

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers
Second Floor of City Services Center
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

April 14, 2020
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Jerry 'Pops' Barnes, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas, Valerie A. Thompson and Evelyn 'Mimi' Woodson. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey McLemore were present via video conference.

NOTE: *Due to the World Health Organization declaring Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) a world health emergency and pandemic, the Governor has issued a Statewide Executive Order to Shelter in Place. In accordance, this Council may alternatively utilize virtual meetings during the period of emergency in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-14-1(g).*

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Councilor Valerie A. Thompson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Henderson.

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the March 24, 2020 Council Meeting and March 10, 2020 Executive Session. Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by all ten members present.

UPDATE:

2. An update on COVID-19.

Mayor B. H. 'Skip' Henderson gave an update on the COVID-19 Pandemic, explaining the impact it has had on the community and the precautions citizens should be taking to stay healthy.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance (20-012) - 1st Reading** - An ordinance extending the moratorium on the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy for any new Type I Personal Care Home or Foster Care Home which was adopted on January 28, 2020 for an additional ninety (90) days making its new expiration date July 26, 2020; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro Tem Allen) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Condemnation Parcel TA-A of the Intersection Improvement along Buena Vista Road (Columbus Spider Web Network)

Resolution (087-20): A resolution declaring that there is a need and necessity to immediately acquire fee simple title to lands under the provision of the official code of Georgia Annotated, authorizing the Mayor to order the acquisition of said lands for county road and/or municipal street purposes, and authorizing the filing of a Declaration of Taking by the City Attorney or his representatives for the acquisition of said lands under the authority of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Section 32-3-1, et. Seq. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Approval is requested for the acquisition of Parcel TA-A on behalf of SPIRIT CK PORTFOLIO III, LLC, a Delaware Limit Liability Company, f/k/a/ Cole CK Portfolio III, LLC. for the Intersection Improvement along Buena Vista Road (Columbus Spider Web Network) Project STP00-000-00(473), PI No. 0011436, Muscogee County, a Total Take of Property for County Road and/or Municipal Street purposes and authorizing the filing of a Declaration of Taking by the City Attorney or his representatives for the acquisition of said land under the authority of the official code of Georgia annotated, Section 32-3-1 et. Seq.

2. Petco Foundation Grant

Resolution (088-20): A resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit an application and accept, if award, a grant from the Petco Foundation in the amount of approximately \$20,000, or as otherwise awarded, for Columbus Animal Care and Control Center, with no local match required, and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount off the award. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Approval is requested to submit and accept an animal welfare grant for \$20,000 from Petco Foundation. This grant will pay for the spaying and neutering of approximately 400 animals and provide other life-saving veterinary services. There is no local match required for this grant.

3. Georgia Trauma Commission – Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission Grant

Resolution (089-20): A resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant of \$9,495.97, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Trauma Commission – Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission, with no local match requirement and to amend the Multi-Governmental Fund by the amount awarded. Funds will be utilized for the purchase of trauma equipment to aid the citizens of Columbus and surrounding counties. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Approval is requested to apply for and accept a grant in the amount of \$9,495.97, or as otherwise awarded, from the Georgia Trauma Commission – Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission, with no local match required and amend the Multi-Government Fund by the award amount. The grant is for equipment that will enhance the treatment of trauma patients.

4. Riverdragons Donation to PT Civic Center Event Staff During COVID 19

Resolution (090-20): A resolution authorizing the City to approve and accept the donation of \$11,600 from the Riverdragons for the PT Civic Center Event Staff. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Approval is requested to accept a donation of \$11,600 from the Riverdragons. This donation will contribute to the part time Civic Center Event staff who is unable to work events during COVID-19.

5. PURCHASES

A. Replacement Playground Equipment – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract

Resolution (091-20): A resolution authorizing the purchase of replacement playground equipment from Miracle Recreation Company d/b/a Hasley Recreation, Inc., (Flowery Branch, GA), in the amount of \$555,128.65. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase, via Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) Contract #030117-LTS. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

B. Facilities Maintenance, Repair & Operation (MRO), Industrial Supplies and Tools - Georgia Statewide Contract No. 99999-001-SPD0000114

Resolution (092-20): A resolution authorizing the purchase of facilities maintenance, repair & operations (MRO), industrial supplies and tools from Fastenal Company, MSC Industrial Supply Company, and Acuity Specialty Products, Inc. d/b/a Zep Manufacturing, via the Georgia Statewide Contract SWC 99999-001-SPD0000114. The City expended approximately \$358,437.72, during the last five years, utilizing the Georgia Statewide Contract for MRO Supplies. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

C. Forklift – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract

Resolution (093-20): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) Forklift (Hyundai 40D9) from Ring's Forklift & Battery Co., Inc. (LaGrange, GA), in the amount of \$43,744.00. The purchase will be accompanied by Cooperative Purchase, via Sourcewell (formally NJPA) Contract #101816-HCE. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

D. Automated Victim Notification System for the Court Management System Upgrade

Resolution (094-20): A resolution authorizing the purchase of an Automated Victim Notification System from Appriss, Inc., (Louisville, KY) in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the non-recurring startup fee, due upon contract signature; and \$50,000.00 per year, for the recurring services fee. Upon mutual agreement, the City and Appriss may renew the contract for up to four (4) subsequent, 12-month periods. Each renewal period is subject to a 3% annual increase. Additionally, any services not covered by the agreement, shall be the subject of a mutual written agreement between the City and Appriss at the standard rate of \$160.00 per hour. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

6. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. City Operations During COVID - 19 – City Manager, Isaiah Hugley

City Manager Isaiah Hugley gave an update on the operations of the City during the COVID-19 Pandemic, stating City building are currently closed to the public, trash pick-up is still on the same schedule, but recycling services have been suspended.

B. Department Head Vacancies/Recruitment - City Manager, Isaiah Hugley

City Manager Isaiah Hugley explained the current situation regarding the Department Head vacancies and the recruitment efforts being made.

C. COVID - 19 Stimulus Tracking Process – Deputy City Manager, Lisa Goodwin

Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin gave an update on the process put in place to track the COVID-19 Stimulus Funding that the City of Columbus qualifies for. She stated METRA has received \$6.9 million and CBDG has received \$981,181 of stimulus money.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Make sure there is someone checking behind those who are looking for COVID-19 Stimulus Funding to make sure there is nothing being missed. (*Request of Councilor Woodson*)
- A report on how much money has been lost by the City during the COVID-19 Pandemic. (*Request of Councilor Thomas*)

D. Virginia College Update – Deputy City Manager, Pam Hodge

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge gave a presentation update on the construction process of renovating the Virginia College building for the Muscogee County Health Department, with expected completion next month.

E. Infrastructure Projects during COVID – 19, Deputy City Manager, Pam Hodge

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge gave an update on various infrastructure projects during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

F. Government Center/SPLOST Update – Deputy City Manager, Pam Hodge

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge gave a presentation update on the Government Center/SPLOST, stating there will be a presentation made to Council in May, public meetings will be held in June, and are proceeding forward with the SPLOST being on the ballot in November.

G. Budget Process Update - Finance Director, Angelica Alexander

Finance Director Angelica Alexander gave an update on how the budget process will be handled during the COVID-19 Pandemic, explaining the FY2021 Budget Meetings would be held via Microsoft Teams.

H. City Technology During COVID - 19 – Information Technology Director, Forrest Toelle

IT Director Forrest Toelle gave a presentation explaining the strides the Information Technology Department has taken to enable employees to work remotely from home and the plans going forward during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

I. DPH/CDC Guidelines on COVID – 19 – Human Resource Director, Reather Hollowell

HR Director Reather Hollowell gave an update on the resources made available to the employees of the Columbus Consolidated Government regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

April 22, 2020

1. **Reese Road Bridge at Cooper Creek – RFB No. 20-0061**

Scope of Bid

This project includes complete demolition of the existing bridge, construction of new bridge structure, relocation of water and sewer lines, installation of curb and gutter, asphalt pavement, sidewalk, and guardrail.

April 24, 2020

1. **Parking Lot Control Equipment for Bay Avenue Garage and 9th Street Lot**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) invites qualified vendors to submit proposals to furnish and install a complete parking lot control system for the Bay Avenue Parking Garage and 9th Street Parking Lot.

April 29, 2020

1. **Plumbing & Irrigation Supplies (Annual Contract) (Re-Bid) – RFB No. 20-0046**

Scope of Bid

Provide plumbing & irrigation supplies on an “as needed basis” to be picked up and delivered to Columbus Consolidated Government. The contract term will be for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods

2. **Lot Clearing Services III (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 20-0055**

Scope of Bid

Provide services for annual clearing of vacant or unoccupied lots, including cutting and removing grass, weeds, undergrowth and other vegetation, and removing any/all solid waste for the Department of Inspections and Code. Due to the number of upcoming projects, the City has identified the need to contract with additional vendors to provide the requested services.

This tertiary contract will run concurrently with Lot Clearing Services RFB No. 18-0029 (the Prime Contract), which initiated on March 12, 2018, for two (2) years with the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL:

1. CVB Update - Peter Bowden, President/CEO

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. **RESOLUTION (095-20)**: A Resolution approving an application submitted by the Georgia Alabama Senior Softball League requesting an Honorary Designation to name a field at the South Commons Softball Complex in honor of Mr. Nemrod Kendrick. (*The Board of Honor recommended approval at its March 11, 2020 Meeting.*) Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

2. **Minutes of the following boards:**
Board of Tax Assessors, #09-20, #10-20 and #11-20.
Columbus Board of Health, February 26, 2020.
Development Authority of Columbus, March 5, 2020.
Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees, October 9 and November 13, 2019.

Councilor House made a motion to receive the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Board of Family & Children Services
- B. Columbus Aquatics Commission
- C. Columbus Golf Course Authority
- D. Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission
- E. New Horizon Behavioral Health- Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board
- F. Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees
- G. Region Six Regional Advisory Council for Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- H. Retirees' Health Benefits Committee

COLUMBUS GOLF COURSE AUTHORITY:

Councilor Huff nominated Richard Mahone to succeed himself on the Columbus Golf Course Authority.

Councilor Crabb nominated Tommy Nobles for a position on the Columbus Golf Course Authority.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the April 14, 2020 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 11:15 a.m.

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