

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

August 12, 2025
9:00 AM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 9:18 p.m.), Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff, and Toyia Tucker (via teleconference). Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: N/A

The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet: (1) MA#3: Home for Good: A briefing on the stat of homelessness in Muscogee County; (2) CM#6(A): Facilities Maintenance Muscogee County Jail Update PP; (3) CM#6(B): Council Site Investigation Update Muscogee County Jail Masterplan

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) PA#9: Public Works Performance, Transparency and Economic Impact; (2) PA#11: Ordinance 14-13 Camping on Public Property -Impacts on Homelessness

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Pastor Jimmy Elder, First Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for the July 29, 2025, Consent Agenda / Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote.

RECOGNITION

Warden Herbert Walker III and his team were recognized for their excellent service to the community and their dedicated efforts in patrolling the city's parks.

Warden Herbert Walker III, Muscogee County Prison, thanked Mayor Henderson for the recognition and elaborated on the efforts he and his staff undertook to work collaboratively in patrolling the city's parks, ensuring public safety and delivering community service.

Parks and Recreation Director Holli Browder expressed gratitude to Warden Herbert Walker III and his team for their support. She explained that while past requests for Park Patrol funding were not approved due to budget constraints, Warden Walker reached out offering assistance. After discussing community needs, his team began helping patrol the parks, enhancing safety and public confidence. Director Browder stated that Parks and Recreation is proud of this partnership and views the Warden's team as a valued extension of their work.

Councilor Davis arrived at 9:18 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS

2. **Resolution (226-25)** - A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City of Columbus, Georgia, a Covenant of Friendship between Columbus and Jinju, Republic of Korea, formally establishing a sister city relationship to enhance the cultural and educational life of both cities. (Councilors Anker and Cogle) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

PRESENTATIONS:

3. Strategic Steps to Implementation of the Annual Action Plan – Pat Frey, Vice President of United Way

President & CEO Ben Moser, United Way, came forward and state that homelessness is increasing locally and nationally and affirmed United Way and Home for Good’s commitment to working with the City of Columbus to address the issue.

Vice President of United Way Pat Frey provided information on the challenges, opportunities, and collaborative efforts to strengthen the safety net for the community’s most vulnerable residents. She presented an overview of the Home for Good Program, highlighting Continuum of Care partnerships that help fill resource and service gaps for individuals experiencing homelessness. She also presented Point-in-Time Homelessness data for 2016–2025 and discussed community-wide challenges in addressing homelessness.

Chief Executive Officer at Valley Healthcare System Dr. Asanti Hiltz stated that the proposed approach is for Valley Healthcare to assume the PATH Program, which is the city’s outreach initiative. She explained that, as a safety net provider, Valley Healthcare’s mission is to assist individuals who are medically unhoused.

President & CEO of United Way Ben Moser proposed that City Council sanction the creation of a Homeless Task Force consisting of 5–7 individuals, with advisory groups engaged to provide guidance and expertise to the task force.

Councilor Tucker made a motion for an oral resolution to support the creation of a Homeless Task Force, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Rabbi Beth Ford agreed with comments from Councilors Hickey and Garrett. She emphasized that the Continuum of Care exists due to a federal mandate requiring communities to work collaboratively. She stated that collaboration makes services more effective, efficient, and cost-effective, and stressed that reducing homelessness depends on the community’s will and values.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR UNITED WAY:

- A request was made for reports to be provided more frequently than every six months. (*Councilor Cogle*)

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance (25-040) - 2nd Reading: An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code to repeal and replace Section 14-13. with a new code section that prohibits camping on public property within Columbus, Georgia, and for other purposes. (Proposed Substitute) (Councilor Crabb) Councilor Crabb made a motion to amend the ordinance with subsection (e) to read "The Columbus Police Department must provide a written or oral notification of violation of subsection (b) of this code section and the violator(s) shall be given eight calendar days to vacate the property" and the last line of subsection (f) to read "A minimum of eight calendar days shall be allotted prior to such removal and transport of such property", seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by a nine-to-one vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Anker, Chambers, Crabb, Davis, Garrett, Hickey, Huff and Tucker voting in favor, and Councilor Cogle voting in opposition. Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance as amended, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by a nine-to-one vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Anker, Chambers, Crabb, Davis, Garrett, Hickey, Huff and Tucker voting in favor, and Councilor Cogle voting in opposition.

(Note: The amended ordinance was included in the published agenda packet and identified as a "proposed substitute".)

In response to a question posed by Councilor Huff, **Sgt. Katina Williams, Columbus Police Department**, stated that it has never taken more than eight days to remove individuals from encampment properties. She also stated her support for the ordinance developed by Council.

Inspections and Code Director Ryan Pruett explained that, regarding private property, the responsibility to clean up waste left behind by campers falls on the property owner. He stated that, in accordance with the ordinance, property owners are given a set period of time to complete the cleanup. If the owner fails to do so, the City will hire a private contractor to handle the removal.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE MAYOR:

- Would like for staff to work on a plan to figure out how to help in some of these situations as it pertains to homelessness. *(Councilor Davis)*

FOR UNITED WAY:

- When the Homeless Task Force is organized make sure someone from the faith community is included. *(Councilor Chambers)*

2. **1st Reading** - An Ordinance amending the Columbus Code Section 2-1. to revise term limits for Columbus boards, commissions, and authorities, and for other purposes. (Councilor Tucker)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *Marvin Broadwater Sr.* – Concerned about extending term limits to three terms.

At the request of Councilor Crabb, **Clerk of Council McLemore** reported that several boards are facing challenges and that staff are working to identify those most affected. She suggested allowing virtual board meetings and requested that Council consider forwarding this idea to the legislative delegation.

- *Chairperson of the Community Development Advisory Council, Denise Cambridge* – Expressed concerns regarding board vacancies, lack of quorums, which results in the inability to conduct business.
- *Theresa El-Amin* – Expressed concerns regarding board recruitment and suggested training for board members.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER GOODWIN:

- Would like to hold a work session on this issue, with the input and participation of the city's boards, commissions, and authorities. (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen*)

FOR CLERK OF COUNCIL:

- Reach out to the Chamber of Commerce, Urban League, and Young Professionals regarding serving on boards, commissions and authorities. (*Mayor Henderson*)
- Would like a list of boards that are experiencing frustrations. (*Councilor Cogle*)

Note: Following discussion, the City Attorney noted that the ordinance will be delayed until the next scheduled Work Session.

3. **1st Reading-** REZN-03-25-0489: An Ordinance rezoning of **4389 Weems Road**, parcel # 082-018-026 from Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1

(RMF1) zoning district. The proposed use is Multifamily Residential Development. (Planning Department and PAC recommended Denial.) (Councilor Crabb)

P & B Holdings Representative Perry Pate explained that the original plan was to construct 24 townhomes on the property. After meeting with Mike Rich and a neighboring property owner who raised concerns about water runoff onto Jane Lane, the proposal was reduced to 18 townhomes to make the project more feasible. He further stated that, in response to concerns from residents at the front of the property, the plan now includes an 8-foot fence surrounding the site.

Director of the Planning Department Will Johnson explained the reasons why the Planning Advisory Commission denied the rezoning request. He stated that the denial was based on the staff report findings, citing incompatibility with existing land uses and the proposal's failure to align with the land use map of the Comprehensive Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *Ricky Jones* – expressed concern about the existing pond behind his home and how it may be impacted by the proposed development in the area
 - *Katy McBride* – expressed concerns regarding the rental rates of the proposed housing, the lack of privacy it may cause, and the condition of Weems Road.
 - *Timothy Martinez* – expressed concerns regarding speeding on Weems Road and the difficulties of safely entering and exiting his driveway. He also raised concerns about the potential impact on property values and the effect on surrounding wetlands near existing homes.
 - *Mike Rich* – expressed concerns regarding the insufficient space available for the proposed development and stated that the project is not a good fit for the area.
 - *Tony Hink* – expressed concerns regarding speeding and the excessive amount of traffic on Weems Road.
4. **1st Reading-** REZN-05-25-1001: An ordinance rezoning **2112 11th Avenue**, parcel # 028-023-010 from General Commercial zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1 (RFM1) zoning district. (Planning Department and PAC recommend Approval.)(Councilor Cogle)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *Theresa El-Amin* – commented on the availability of undeveloped land suggesting it could be used to benefit the unhoused population. She stated that she is pleased to see more zoning changes from commercial to residential.

- 5. 1st Reading-** REZN-05-25-1002: An Ordinance rezoning of **4306 3rd Avenue**, parcel # 013-001-031 from Light Industrial/ Manufacturing (LMI) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 1 (RMF1) zoning district with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Garrett)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the Council.)

- 6. 1st Reading-** REZN-05-25-0928: An Ordinance rezoning 5674 **Whittlesey Boulevard**, parcel # 072-016-002 from Planned Unit Development (PUD) and General Commercial (GC) zoning district to Residential Office (RO) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Garrett)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment.)

- 7. 1st Reading-** REZN-05-25-0929: An Ordinance rezoning of **5674 Whittlesey Boulevard**, parcel # 072-016-002 from Planned Unit Development (PUD) and General Commercial (GC) zoning district to General Commercial (GC) zoning district. Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval. (Councilor Garrett)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment.)

- 8. 1st Reading-** REZN-06-25-1133: An Ordinance rezoning **3564 Forrest Road**, parcel # 067-018-012 / 067-018-006 from Neighborhood Commercial (NC) and Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district to Single Family Residential 2 (SFR2) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.)(Councilor Hickey)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the Council.)

9. **1st Reading-** REZN-06-25-1135: An Ordinance rezoning of **0 Cusseta Road**, parcel # 024-022-002 / 024-022-001 from Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) zoning district to Residential Multifamily 2 (RMF2) zoning district. (The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval.) (Councilor Cogle)

In response to a question about the address of the property, **Planning Director Will Johnson** explained that the site is located between Phelps Moving Storage and Elizabeth Canty. He stated that there is no legal address at this time, but one will be assigned once the parcels are consolidated and the property is platted.

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present, and the floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the Council.)

10. **1st Reading-** REZN-06-25-1136: An Ordinance rezoning **1222 5th Avenue**, parcel # 018-010-010 from Light Manufacturing/ Industrial (LMI) zoning district to Uptown (UPT) zoning district. The Planning Department and PAC recommended Approval. (Councilor Cogle)

(NOTE: The applicant was recognized as present but left before the item was called up. The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from the Council.)

PUBLIC AGENDA

Last Application Received: August 8, 2025, at 10:06 a.m.

1. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Gentleman’s Agreement for Appointed Councilors
2. Ms. Annette Adams, Re: Ralston Towers
3. Mr. Jerome Lawson, Re: “Hopelessness” Ordinance and Natural Vegetation Proposal ***Not Present***
4. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Moral Corruption in CCG Operations
5. Mr. Mark Lawrence, Re: We Can Make a Difference ***Not Present***
6. Pastor Valerie Thompson, Re: Unhoused Homeless
7. Mr. James Clements, representing IMA, Re: Housing

8. Reverend Dr. Johnny Flakes, III, representing IMA, Re: Compassion for the Unhoused
9. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Violations of Columbus Code Section 13-113
10. Mr. Patrick Rogers, Re: Opposition to Proposed Ordinance
11. Ms. Amy Borton, Re: Proposed Ordinance Amendments
12. Reverend Dr. Michael Sherman, representing Wynnton Hill Baptist Church, Re: Homeless Response
13. Ms. Simi Barnes, Re: Proposed Ordinance for the Unhoused

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. FFY2021/FY2022 HUD Annual Action Plan – Updated Allocation

Resolution (227-25): A resolution authorizing the acceptance of the additional HOME-ARP funding amount filed through the FFY2021/fY2022 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) annual action plan. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried by the nine members present, with Councilor Anker being absent for the vote. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.*)

2. Borrowing Limit Increase for Purchasing Card Transactions

Resolution (228-25): A resolution authorizing submission of a request to Synovus Bank to increase the monthly borrowing limit from \$600,000 to \$800,000 for city purchasing card transactions. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried by the nine members present, with Councilor Anker being absent for the vote. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.*)

3. Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund Grant Request

Resolution (229-25): A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to apply for and accept if awarded a grant for the purchase of a Spot robot with public safety payloads for \$3,000.00, or as

otherwise awarded, from the Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund with no matching funds required. The Multi-Governmental Fund will be amended by the amount of the award. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by the ten members present. *(NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.)*

4. Atlanta United Youth Funding Grant

Resolution (230-25): A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, to authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to apply for a grant available through the Atlanta United Community Fund and Georgia Recreation and Parks Association (GRPA) and to accept any funds if awarded. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried by the ten members present. *(NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.)*

ADD-ON

Resolution (231-25): A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to apply for and accept a Hazard Mitigation Grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$102,396.75, or as otherwise awarded, to purchase three lightning and severe weather monitoring and notification systems for the three city owned golf courses to aid in the notification of the public on premises of any possible severe weather. This grant is aligned with the pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan currently in effect for Columbus, Ga/Muscogee County. This pre-application is to be submitted to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for funding consideration. This grant requires a local match of 25% totaling \$25,599.19. The 25% local match will be a cash match which means it will be paid by Columbus Consolidated Government. This grant shall be administered by the Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. The Multi-Governmental Fund will be amended by the amount of the award and match. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried by the ten members present. *(NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.)*

5. PURCHASES

- A. Contract Extension for Inmate Medical & Pharmacy Services for Muscogee County Prison (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 18-0022

Resolution (232-25): A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract with CorrectHealth Muscogee, LLC (Atlanta, GA), through March 31, 2026, for comprehensive medical and pharmacy services for inmates incarcerated in the Muscogee County Prison. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

B. Auctioneer Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0006

Resolution (233-25): A resolution authorizing transfer an annual contract to Van Byars Auctions (Hogansville, GA) to provide auctioneer services to fulfill the remaining term of the contract awarded to Evans Auctioneers, Inc. The remaining contract term shall be July 14, 2025 through July 13, 2026, with the option to renew for one additional twelve-month term. Contract renewal will be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

C. Medical Evaluation Services for Columbus Fire and EMS Department (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0014

Resolution (234-25): A resolution authorizing the execution of an annual contract with North Greenville Fitness and Cardiac Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc., (Travelers Rest, SC) for medical evaluation services for the Columbus Fire and EMS Department on an “as needed” basis. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

D. Change Order 4 – Design Services for Fire Station #4 Renovation – RFQ No. 23-0001

Resolution (235-25): A resolution authorizing the execution of a Change Order 4 with WSKF Architects (Kansas City, MO) in the amount of \$357,625.00 for Design Services for Fire Station #4 Renovation. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

E. Change Order 5 – Design Services for Fire Station #8 Renovation – RFQ No. 23-0001

Resolution (236-25): A resolution authorizing the execution of a Change Order 5 with WSKF Architects (Kansas City, MO) in the amount of \$357,025.00 for Design Services for Fire Station #8 Renovation. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

F. Declaration of Surplus and Donation of Two (2) Vehicles

Resolution (237-25): A resolution authorizing to declare two (2) vehicles as surplus in accordance with section 7-501 of the Charter of Columbus Consolidated Government. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

G. NiCE Digital Evidence Tracking Software for District Attorney and Police Department

Resolution (238-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of the NiCE Justice Cloud SaaS Solution Software Subscription from NICE Systems, Inc. (Hoboken, NJ) for digital evidence tracking for the District Attorney and the Police Department. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager’s Agenda.*)

H. Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement for Lifepak 15 Monitor Defibrillators, Stretchers and Stair Chairs for Fire and EMS – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (239-25): A resolution authorizing the 3-year agreement from Stryker Medical (Chicago, IL) to provide preventative maintenance services for Lifepak 15 Cardiac Monitors, Stretchers and Stair Chairs. The agreement will cover the period from August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2028. The payment schedule is as follows: FY26 - \$76,278.49; FY27 - \$111,811.83 and FY28 - \$111,811.83. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell contract #041823-STY. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*NOTE: Councilor Huff was not present when this*

vote was taken and requested his vote reflected in favor of this item; stated for the record at the end of the City Manager's Agenda.)

6. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. County Jail Maintenance Update – Drale Short, Director, Public Works

Public Works Director Drale Short came forward and provided a presentation updating Council on the Muscogee County Jail maintenance status. She reviewed critical life safety issues, outlined infrastructure challenges and corrective actions taken, and presented the next steps to ensure the facility's safety and compliance.

Inspections & Code Director Ryan Pruett advised that the North Tower was built in 1984 and the South Tower between 2002 and 2003. He addressed Council's concerns regarding inspections during the construction of the new Judicial Center, explaining that:

- Code-mandated inspections are conducted by building department inspectors and the fire marshal.
- Some oversight, particularly for jail facilities, also falls under the State Fire Marshal's jurisdiction.
- At the Judicial Center, a third-party project management team is on-site daily throughout the construction process.
- A commissioning agent has been engaged to oversee the project, specifically to test all equipment and installations at the end to ensure compliance with plans and specifications.

He added that if a new jail were to be constructed, the City would follow a similar process of inspections, oversight, and commissioning.

B. Jail Site Plan Update - Ryan Pruett, Director, Inspections & Code, Doug Kleppin, Principal, and Shane Clark, Associate Principal, SLAM Collaborative, and Henry Painter, Project Executive, Gilbane Building Company

Inspections & Code Director Ryan Pruett reported that planning is underway for the replacement of the existing jail. He advised that a potential location has been identified that meets the Sheriff's needs' He then introduced the design and construction professionals involved in the project.

Shane Clark, Slam Associate Principal / Project Manager, presented site comparisons, highlighting the pros and cons of each location. He also provided a diagram of the facility showing both a two-story and three-story option, along with a project schedule.

Henry Painter, Senior Project Executive with Gilbane Building Co., presented the conceptual budget costs for each proposed site.

Doug Shaw, Corrections Expert with Jericho Design Group, outlined the space requirements for the new jail, including department layouts and square footage. He noted that the secure housing area would be the largest portion of the facility and suggested the inclusion of specialized units for mental health housing.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE MAYOR:

- Would like to explore alternatives to demolishing the Government Center Tower. *(Councilor Anker)*

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Deputy City Manager Goodwin announced that Hometown Connections will be held on October 15, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. She asked that any items for inclusion on the legislative agenda be submitted in advance.

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: August 12, 2025
TO: Mayor and Councilors
FROM: Finance Department
SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

August 15, 2025

1. Design and Construction Services for Columbus Pickleball Facility – RFP No. 26-0006

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is requesting proposals from qualified contractors to engage a Design-Builder to design and construct the new Columbus Pickleball Facility. The facility will be located at 1641 3rd Avenue and be comprised of twenty-seven (27) pickleball courts, including sixteen (16) covered courts. The facility will also include bathroom and concession

facilities. Approximately one-hundred four (104) parking spaces will be constructed to support the facility within the existing rights of way of 3rd Avenue and 17th Street. The estimated budget for this project is \$7,000,000.

The selected Design-Builder will be responsible for all aspects of the design and construction.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. Resignation of Katie Franklin from the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission. Councilor Crabb made a motion to receive the resignation with regrets, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
2. Honorary Designation Application – A request submitted seeking authorization to install a commemorative plaque at Pop Austin Recreation Center in honor of the late Angie Shehane. *(Action Needed: Forward application to the Board of Honor for review)* Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
3. Honorary Designation Application – A request submitted seeking authorization to install an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Station at Lakebottom Park in honor of the late Anthony Bonner. *(Action Needed: Forward application to the Board of Honor for review)* **(ADD-ON)** Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*
4. Travel Authorization – Request for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2025 ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference in Jekyll Island, GA. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
5. A resolution excusing the absence of Councilor Byron Hickey from the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting. *(This item was removed by the Clerk of Council, as Councilor Hickey attended the meeting.)*

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

Board of Historic & Architectural Review 11-12-24

Board of Historic & Architectural Review 01-13-25

Board of Tax Assessors #24-25

Columbus Golf Authority 03-25-25

Crime Prevention Bd. 06-04-25

Crime Prevention Bd. 07-24-25

Development Authority of Columbus 06-05-25

Development Authority of Columbus 06-17-25

Hospital Authority 05-27-25

Hospital Authority 06-23-25

Personnel Review Board 07-16-25

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

REFERRAL(S):

FOR DEPUTY CITY MANAGER GOODWIN:

- For future reference can review the future scheduling of ACCG and GMA conferences to ensure that the events do not conflict with one another. *(Councilor Tucker)*

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

7. **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS – ANY NOMINATIONS MAY BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS MEETING:**

A. AUDIT COMMITTEE:

A nominee for the seat of Mike Baker (*Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, as a Finance/Accounting or Governmental Representative on the Audit Committee (*Mayor's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is renominating Mike Baker to serve another term on the Audit Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on June 30, 2025, as a Finance/Accounting or Governmental Representative on the Audit Committee (*Mayor's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is nominating Tyson Begly to fill the vacant seat on the Audit Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

B. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term expiring on March 24, 2025, on the Building Authority of Columbus, (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

C. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a new seat as a Certified Public Accountant, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Mayor's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Henderson is nominating Will Taylor to fill the vacant seat on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

D. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term expiring on March 27, 2027, on the Community Development Advisory Council, (*Mayor's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that the Community Development Advisory Council has recommended Travis Anderson for appointment. Mayor Henderson nominated Travis Anderson to fill the vacant seat. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the ten members

present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

E. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for the seat of John Greenman *(Eligible to serve another term)* for a term that expired on April 30, 2025, on the Housing Authority of Columbus *(Mayor's Appointment)*. There were none.

F. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term that expired on June 30, 2025, as a representative of the Business Community on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees *(Mayor's Appointment)*. There were none.

8. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS: Anthony Johnson was nominated to succeed the late Johnny W. Byrd, II. *(Councilor Huff's nominee)* Term expires: March 24, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

B. HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS: Sharen Kelly was selected by the Hospital Authority to fill a vacant seat. *(Three nominees were sent to the Hospital Authority for selection – May 27, 2025, Council Meeting)* Term expires: November 14, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

C. HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS: Janice Linn Storey was selected by the Hospital Authority to fill a vacant seat. *(Three nominees were sent to the Hospital Authority for selection – May 27, 2025, Council Meeting)* Term expires: November 14, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. *(Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.)*

D. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION: Anthony Smith was nominated to succeed Ralph King. (*Councilor Chambers's nominee*) Term expires: March 31, 2028. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

E. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION: Haley Lyman was nominated to succeed Larry Derby. (*Councilor Cogle's nominee*) Term expires: March 31, 2028. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

F. RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: Kendall Mills was selected as the new Athletic Director for the Muscogee County School District and will succeed Jeffrey Battles. (*MCSD*) Term expires: n/a. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

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

A. CIVIC CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Johnson Trawick (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on March 1, 2025, on the Civic Center Advisory Board. There were none.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 2 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 2 – Davis*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 6 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 6 – Allen*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 8 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 8 – Garrett*). There were none.

C. YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the District 5 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 5 – Crabb*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that Mayor Pro Tem Allen’s previous nominee is unable to serve, and he is nominating Harmony Staley, 8th Grade at Aaron Cohn Middle School. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present. (*Clerk of Council McLemore confirmed and announced the affirmative vote of Councilor Tucker.*)

A nominee for the District 9 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 9 – Anker*). There were none.

A nominee for the District 10 Representative on the Youth Advisory Council (*District 10 – Chambers*). There were none.

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

A. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for the seat of Bruce McPherson (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on August 15, 2025, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Hickey renominated Bruce McPherson to serve another term on the Downtown Development Authority.

A nominee for the seat of Karl Douglass (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on August 15, 2025, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Hickey renominated Karl Douglass to serve another term on the Downtown Development Authority.

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on August 15, 2027, as a Senatorial District 15 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced Councilor Crabb is nominating Sherri Carmack to fill the vacant seat on the Downtown Development Authority.

B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on June 30, 2026, as a Senatorial District 15 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council’s Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission is recommending

Anthony Johnson. Councilor Hickey nominated Anthony Johnson to fill the vacant seat on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission.

A nominee for a vacant seat with the term expiring on June 30, 2027, as a Senatorial District 15 Representative on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced that the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission is recommending Devon Moree. Councilor Hickey nominated Devon Moree to fill the vacant seat on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission.

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

A nominee for the seat of Judge David Ranieri (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, on the New Horizons Behavioral Health – Mental Health, Addictive Diseases and Developmental Disabilities – Community Service Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

D. RETIREES' HEALTH BENEFITS COMMITTEE:

A nominee for the seat of Thomas Barron (*Not Eligible to serve another term*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2025, on the Retirees' Health Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore announced Councilor Crabb is nominating Ricky Weeks to succeed Thomas Barron on the Retirees' Health Benefits Committee.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Board of Honor (Council's Appointment)
- B. Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center Authority (Mayor's Appointment)
- C. Convention & Visitors Board of Commissioners (Mayor's Appointment)
- D. Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (Council's Appointment)
- E. Public Safety Advisory Commission (Mayor/Council's Appointment)

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)

1. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Gentleman's Agreement for Appointed Councilors
4. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Moral Corruption in CCG Operations
11. Ms. Amy Borton, Re: Proposed Ordinance Amendments

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and property acquisition and disposal as requested by City Attorney Fay. Councilor Davis made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilor Anker being absent for the vote and the time being 2:05 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 2:20 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss litigation and property acquisition and disposal; however, there were no votes taken.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION:

Resolution (240-25): A resolution authorizing a settlement payment of \$45,000 to settle all damage claims of Leslie Pinkerton stemming from the incident which occurred on April 12, 2023, and to execute all appropriate settlement documents to this effect. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Huff to adjourn the August 12, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent for the vote, and the time being 2:21 p.m.

Lindsey G. McLemore
Clerk of Council
Council of Columbus, Georgia