

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

September 14, 2021
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, John M. House, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas, Toyia Tucker, and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem Tameka Colbert were present.

ABSENT: Councilor R. Walker Garrett was absent.

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) ARP (American Rescue Plan) Update; (2) TSPLOST (Transportation Special Local Option Sales Tax) Presentation; (3) Victim's Rights Overview

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. Dr. Adriane McGee Burgess at St. Mary's Road UMC of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the August 31, 2021 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

UPDATES:

2. An update on COVID-19

Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson provided the statistical information relating to the number of COVID-19 cases. He explained the numbers being monitored with the trend showing that we have plateaued; although, it has plateaued very high on the new cases. The number that represents the biggest challenge for the residents is the hospitalizations, which is high but too has plateaued, but at a level that is stretching the capabilities of our frontline workers who are also assisting others with non-COVID-19 related healthcare concerns. He informed that our daily numbers of new vaccinations are going up at close to 400 per day, however, he continued to urge those that are healthy enough to consider getting the vaccine.

3. Update on Construction Ready Program

Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson briefly explained the Construction Ready Program. He announced this is an intensive four-week program that contains educational and practical work components. At the end of the four-weeks, there is a 97% placement rate for a career in the construction industry. He advised that if anyone is interested in being vetted to be selected for this program, which is free of charge, go to constructionready.org.

RECOGNITION:

Mayor Henderson asked the Department of Parks and Recreation Director Holli Browder and the Parks and Recreation staff members to come forward to recognize the achievements of the Therapeutic Division, as well as, all of the accomplishments of Department of Parks and Recreation Director Holli Browder.

4. To recognize the Therapeutic Division of Parks and Recreation Department as the recipient of the 2021 NACPRO (National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials) Removing Barriers Award for their Extra Ordinary News Show.
5. To recognize Holli Browder, Parks and Recreation Department Director, being selected as the NACPRO (National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials) Professional Fellow Award Winner of the Year for 2021.
6. To recognize Holli Browder, Parks and Recreation Department Director, as the President of the NACPRO (National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials) for 2021-2022.
7. To recognize Holli Browder, Parks and Recreation Department Director, as the incoming President of GRPA (Georgia Park and Recreation Association) for 2021-2022.
8. To recognize Holli Browder, Parks and Recreation Director, as being selected as 1 of only 40 Parks and Recreation Directors chosen nationally to attend the 2021 Parks Summit.

CONDOLENCES FOR LATE SGT. BOBBY WILLIAMS:

Councilor Thomas recognized the presence of Sheriff Greg Countryman. She then expressed condolences on the loss of Sgt. Bobby Williams, a thirty-year veteran Sheriff Deputy and requested that we all pause for a moment to express our thanks to the family for his years of dedicated service.

9. **UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Exide Update - Ken Hewlett, Exide Environmental Response Trust, Path Forward Consulting Inc. *(At the request of Mayor Henderson, the following presentation was called up as the next order of business.)*

City Manager Isaiah Hugley introduced Mr. Ken Hewlett to present the overview on the Exide Update and provided some background on the property on Farr Road, where Exide Battery previously operated. The staff was challenged to determine there is no contamination or life-threatening health concerns with regards to this property.

Mr. Ken Hewlett- Path forward Consulting, Inc. on behalf of Exide Environment Response Trust, came forward to provide some additional history on the former Exide Technologies Columbus site and status report. He explained that Exide Technologies operated as a lead-acid battery

manufacturing and distribution company. In May of 2020, Exide declared bankruptcy and the court appointed Exide Environmental Response Corporation as trustee, effective October 23, 2020. Mr. Hewlett explained that he is the Portfolio Manager for 16 former Exide facilities within the trust, which includes Columbus. He advised that the trust would perform work on the property until the funds run out. However, the goal is to sell the property and transfer those environmental liabilities to a buyer who could turn the property into another productive use. He pointed out the funds for the Columbus site is limited and nowhere near the funds needed to fully remediate the property.

Mr. Hewlett advised that they contracted with American Environmental and Construction Services and recognized the members that were present: President Roger Daniel, Kerry Williams and Art Pickens. He concluded his presentation by outlining the accomplishments of the trust and the current work that is being performed, the work that is planned for the site and the report that is to be sent to EPD (Environmental Protection Division).

Councilor Huff expressed concerns with the vapors that may escape into the air and the ground water seeping into the surrounding community. He then asked about the containment of these possible contaminants, at which time, Mr. Hewlett advised that according to the study, the possibility is low. He expounded further that the risk is below the risk level that is set by the State.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Let's come up a succession plan to address citizen's issue in the future regarding this property.
(Request of Councilor Tucker)

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 911:

Mayor Henderson informed that this past Saturday was the 20th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 911. He recalled that the Council was meeting on that day on the Plaza level of the Government Center on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. Before the Council Meeting, members of Council were advised that a plane had flown into one of the towers of the World Trade Center, to which, he believed was a tragic accident. He then spoke of the moment the members of Council received the news that our country was under siege. We received another update from Chief Deputy Jimmy Griffin, of the Sheriff's Department, that the Pentagon had also been attacked and they had begun communication with the airport, Ft. Benning and Lawson Army Airfield. Also, streets around the Government Center were blocked off. He explained that we have an entire generation of people that had not been born when that happened and recognized how important it is to continue to education that generation and the generations to come. He said the message to be conveyed to the future generations is the reaction of our country and the bravery of the first responders and law enforcement officers.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

9. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

- B. American Rescue Plan Update/Public Safety Operations Support Package - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to provide an overview of the American Rescue Plan and the Public Safety Operations Support that is included in the presentation. She began with the Public Safety Pay Enhancements, pay adjustments and bonuses. She then outlined the chart that depicts the Police Officers' starting salary, as well as, the Sheriff Deputies, Muscogee County Correctional Officers and Fire & EMS starting salaries.

In response to a question of Councilor Thomas, **Human Resources Director Reather Hollowell** came forward to explain the reason for the difference in pay for Sheriff Correctional Officers in comparison to the Sheriff Deputies.

Deputy City Manager Hodge continued by outlining the Police Department capital needs, as well as, the inclusion of the reclassification of 20 Police Officer positions for the expanded Cadet Program and the immediate support for the Fire & EMS Department.

Deputy City Manager Hodge then explained the eligible uses for this funding and included a priority list and is provided as follows: Automation of Garbage Collection to include Garbage Trucks and Carts = \$19,530,030; Revenue Recovery = \$3,559,470.84; Small Business Grants = \$3,000,000; Ambulances = \$2,100,000; Community Safeguard Programs to include Cure Violence, Summer Youth and Youth Development Programs, and Cameras = \$1,000,000; Broadband/Cyber Security Upgrades – Phase 1 = \$3,000,000; Premium pay for Public Safety and Other Essential Employees = \$5,000,000; Stormwater Infrastructure = \$0 (Delay to Phase 2); Economic/Tourism Grants = \$850,000; Non-Profit Grants = \$1,000,000 and Administration (includes a full-time temporary position for up to 3 years) = \$201,518.16

Assistant Director of Information Technology Mr. Jeremy Miles made a brief comment in response to a question of Mayor Pro Tem Allen regarding the Broadband/Cyber Security Upgrades. City Manager Hugley advised that we will bring some additional information on the Broadband/Cyber Security Upgrades.

After the conclusion of the presentation, the following resolution was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager's Agenda as Item No. 1.

1. American Rescue Plan – Funding Priorities

Resolution (304-21): A Resolution authorizing the funding priorities for the first allocation of the American Rescue Plan of \$39,241,019 which includes a temporary Project Financial Analyst as well as Premium and Pandemic Pay for eligible Essential Workers. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

NOTE: *With the approval of Item One on the City Manager's Agenda, the following Agenda items listed on the City Manager's Agenda were also approved and are listed below: Item 5- Acquisition of 5824 Whitesville Road; Purchase Items 8 "A" Six Ambulances with Loose Equipment for Fire & EMS (Cooperative Purchase); 8 "B" Emergency Operations Center – Technology Upgrade for Fire & EMS – RFP No. 21-0030 and 8 "M" Add-On Pursuit Utility Vehicles (Cooperative Purchase).*

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Have a work session for the next allocation for the ARP Funding to discuss some of the items that Council would like to include. (*Request of Councilor Tucker*)

- Address the need for vehicles for Public Safety, look at our city employees, positive elements in the community, covers over the bus station shelters. Also, let's use a small portion to set aside for maintenance. (*Request of Councilor Woodson*)

5. Acquisition of 5824 Whitesville Road

Resolution (305-21): A Resolution authorizing a request to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with The Vine Trust to purchase the building at 5824 Whitesville Road for \$120,960. The acquisition will allow the Columbus Fire department to expand its dormitory and operational space. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

8. PURCHASES

A. Six Ambulances with Loose Equipment for Fire & EMS (Cooperative Purchase)

Resolution (306-21): A Resolution approving the purchase of six ambulances with loose equipment from Frazer, LTD (Houston, TX) in the total amount of \$2,009,517.00 (approximately \$334,919.50 per ambulance, including discounts). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase utilizing HGACBuy Contract #AM10-20. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

B. Emergency Operations Center – Technology Upgrade for Fire & EMS – RFP No. 21-0030

Resolution (307-21): A Resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with Sun Video, Inc. d/b/a Columbus Tape and Video (Columbus, GA) for the purchase and installation of a full turn-key technology upgrade of the emergency operations center for the Columbus Fire & EMS/Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security. Cost will include the provision and installation of new commercial grade equipment, integration, training, and labor. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

M. Add-On Pursuit Utility Vehicles (Cooperative Purchase)

Resolution (308-21): A Resolution to approve the purchase of thirty-three (33) 2021 Ford Explorer pursuit utility vehicles in the total amount of \$1,289,242.00, from Wade Ford, Inc. (Smyrna, GA), by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #9999-SPD-ES40199409-0003. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

- 1. 2nd Reading- REZN-06-21-1200:** An ordinance amending the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) for Columbus, Georgia so as to revise Table 3.1.1, amend Section 3.2.76, and amend Chapter 13 – Definitions; and for other purposes. Solid waste Substitute) (Mayor Pro - Tem) Councilor Davis made a motion to defeat the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and

carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting. *(Councilor Woodson was not present for the vote; however, upon returning to her respective seat, requested that her vote be cast in the affirmative to defeat the ordinance.)*

2. **1st Reading:** An ordinance amending Ordinance No.21-032, the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, to reclassify certain positions of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

RESOLUTIONS

3. **Resolution (309-21):** A resolution authorizing, approving and ratifying the execution of a Grant Agreement by and among United States of America, acting through the Federal Aviation Administration (hereinafter called “FAA”), the Columbus Airport Commission and Columbus, Georgia, a Consolidated Government. (Grant No. 48) (Request of the Airport Commission) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.
4. **Resolution (310-21):** A resolution authorizing, approving and ratifying the execution of a Grant Agreement by and among United States of America, acting through the Federal Aviation Administration (hereinafter called “FAA”), the Columbus Airport Commission and Columbus, Georgia, a Consolidated Government. (Grant No. 51) (Request of the Airport Commission) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Paul Olson, Re: The City Contract with Piedmont Columbus Regional (2) 3 Mills in Property Taxes/Indigent Care (3) Contract ends in 2022 and (4) Embezzlement of Superior Court Funds.
2. Ms. Arreasha Lawrence, representing Music & Entertainment Council, Re: Introduction of the Music & Entertainment Council bringing together local government, tourism, and music stakeholders building an even stronger music ecosystem.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

2. GMA Hub Cities Conference Donations

Resolution (311-21): A Resolution approving a request to accept donations in support of the Georgia Municipal Association’s Hub Cities Conference that Columbus, in partnership with Georgia Power, will host beginning September 29 - 30, 2021. Mayors and City Managers from 13 participating metropolitan areas meet regularly to discuss various topics and/or challenges impacting their communities. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by eight members with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

3. Retiree Health Insurance Plan

Resolution (312-21): A Resolution authorizing the renewal of the Medicare eligible healthcare plan benefits and the United Healthcare Medicare Advantage plan. The retiree's monthly premium rate will be \$99.23 a month for the City subsidized retiree group (hired prior to July 1, 2001) and \$132.30 for the unsubsidized retiree group (hired on or after July 1, 2001). The out-of-pocket maximum will remain at \$1,000 annually. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by eight members with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

President of the Columbus Retired Employee Association Mr. Larry Campbell approached the rostrum to thank the Council and all involved on behalf of the Retirees' Health Benefits Committee. He also thanked the Human Resources Department and others for their guidance.

4. Street Acceptance – Property Formally Known as 1st Avenue

Resolution (313-21): A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of that portion of property formally known as 1st Avenue that runs from south right of way line for 18th Street south to the north right of way line for Norfolk Southern Railroad. It is desired to restore the right of way for 1st Avenue as a public street for operation and maintenance. The City will be responsible for the cost of operation and maintenance to include public improvements and installation of official street name signs. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by eight members with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

6. Liberty Utilities License Agreement

Resolution (314-21): A Resolution authorizing a request to enter into a License Agreement with Liberty Utilities and the Development Authority to utilize Parcel 9 in the Muscogee Technology Park as a "lay down" area for Liberty's construction of nearby infrastructure. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

7. Mayor's Commission on Health Donations (Add-On)

Resolution (315-21): A Resolution authorizing a request to accept donations in support of the Mayor's Commission on Health, and to expend such monies to cover said expenses relative to the efforts of the Commission. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

8. PURCHASES

C. Safety Apparel (Annual Contract) - RFB No. 21-0033

Resolution (316-21): A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to purchase safety apparel from Lowe Electric Supply Company (Columbus, GA) for the estimated annual contract value of \$96,610.00. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this on-going expense: Various Departments - Operating Materials; 6728. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

D. Janitorial Supplies for the Columbus Civic Center and Ice Rink (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0004

Resolution (317-21): A Resolution authorizing the purchase of janitorial supplies for the Columbus Civic Center and Ice Rink from COPACO, Inc (Columbus, GA) for the total estimated annual contract value of \$46,745.05. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

E. Storing, Transporting and Recycling Waste Tires (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 21-0036

Resolution (318-21): A Resolution authorizing the annual contract with Quality Tire Recycling, Inc. (Jackson, GA) to provide storing, transporting & recycling of waste tires on an “as needed” basis. The Public Works Department has budgeted \$30,000.00 annually for the services. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

F. Soft Drink Concession/Columbus Civic Center & Ice Rink (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 21-0021

Resolution (319-21): A Resolution authorizing the execution of an annual contract for soft drink concession at the Columbus Civic Center and Ice Rink with Buffalo Rock Company (Columbus, GA). Buffalo Rock Company will provide exclusive soft drink concession at the Columbus Civic Center and Ice Rink. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

G. Heavy-Duty Truck Lift for Public Works – Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (320-21): A Resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) vertical rise drive-on heavy-duty truck lift, in the amount of \$179,760.03, from Mohawk Lifts LLC (Amsterdown, NY). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #90817-001A. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

H. Intercept High Security Contraband Scanning System for Muscogee County Prison (Cooperative Contract)

Resolution (321-21): A Resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) intercept high security contraband scanning systems with thermal scanners from Sysorex Government Services, Inc (Herndon, VA) in the amount of \$308,000.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via GSA Contract # GS-35F-210DA. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

I. Repair of Cherry Picker Boom Lift Crane for Public Works

Resolution (322-21): A Resolution authorizing payment to Tractor and Equipment Company (Birmingham, AL/Columbus, GA Branch), in the amount of \$32,486.63, for the repair of a Heavy Equipment Cherry Picker Boom Lift Crane, Vehicle #9941. Councilor House made a motion to

approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

J. Wildlife Trapping Services for Public Works (Annual Contract)

Resolution (323-21): A Resolution authorizing an annual contract with Jager Pro, LLC (Columbus, GA) to trap wild hogs in the amount of \$375 up to \$1,925.00, contingent upon the number of hogs per property; and approve an annual contract with Jarrod’s Pest Control and Wildlife, LLC (Fortson, GA) to trap Coyotes, in the amount of \$500 up to \$1,000 per bait site, per week, contingent upon the number of weeks. The services will be utilized on an “as needed” basis, per fiscal year. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

K. Direct Payments to Employee Benefit Carriers

Resolution (324-21): A Resolution authorizing direct payments to Blue Cross Blue Shield/Anthem (Medical), United Healthcare (Medicare Advantage Plan), Pharmavail (Pharmacy), NFP Rxsolutions (Pharmacy), Metlife (Life Insurance), Aflac (Supplemental Life Insurance), Impaxrx (Pharmacy), Newbenefits (Telemedicine), Careatc (Onsite Wellness Center), and any other carriers negotiated by NFP Corporate Services. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

L. Mobile Assessor Software for Tax Assessors Office (Cooperative Purchase)

Resolution (325-21): A Resolution authorizing the purchase of Mobile Assessor Software from Woolpert Company/Data Cloud Solutions (Dayton, OH), in the amount of \$74,010.00, plus pro-rated maintenance for the first year in the approximate amount of \$9,515.63. Approval is also requested for payment of the annual maintenance fee of \$20,037.50, and any adjustments, for subsequent years. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase utilizing RP. No. 009-21, issued and awarded by Gwinnett County. Councilor House made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

9. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

C. SPLOST Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to provide an overview of the 1999 and 1993 SPLOST Projects that have been completed. She also gave a recap of the project list for the proposed SPLOST referendum in the amount of \$400,000,000 that would be on the ballot for November 2, 2021.

Councilor Woodson requested that the members of Council have at least two offices and a conference room to meet with the citizens within the vicinity of the Clerk of Council’s Office. This would allow for Councilors to be able to schedule appointments or make requests to the Clerk’s Office to use the conference room.

D. TSPLOST Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge provided an update on the projects that are funded by the 2012 TSPLOST. She also outlined the TSPLOST Summary and is provided as follows: 2012 TSPLOST Investment = \$201,600,000; 2021 TSPLOST Joint Project Investment with Harris County = \$57,700,000 and 2022 Proposed TSPLOST Investment = \$303,190,000 for a total if TSPLOST is approved = \$562,490,000

At the request of Councilor Thomas, the Clerk of Council's Agenda was called up as the next order of business.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. **RESOLUTION (326-21)** - A Resolution cancelling the November 2, 2021 Proclamation Session. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

2. **RESOLUTION (327-21)** - A Resolution excusing Councilor Judy Thomas from the August 24, 2021 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

3. **RESOLUTION (328-21)** - A Resolution excusing Councilor Jerry "Pops" Barnes from the August 31, 2021 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

4. **Minutes of the following boards:**
 - Board of Elections & Registration, September 2, 2021
 - Board of Tax Assessors, #28-21 and #29-21
 - Commission on International Relations & Cultural Liaison Encounters (CIRCLE), April 20, June 15 and July 20, 2021
 - Community Development Advisory Council, December 10, 2020
 - Development Authority, June 3 and July 1, 2021
 - Housing Authority of Columbus, June 16, 2021

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Thomas being absent for the meeting.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION (329-21) - A Resolution excusing Councilor R. Walker Garrett from the September 14, 2021 Council Meeting. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Garrett being absent for this meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. **CONVENTION & VISITORS 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*). There were none.

B. **HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Tiffani Stacy (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 16, 2021, as a resident member on the Housing Authority of Columbus (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee to fill the unexpired term of the late Charles Alexander. Term expires: April 30, 2023 (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson nominated Linda Hadley to fill the unexpired term of the late Charles Alexander. Motion by Councilor Woodson for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

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

A. **BOARD OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES:** Pastor Johnny Flakes, III was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Charonda Huff to serve in the "*Leaders within the faith-based community (active or retired)*" category. (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2022. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

B. **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS:** Ret. Colonel Clint W. Cox was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Sanders Griffith, III. (*Councilor Thomas' nominee*) Term expires: December 31, 2022 *Note: (Ms. Sharon Bunn withdrew from consideration to serve on this board.)* Councilor Woodson made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

7. **COUNCIL'S DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENT- ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. **YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the Youth Advisory Council for the District 6 Representative. (*Council District 6-Allen*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Zachariah Bowman.

A nominee for the Youth Advisory Council for the District 10 Representative. (*Council District 10-House*). Councilor House nominated Emily Rice.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation of Zachariah Bowman for the District 6 Representative and Emily Rice for the District 10 Representative, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting.

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

A. **HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Shannon Smallman (*Resigned*) to fill an unexpired term due to expire on January 31, 2023 on the Historic & Architectural Review Board. Councilor Woodson nominated Ms. Fran Carpenter as recommended by the Board Chairperson, Ms. Cathy Williams.

B. **HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

Three nominees for the seat of Ernest Smallman (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2021 on the Hospital Authority of Columbus: Ernest Smallman, Mike Welch and Dr. John Kingsbury.

Three nominees for the seat of Mike Welch (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2021 on the Hospital Authority of Columbus: Ernest Smallman, Mike Welch and Dr. John Kingsbury.

Three nominees for the seat of Dr. John Kingsbury (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on November 14, 2021 on the Hospital Authority of Columbus: Ernest Smallman, Mike Welch and Dr. John Kingsbury.

Clerk of Council Davis reiterated that the Council has recommended that the above listed nominees be forwarded to the Hospital Authority of Columbus for selection for the seats of Ernest Smallman, Mike Welch and Dr. John Kingsbury.

C. **KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of David Goldberg (*Moving out of the county*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Arsburn “Oz” Roberts (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Dr. William Kendall (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Fran Fluker (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Orlean Baulkmon (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Larry Derby (*Did not desire reappointment*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2020, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Thomas nominated Mr. William R. Bandy to succeed Mr. Larry Derby.

D. MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Three nominees for the seat of Brenda DeRamus (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021 on the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus: Councilor Thomas is nominating for the seat of Brenda DeRamus: Ms. Brenda DeRamus, Mr. Murray Solomon and Mr. Tracy L. Sayers.

Three nominees for the seat of Susan McWhirter (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021 on the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus: Councilor Thomas is nominating for the seat of Susan McWhirter: Ms. Susan McWhirter, Mr. Murray Solomon and Mr. Tracy L. Sayers.

Three nominees for the seat of John Hargrove (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021 on the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus: Councilor Thomas is nominating for the seat of John Hargrove: Mr. John Hargrove, Mr. Murray Solomon and Mr. Tracy L. Sayers.

Three nominees for the seat of James Crosse (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021 on the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus: Councilor Thomas is nominating for the seat of James Crosse: Ms. Alpna Arora, Mr. Murray Solomon and Mr. Tracy L. Sayers.

Clerk of Council Davis advised that the Council has recommended that the above listed nominees be forwarded to the Medical Center Hospital Authority of Columbus for selection for the seats of Brenda DeRamus, Susan McWhirter, John Hargrove and James Crosse.

E. TREE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Frank Tommey (*Not eligible to succeed*) as the Residential Development Member on the Tree Board for a term that expired on December 31, 2020 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Troy Keller (*Not eligible to succeed*) as the Educator Member on the Tree Board for a term that expired on December 31, 2020 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA- Continued:

9. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

E. Victim Witness Update - Shelly Hall, Director of Victim Services

Ms. Shelly Hall- Director of Victim Services approached the rostrum to provide a basic overview of the Victim Services, the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights and the Victim Advocate. She then concluded with the Georgia's Crime Victims Compensation Program.

F. Metra Transit Update - Rosa Evans, Metra Director

Director of Transportation Rosa Evans came forward to first share an annual event, the Communities in Motion, on October 5, 2021 at the Transfer Station.

Transit Compliance Officer Robert Sheridan approached the rostrum to offer the presentation that provides an overview of the roll out of ITS (Integrated Transit System) on October 5, 2021. He then explained the features of ITS.

Director of Transportation Rosa Evans returned to the rostrum to highlight how the CARES Act funding of \$6.9 million, which was received in 2020 from the Federal Government, was spent within the Department of Transportation. She also announced that as a part of METRA's 2021 Communities in Motion event, there would be onsite COVID-19 vaccinations provided by the Health Department.

G. City Resource Center Update - Reather Hollowell, Human Resource Director - *Delayed*

I. Yard Waste/Bulk Waste Update - Mike Criddle, Public Works Director

Director of Public Works Mike Criddle came forward to provide an overview of the bulk waste collection to include, but not limited to the number of private haulers and amount of tonnage hauled. He then announced that yard waste is caught up; therefore, the deadline for citizens to bring yard and bulk waste to Pine Grove Landfill at no charge will end on September 30, 2021. He explained that the date continues to be evaluated.

Director of Public Works Criddle reminded of the driver and labor shortages and outlined the number of vacant positions.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

September 15, 2021

1. **Service Contract for Various Types of Engines for METRA (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0001**

Scope of Bid

The Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia is requesting bids to repair/rebuild various types of engines for METRA Transit System. The services will be procured on an as-needed basis.

The contract term shall be for three years.

2. **Forklift – RFB No. 22-0008**

Scope of RFB

The Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is seeking bids from qualified vendors to provide one (1) forklift.

September 17, 2021

1. **Inmate Telephone System/Muscogee County Prison (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0003**

Scope of RFP

The Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide a turnkey, fully operational, secure and reliable inmate telephone system designed to improve the management and control of inmate telephone usage in the Muscogee County Prison. Telephone system should include the provision of a mobile for isolation units, and a video visitation system for dorm units.

September 22, 2021

1. **Pharmaceutical Supply Services (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 22-0011**

Scope of RFB

The City of Columbus, Georgia is seeking bids from area hospitals interested in providing Pharmaceutical Supply Services for the Columbus Fire and Emergency Medical Services. The City reserves the right to add additional related items during the term of the contract.

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

September 24, 2021

1. **Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0009**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government, on behalf of Juvenile Drug Court, is seeking proposals to provide crisis intervention, individual and family counseling, psychological evaluations and in-home counseling services for Drug Court participants. *Offerors may submit proposals to provide either or all areas of treatment.*

The contract term shall be for two years with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods.

October 4, 2021

**1. Architectural Services for Feeding the Valley Facility Expansion – RFP No. 22-0004
Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting proposals from qualified offerors to provide architectural plans and drawings for Feeding the Valley Facility Enhancement. Feeding the Valley is a food bank serving several counties and communities in the River Valley region. The organization is looking to expand by adding an additional facility at its Columbus location in order to meet the growing needs of the food insecure in the area.

This is a Section 3 Covered Contract and Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.

PUBLIC AGENDA (Event):

1. Mr. Kelvin Brewton, representing Salvation Thru Enlightenment, Re: Invitation to the Council to attend Salvation Thru Enlightenment's weekly networking event starting September 18, 2021.
Did not approach the rostrum when called upon to speak before the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At the request of Mayor Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss matters of litigation and property acquisition and disposal, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Barnes, Davis and House being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting, and the time being 1:03 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 1:32 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss matters of property acquisition and litigation; however, there were no votes taken.

H. Comprehensive Camera Update - Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager

Mayor Henderson advised that the Council would have a brief preliminary update on the Camera Committee with a full presentation in two weeks.

Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin approached the rostrum to offer a preliminary update on the project timeline for the Comprehensive Camera.

TRI-CITY LATINO FESTIVAL:

Councilor Woodson announced the Tri-City Latino Festival, on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at the Columbus Civic Center and would be free to the public. At the event this year, the City of Columbus will host a Job Fair, as well as, onsite COVID-19 vaccination.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to adjourn the September 14, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilors Barnes, Davis and House being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent for the meeting, and the time being 1:44 p.m.

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