

# COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Columbus Civic Center  
400 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Arena Floor  
Columbus, Georgia 31901

December 8, 2020  
9:00 AM  
Regular Meeting

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### MAYOR'S AGENDA

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**PRESENT:** Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Judy W. Thomas, and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**ABSENT:** Councilors Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Bruce Huff and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson were absent.

<p><b><u>The following documents were distributed around the Council table:</u></b> (1) Highside Impact Study Presentation; (2) Projects: Highland Market Presentation;</p>
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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Presiding

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards at St. Thomas Episcopal Church of Columbus, Georgia

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

### MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the November 17, 2020 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### UPDATE:

2. An update on COVID-19

**Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** gave an update on COVID-19, stating the numbers have increased in Georgia due to the Thanksgiving holiday. He asked the citizens of Columbus to continue to wear face mask and practice social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through the holiday season.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. Acceptance of Cash Award – People's Choice Award, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials**

**Resolution (385-20):** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) People's Choice Award and the cash award for the Columbus Riverwalk. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

*(NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Item 1)*

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** read the resolution into the record.

**Planning Director Rick Jones** approached the rostrum to recognize Mr. Kenneth Franks with the Georgia Department of Transportation.

**TIA Administrator Kenneth Franks, Georgia Department of Transportation** approached the rostrum to present a check in the amount of \$10,000 to Mayor Henderson for the Columbus Riverwalk winning American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials People's Choice Awards.

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

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

- Request to utilize some of the funds from the cash award to give bonuses to Planning Director Rick Jones, Inspections and Code Director Ryan Pruett and Engineering Director Donna Newman. *(Request of Councilor Crabb)*

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**11. Resolution (386-20):** A Resolution honoring Pat Hunter for her many years of service on the Muscogee County Board of Tax Assessors and Board of Equalization. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

*(NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Attorney's Agenda Item 11)*

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** read the resolution into the record.

**Ms. Patricia Hunter** approached the rostrum to receive the proclamation and spoke on her love for the City of Columbus and thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve.

## **PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Public Hearing on request to establish a Tax Allocation Redevelopment District in southwest Columbus to be known as Tax Allocation District #8: South Columbus River District. (Request of R&R Capital Investments, LLC /NeighborWorks Columbus)

**President Geoff Koski** came forward to give a presentation on a proposal for Tax Allocation 8, South Columbus River District and gave a brief explanation of Tax Allocation Districts (TADS). He stated Proposed TAD # 8 is made up of six parcels, which is 212 acres, with a Fair Market Tax Value of \$7,262,380 and an Assessed Tax Value of \$1,583,308, which is 0.031% of the total tax digest.

**NeighborWorks President & CEO Cathy Williams** approached the rostrum to speak on the NeighborWorks aspect of the proposed TAD, stating the infrastructure that is needed for that area is substantial. She explained the only thing in that area is land and substandard trailers, so without the financial assistance from something such as a TAD this area will not be redeveloped for residential without the utilization of various tax credits.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** explained a vote must be taken within 45 days from the date the application was submitted.

## **ORDINANCES**

2. **Ordinance (20-055) - 2nd Reading-** An ordinance amending the budget for the Fiscal Year 2021 Beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, for certain funds of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, and revising the budget for certain cost of living increases; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee) Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen, and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Crabb being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.
3. **1st Reading - REZN-07-20-2105:** An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia; this amendment changes certain boundaries of a district located at **3100 Auburn Avenue** (parcel # 067-012-017) from GC (General Commercial) with conditions Zoning District to GC (General Commercial) with amended conditions Zoning District. (Councilor Crabb)

**Mr. Tracy Spencer (Applicant)** approached the rostrum to speak on the rezoning request. He stated the plan is for the property to be used for a self-storage facility. He explained the reason for the request is because with the current zoning, there is a height restriction, which prevents the developer to build the building that is needed.

**Councilor Charmaine Crabb** stated there was a public meeting held where some conditions were presented for this rezoning, which have been added to the ordinance by the Planning Department. She also stated Midtown, Inc. has also submitted their approval of this project.

4. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Chapter 17 of the Columbus Code by repealing and replacing Article II, Organizational Structure of the Columbus Police Department, Article III, Promotional Procedures, Article IV, Appointive Positions, and Article V, Authorized

Personnel, and Interim Provisions, with new provisions; and for other purposes. (Councilor Tucker)

**Police Chief Freddie Blackmon** approached the rostrum to give a presentation on proposed changes to the Columbus Code, as it pertains to various procedures in the Columbus Police Department. He explained this ordinance is designed to implement a reorganizational plan, which would change the titles and educational requirements for various positions, add an additional Assistant Chief position, and reclassify a Sergeant position to Chief of Staff/Public Information Officer to be appointed by the Chief of Police.

5. **1st Reading-** An ordinance amending Article II of Chapter 11 of the Columbus Code in order to update various organizational and administrative provisions pertaining to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

**Fire Chief Sal Scarpa** approached the rostrum to give a presentation on proposed changes to the organization of the Columbus Fire and EMS Department. He explained this ordinance would change the organizational chart of the department to reflect that of a more contemporary structure. He explained the changes would include renaming the Fire Prevention Division to Community Risk Reduction, elevating the Health & Safety Program by changing the Division Chief of Administration to Deputy Chief of Health & Safety, and elevate Training by changing the Division Chief to Training Chief.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **10. Time Task Force Grant**

**Resolution (387-20):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit an application and accept, if awarded, an AAA Grant in the amount of \$2,500.00, or as otherwise awarded, for Columbus Police Department, with no local match required, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount of the award. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett, and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

*(NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda Item 10)*

6. **1st Reading** - An Ordinance adopting Human Resources Policy Number 220-1010, Employment Process Policy (Mayor Pro-Tem)

**Human Resources Director Reather Hollowell** approached the rostrum to give a presentation to explain the employment process and the proposed changes to the policy. She explained Merit System employees provide public services and are compensated by tax-payer dollars. She stated all positions in the Merit System are protected and cannot be fired when a newly Elected Official takes office, they have a right to due process before their position can be taken away from them; they must perform their jobs satisfactorily. Director Hollowell went on to explain the Merit System opposes appointments to public service as a reward for political activity, limits the ability of nepotism and political favoritism, and is the opposite of a Spoils System.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** explained over the years Constitutional Officers/Elected Officials had the option of putting their CCG employees into the City's Merit System. He stated some Elected Officials did not put their employees under the Merit System; therefore, the employees were not protected and when a Newly Elected Official took office, they would fire the existing employees and hire their own people. He explained if an employee is under the Merit System, they are protected.

**Ms. Theresa El-Amin** approached the rostrum to state a Merit System is the most subjective system an organization can have. She also stated the system is fundamentally flawed due to the City of Columbus using prisoners for services that could offer more jobs in the community.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Provide a list of the employees who fall under the Merit System for the Elected Officials. (*Request of Councilor Tucker*)

**7. 1st Reading-** An ordinance amending certain provisions of the Property Maintenance Code found in Article V of Chapter 8 of the Columbus Code, and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

**Inspections and Code Director Ryan Pruett** approached the rostrum to give a presentation on the proposed revisions to the Property Maintenance Code to reflect changes made under State Law. He explained under State Law, the Property Maintenance Code is a permissive code that must be adopted by local governments to be enforced. He stated the changes would allow Property Maintenance Inspectors to set a reasonable time to correct violations.

**8. Ordinance (20-056) - 1st Reading** – An ordinance extending a State of Public Health Emergency in Columbus, Georgia through January 9, 2021; providing for public meetings to be held using telephonic or video participation; providing authorization for the Mayor to respond to ongoing COVID-19 developments by Executive Order; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent from the meeting.

**9. 1st Reading** - An ordinance amending Section 3-13 of the Columbus Code so as to expand the hours for package sales by retailers of malt beverages, wine, and distilled spirits for consumption off the premises on Sundays; to permit the home delivery of packaged alcoholic beverages in accordance with State Law; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

**10. 1st Reading** – An ordinance amending the budgets for the Fiscal Year 2020 by appropriating amounts in each fund for various operational activities.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** approached the rostrum to give an update on the Fund Balance, stating the estimated General Fund Reserves is 102.70 days, with 59.23 days from the General Fund, 41.54 days from the OLOST-Public Safety, and 1.93 days from the OLOST-Infrastructure.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** stated out of 150 of the largest cities in America, Columbus, Georgia is listed as the 17<sup>th</sup> Best Run City in America. He thanked Finance Director Angelica Alexander and the Finance Department for their hard work.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** explained that Council passed Resolution 193-19, which states all component units are required to submit their audited financial statements to CCG no later than November 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. She stated this resolution was passed at the recommendation of the external auditors to prevent any delays in meeting the mandatory requirements as it relates to State Law or bond disclosures. She explained the deadline is due to CCG being required to include the audited financial statements of the various component units and ensure that the City of Columbus stays in compliance.

**Columbus Airport Finance Director Roy Hightower** approached rostrum to explain the renovations being done at the Columbus Airport require many grants, responsibilities, and timing challenges. He stated the Columbus Airport is delayed in providing their audit to the City Council, their lenders, and the Federal Aviation Administration. He explained they have been working diligently with their auditing firm to expedite the audit.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** stated the City of Columbus is required to report audited financial statements to several regulatory agencies such as the State of Georgia and EMMA, a reporting house for all municipalities throughout the country. She explained this is to stay in compliance with regulations for not just bonded debt for CCG, but also includes bonded debt for all component units like the Columbus Water Works, Hospital Authority and the Airport Commission. She stated if CCG is not able to provide the financial information on time, it must file a noncompliance disclosure, which will negatively affect the City when they issue bonds and rates.

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

##### **FOR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR:**

- Provide an estimated 5-year revenue projection. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)
- Schedule the mid-year Budget Review Committee Meeting in January 2021. (*Request of Councilor Thomas*)
- Include financial impact of consolidating the Marshal's Office with the Sheriff's Department at the mid-year Budget Review Committee Meeting. (*Request of Councilor Thomas*)
- Include information on the possibility of providing a transitional budget for the incoming Sheriff due to the consolidation of the Sheriff's Department and the Marshal's Office (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

#### **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Ms. Rena Russell, Re: The collection efforts of the Revenue Division for an invoice for Emergency Medical Services.

2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern-Anti-Racism Network, Re: Sabbatical to write a book- Columbus: Ten Years of Struggle.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. Acceptance of Cash Award – People’s Choice Award, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials**

Approval is requested to accept the cash reward from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials People’s Choice Awards in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for general maintenance on the Columbus Riverwalk.

*(NOTE: This item was called upon earlier in the meeting after the Mayor’s Agenda)*

### **2. FFY2019/FY 2020 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment and revision to the FFY 2020/FY2021 Annual Action Plan**

**Resolution (388-20):** A resolution authorizing the filing of the Substantial Amendment to the FFY 2019/FY 2020 Annual Action Plan, and the FFY 2020/FY 2021 Annual Action Plan. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and carried unanimously by the seven members, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **3. Acceptance of Property Donation from Carver Heights Presbyterian Church, Inc.**

**Resolution (389-20):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia authorizing the City Manager to accept donation of property from Carver Heights Presbyterian Church, Inc. to the City of Columbus, Georgia for street repair. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **4. Donation for Greenpower Electric Car Challenge**

**Resolution (390-20):** A resolution authorizing the City to approve and accept continuous donations from various donors to include Greenpower Electric Cars and other such donations to be used towards the Greenpower Electric Car Challenge. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **5. Fundraising by 21 Ace Tennis Events, LLC for Tennis Courts at Lakebottom Park**

**Resolution (391-20):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve an agreement with 21 Ace Tennis Events, LLC wherein 21 Ace Tennis Events, LLC will help maintain, promote and have fundraisers to raise money for Lakebottom Park in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**Mr. Luke Harden, 21 Ace Tennis Events, LLC** approached the rostrum to explain efforts by his organization to maintain and promote Lakebottom Park.

## **6. Wi-Fi Internet Rangers**

**Resolution (392-20):** A resolution authorizing the City to enter into a partnership with Wi-Fi Ranger to provide Wi-Fi in parks for school aged children to be able to utilize for school assignments. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen, and carried unanimously by the seven members, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

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

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

- See about refunding or extending the membership of citizens who paid membership fees to the Pottery Studio, due to the studio being closed because of COVID-19. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

-Consider all memberships receiving either refunds or credits. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)

## **7. PURCHASES**

### **A. Emergency Medical Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 21-0013**

**Resolution (393-20):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of emergency medical supplies on an “as needed” basis, from Bound Tree Medical, LLC (Dublin, OH), for the estimated annual contract value of \$416,430.04. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **B. Printing Services for Voting Ballots Required for Board of Elections**

**Resolution (394-20):** A resolution authorizing the payment to Tattnall Ballots Solutions d/b/a Tattnall Printing (Reidsville, GA) in the amount of \$28,680.15 for printing services required for voting ballots. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **C. Hearing and Eye Protection for the Police Department – Cooperative Purchase**

**Resolution (395-20):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of hearing and eye protective equipment from SRT Supply (Tampa, FL), in the amount of \$27,775.00, by Cooperative Purchase, via GSA Federal Contract #GS-07F-0133W. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.



D. Golf Carts for City Golf Courses – Cooperative Purchases

**Resolution (396-20):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of golf carts from Yamaha Golf-Car Company (Kennesaw, GA) in the amount of \$232,146.00 (54 @ \$4,299.00). Fifty (50) carts will be utilized by Bull Creek Golf Course and four (4) carts will be utilized by Oxbow Creek Golf Course. The purchase will be made by Cooperative Purchase, via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-001-SPD00000723-0002. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

E. Additional Attachments for a Compact Tracked (Skid Steer) Loader for Public Works – Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (397-20):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of additional attachments for a Compact Tracked Skid Steer Loader from SunSouth, LLC, (Columbus, GA), in the amount of \$35,825.60, by Cooperative Purchase, via Sourcewell Contract #032119-JDC. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

F. Fuel Management System Upgrade for Public Works – Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (398-20):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of the Fuel Management System Upgrade from FluidSecure (Tallahassee, FL), a subsidiary of Trak Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$120,83.7.00; issues incurred after the initial installation will be billed at \$125 per hour. This purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #022217-TRK; as well as, authorizing payment of the annual support fees, in the estimated amount of \$16,420.00, which will not be budgeted in future fiscal years. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

G. Membership Dues for Georgia Municipal Association

**Resolution (399-20):** A resolution authorizing payment to the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), in the amount of \$38,204.93, for 2021 membership dues for the City of Columbus, Georgia. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**EMERGENCY PURCHASES**

**1. Emergency Purchase – Information Only: Provision and Installation of Remote Courtroom Cameras for Jury Trials**

As a matter of public health to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the City has identified the need to purchase five (5) remote courtroom cameras and accessories for jury trials that are scheduled to begin on January 4, 2021.

On November 23, 2020, the City Manager approved the emergency purchase of remote courtroom cameras in order for the equipment to be delivered and installed prior to January 4, 2021. The equipment will allow the public to view jury trials in satellite rooms at the Government Center.

Sun Video d/b/a Columbus Tape and Video (Columbus, GA) provided the portable City Council meeting system and the indoor/outdoor movie screen package to the Civic Center; consequently, the IT Department and Civic Center contacted the vendor to provide a quote for the remote courtroom cameras. The total cost is estimated at \$36,739.75. The vendor will provide, install and program the equipment, as well as, train City staff on its use.

Funds are available in the FY21 Budget: General Fund – Miscellaneous – Contingency; 0101 – 590 – 2000 – CONT – 9801.

### **ADD-ON RESOLUTION:**

#### **9. Elections and Registration Grant for Runoff Election**

**Resolution (400-20):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept a grant award from the Center for Tech and Civic Life in the amount of \$312,495.00, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, for funding to assist Elections and Registration in responding to needs arising from COVID-19 during the upcoming Georgia Senate Runoff Elections, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

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

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

- With the Elections and Registration Department getting so many grants, see if any of the funds can be utilized for bonuses. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

#### **8. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Highside Market Uptown TAD Project Update, Rick Jones, Planning Director, & Chris Woodruff.

**President Chris Woodruff, The Cotton Companies**, approached the rostrum to give an update on the Highside Market Uptown Tax Allocation District Project.

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

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

- With regard to the previous Tax Allocation District (TAD) listed as Item #1 on the City Attorney's Agenda, request an opinion from the Attorney General on the Redevelopment Power Laws as it relates to elected officials being a participant in any TAD funding. Also, send the Redevelopment Power Laws to the members of Council. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)

**City Attorney Fay** advised that this Council is being asked to look at the redevelopment area and there is one elected official (Muscogee County School District Member) of a political subdivision who works for an organization, who may request some TAD funding and that creates the appearance of a possible conflict and that could be taken up with the School Board's Attorney.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:**

- Contact the President of the board of NeighborWorks Columbus to find out how long they have owned that property to determine if it may have been grandfathered in. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

B. Fund Balance Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director

*(NOTE: This item was called upon earlier in the meeting during the City Attorney's Agenda)*

**ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

**10. Time Task Force Grant**

Approval is requested to submit and accept a grant from AAA for \$2,500, or as otherwise awarded, for the operation of Traffic Incident Management Enforcement, and to amend the Multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. There is no local match required for this grant.

*(NOTE: This item was called upon earlier in the meeting during the City Attorney's Agenda)*

**BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**December 11, 2020**

**1. Pre-employment and Fitness-for-Duty Psychological Evaluation Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 21-0020**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from experienced, qualified individuals or firms to provide pre-employment and fitness-for-duty psychological evaluation services for the Columbus Police Department and the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office.

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

**December 16, 2020**

**1. Transit Bus Wash System**

Scope of Bid

The Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, is seeking vendors to furnish a completely automatic, friction and touchless combination heavy-duty vehicle wash which washes all types of transit vehicles used by fleet owners for front, roof, chassis, rear and both sides in drive-thru mode. The successful vendor will be required to remove the existing bus wash system before installing the new bus wash system.

**December 18, 2020**

**1. Employee Physicals (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 21-0013**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) invites qualified firms to submit proposals for employee physicals on an "as needed" basis. The requested services include, but are not limited to pre-employment physicals, periodic employee physical and related health services for use by the Human Resources Department and the Public Safety Departments.

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

### **January 6, 2021**

**1. Pursuit Car Build Out – RFP No. 21-0006**

**Scope of Bid**

The Columbus Consolidated Government (The City) requires the services of a qualified provider on an “as needed” basis to acquire and install the specified equipment into the pursuit vehicles purchased by the City each year and prepare them for delivery to the City of Columbus at its Fleet Maintenance Shop, as a fully functional pursuit vehicle, for use by one of the Law Enforcement Agencies of the City of Columbus.

### **January 8, 2021**

**2. Columbus Dragonfly Trails - Riverwalk to Martin Luther King, Jr. Connector – RFB No. 21-0017**

**Scope of Bid**

This project includes a new concrete multi-use trail that will connect the Riverwalk to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Trail. The new trail will run along 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The work includes reconstruction of existing ramps to the Riverwalk to provide for better pedestrian and cyclist access; curb and gutter; landscaping; signage; and striping.

## **CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA**

### **ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY**

1. Certificate of Need Application submitted by Piedmont Healthcare and their joint venture entity Rehabilitation Hospital of Columbus, LLC is proposing to establish a new 40-bed Comprehensive Inpatient Physical Rehabilitation Hospital.

### **ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

2. **RESOLUTION (401-20):** A Resolution excusing Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes from the November 17, 2020 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution as amended, adding the December 8, 2020 Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

### **ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION (402-20):** A Resolution excusing Councilor Bruce Huff from the December 8, 2020 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**RESOLUTION (403-20):** A Resolution excusing Councilor Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson from the December 8, 2020 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

3. **CONVENTION & VISITORS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:** Email correspondence from Mr. Greg Hudgison resigning from his At-Large seat on this board. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation with regrets, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

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

Board of Tax Assessors, #39-20, #40-20 and #41-20

Board of Water Commissioners, October 19, 2020

Columbus Golf Authority, August 25 and September 15, 2020

Convention & Visitors Bureau, Board of Commissioners, October 21, 2020

Development Authority of Columbus, November 3, 2020

Mayor's Commission on Reentry, September 21 and October 19, 2020

Public Safety Advisory Commission, September 17 and October 15, 2020

Public Safety Advisory Commission Ordinance Committee, November 16, 2020

Uptown Facade Board, September 21 and October 19, 2020

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes, seconded by Councilor House, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED**

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

A. **CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION:**

Mayor Henderson nominated Willie Bellfield, Ben Richardson, Jimmy Elder, Norman Hardman, Chris Woodruff, Alison Dowe, Julio Portillo, Roy Plummer, Ken Henson, Audrey Tillman, Oz Roberts, Pace Halter, Carter Schondelmayer, John Stacy and Gwen Ruff to serve on the Charter Review Commission. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

B. **CONVENTION & VISITORS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

A nominee for the seat of Greg Hudgison (*Resigned*) on the Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners for a term that expires on December 31, 2021 (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson nominated Sherrika Day to fill the unexpired term of Greg Hudgison. Councilor Thomas made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

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

- A. **BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION:** Ms. Linda Parker is being recommended as the Democratic Party Representative to serve another term of office. New Term expires: December 31, 2024. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

4. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENT- READY FOR VOTE TABULATION:**

- A. **AIRPORT COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Thomas Forsberg (*Eligible to succeed*) on the Airport Commission for a term that expires on December 31, 2020 (*Council's Appointment*). The Columbus Airport has submitted nominees for the seat of Thomas Forsberg: Art Guin and Kamesha Harbison. There was an inclusive vote of five-to-two, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Crabb, Davis, Garrett and House voting for Art Guin, and Councilors Thomas and Tucker voting for Kamesha Harbison.

**Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis** advised that this appointment would be brought back at the December 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

In response to a question of Councilor Thomas, **Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** explained this vote has continued because we have not had a full Council present. He explained the Airport Commission is to submit one recommendation and Council votes on that recommendation; if that recommendation is defeated, the commission sends another recommendation. However, because we have gone outside of the normal protocol and had a roll call vote to fill these appointments, the thought was to continue this process through to the end with the three recommendations submitted; however going forward, we would have just one recommendation to vote on and if that person is not approved; they would send another recommendation and continue that process until a member is confirmed.

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** stated the Airport Director sent correspondence to Council stating the Airport Commission voted on the three recommendations that were submitted and concluded that Art Guin is their recommendation by unanimous vote.

**Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis** explained a previous Council requested the Airport Commission to provide three nominees when a term is expiring or there is a vacancy, and she began this process by following that practice. She had suggested completing this practice for this appointment and address this matter before the appointment next year for the Airport Commission. She explained she was concerned about changing the process in the middle of an appointment.

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** stated the Airport Commission is not required to submit three nominees, but under a constitutional provision is required to submit one recommendation.

**Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** stated he believes the proper protocol should be followed; since, it has been brought to their attention that it has been handled improperly in the past, and recommended the Council go forward with voting on the recommendation of Art Guin as submitted by the Airport Commission.

Councilor Davis made a motion to confirm the appointment of Art Guin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen, and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting.

**Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis** stated she would notate in the record that the Council is changing the process with respect to the submittal of one nominee to be received from the Airport Commission for each, and this information will be provided to the Airport Commission for the next year.

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

**A. CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the District 2 seat on the Charter Review Commission (*District 2 Appointment-Davis*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 3 seat on the Charter Review Commission (*District 3 Appointment-Huff*). There were none.

**B. RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for Willie Dickerson (*Not eligible to succeed*) on the Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2020 (*District 4-Tucker*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of John Lawson (*Not eligible to succeed*) on the Recreation Advisory Board for a term that expired on December 31, 2019 (*District 6-Allen*). There were none.

**UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENT:**

A. Historic & Architectural Review Board

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to adjourn the December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Barnes, Huff and Woodson being absent for the meeting, and the time being 11:28 a.m.

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