroad Crossings Update - Donna Newman, Engineering Director

**Engineering Director Donna Newman** came forward to provide an update on repairs being made on railroad crossings throughout the city. She provided a list of the crossings that have recently been repaired and the crossing that are still on the list to be repaired as provided by Norfolk Southern.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Have Norfolk Southern look at repairing the railroad crossing on Smith Road by the quarries. *(Request of Councilor Huff)*
- Have the Public Works Department look at repairing the shoulders on Whitesville Road, between the Synovus Bank and Williams Road. *(Request of Councilor Davis)*

**BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**January 19, 2022**

**1. Bus Vacuum System – RFB No. 22-0012**

**Scope of Bid**

Seeking vendor to furnish a bus vacuum system for use by the Department of Transportation/METRA in the Lower Shop. The successful vendor will be required to remove the existing bus vacuum system before installing the new unit.

**January 26, 2022**

**1. Radar Certification for Public Safety Departments (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0023**

**Scope of Bid**

Provide radar re-certification services for the 430 radars and 25 speed lasers currently installed in the Columbus Consolidated Government Public Safety Department Fleet.

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

**January 28, 2022**

**1. Psychological Assessment Services for Muscogee County Sheriff's Office (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0018**

**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government, on behalf of the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office, requests proposal submissions from qualified consultants or firms with professional experience and expertise in developing and administering test procedures and interviews for conducting professional psychological assessment program services.

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

**2. Emergency Clean-Up and Debris Removal (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0015**

**Scope of RFP**

The Columbus Consolidated Government (The City) is requesting qualified firms to submit proposals to provide services for emergency clean-up and removal of debris that may result from natural (storms, fallen trees, etc.) or man-made disasters (terrorism, remnants of destroyed buildings, etc.) on an "as needed" basis.

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

**February 11, 2022**

**1. Real Estate Appraisal Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0018**

**Scope of RFP**

Provide real estate appraisal services on an “as needed” basis for various projects involving land acquisition and disposition services for Columbus Consolidated Government.

The contract term shall be for one year with the option to renew for four additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

**CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA**

**ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Travel Authorization Request for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2022 NACo Legislative Conference. Councilor House made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.
2. Letter of Resignation from Mr. Michael Gorum from his seat on the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus. Councilor Crabb made a motion to receive the resignation with regrets, seconded Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

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

Board of Tax Assessors, #42-21 and #43-21

Housing Authority of Columbus, October 20, 2021

Planning Advisory Commission, November 3 and 17, 2021 and December 1, 2021

Public Safety Advisory Commission, November 18, 2021

Councilor House made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED**

**4. MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

**A. CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

A nominee for the seat of Marianne Richter (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021, as a representative of the Restaurant/Retail Industry on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board of Commissioners (*Mayor’s Appointment*). Clerk of Council Davis stated Mayor Henderson is nominating Mr. Peter Jones to succeed Ms. Marianne Richter. Councilor House made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

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

A nominee for the seat of Jack Kinsman (*Resigned*) for a term that expires on June 30, 2022, as the Retired City Employee Representative on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees (*Mayor's Appointment*). Clerk of Council Davis stated Mayor Henderson is nominating Ms. Renee McAneny to succeed Mr. Jack Kinsman. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

**5. APPOINTMENTS FOR COUNCIL – READY FOR VOTE:**

**A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Patricia Montgomery for a term that expires on April 11, 2022, as the PAWS Human Society Representative on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Confirmation*). Clerk of Council Davis stated Ms. Courtney Pierce is currently serving as the Interim CEO of PAWS Human Society, and she has been submitted to Council for confirmation to serve as the PAWS Humane Society Representative, filling the unexpired term of Ms. Patricia Montgomery. Councilor House made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

**6. COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:**

**A. MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Michael Gorum (*Resigned*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2022, on the Medical Center Hospital Authority (*Council's Nominations*). Clerk of Council Davis stated Councilor Thomas in nominating Rodney Mahone, Murray Solomon and Tracy L. Sayers for the seat of Mr. Michael Gorum. Councilor House made a motion to submit the three nominees to the Medical Center Hospital Authority for selection, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

**B. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Tracy Walker as Alternate Member 2 for a term that expires on December 31, 2021, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none. (*Ms. Walker has been confirmed to serve as a regular member; therefore, her alternate seat is open for nominations.*)

A nominee for the seat of Darlene Small (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as Alternate Member 3 for a term that expires on December 31, 2021, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Shanita Pettaway (*Resigned*) as Alternate Member 5 for a term that expires on December 31, 2022, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Board of Zoning Appeals
- B. Building Authority of Columbus
- C. Civic Center Advisory Board
- D. Commission on International Relations and Cultural Liaison Encounters (CIRCLE)
- E. Community Development Advisory Council
- F. Crime Prevention Board
- G. Historic & Architectural Review Board
- H. Planning Advisory Commission

At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Allen, Councilor Crabb made a motion to go into executive session to discuss matters of litigation and personnel, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote, and the time being 1:44 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 2:00 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters; however, there were no votes taken.

**ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution (016-22):** A resolution, whereas, Claimant Lakesha Thomas has filed a claim for damages based on an injury sustained on December 12, 2019; and whereas, Risk Management and the City Attorney's office have investigated this claim and recommend a settlement of \$225,000 in exchange for a full release of all claims. 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 Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

**Resolution (017-22):** A resolution, whereas, Claimant Derick Thomas has filed a claim for damages based on an injury sustained on December 12, 2019; and whereas, Risk Management and the City Attorney's office have investigated this claim and recommend a settlement of \$150,000 in exchange for a full release of all claims. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor House to adjourn the January 11, 2022, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present with Councilors Barnes and Woodson being absent for the vote, and the time being 2:02 p.m.

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