

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

March 25, 2025
5:30 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, R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff and Toyia Tucker (arrived at 7:51 p.m.). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

ABSENT: Councilor Glenn Davis was absent.

The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet: (1) Monthly Finance Snapshot

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) PA#1 Book Submitted; (2) PA#2 Documents Submitted – Resignation of Councilor Judy Thomas; (3) PA#22 Documents Submitted;

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Pastor Jimmy Elder, First Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes for March 11, 2025, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS:

2. **Proclamation:** St. Anne Pacelli Vikings Day

Receiving: St. Anne Pacelli's Girls and Boys Basketball Team

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen read the proclamation into the record proclaiming Tuesday, March 1, 2025, as *St. Anne Pacelli Vikings Day*, recognizing.

CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance (25-012) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-01-25-0079: An ordinance amending the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) for Columbus, Georgia to add certain property development regulations for single family detached homes in the Uptown (UPT) zoning district. Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

2. **Ordinance (25-013) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance adopting amendments to Article II of Chapter 4 of the Columbus Code pertaining to the Recreation Advisory Board; repealing Article IV of Chapter 4 of the Columbus Code pertaining to the Columbus Aquatics Commission; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

3. **1st Reading-** An ordinance providing for the demolition of various structures located at:
 - 1) **2903 10th Avenue** (Vision Investment Properties LTD, Owner)
 - 2) **1024 Henry Avenue** (Christina Williams & Joseph Philippe, Owner)
 - 3) **2610 Jones Avenue** (Green Pryor Lewis Jr, Owner)
 - 4) **3826 3rd Avenue** (BSL Investment Group LLC, Owner)
 - 5) **3822 3rd Avenue** (BSL Investment Group LLC, Owner)
 - 6) **831 Barklay Way** (Eloise Elaine Dale, Owner)
 - 7) **2475 Walker Street** (William D. Holland, Owner)
 - 8) **615 Parkchester Drive** (Gerardo Ledesma Angeles, Owner)

No public comment.

Assistant Director Phillip Smith approached the rostrum to present the various properties listed for demolition.

4. **1st Reading-** An ordinance amending the Paid Maternity and Paternity Leave Policy and renaming it the Paid Parental Leave Policy to be consistent with the definitions contained in EEOC guidelines. (Councilor Chambers) (Mayor Pro-Tem) *No public comment.*

5. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance adopting new pay rates for the Parks and Recreation Aquatic staff for the Consolidated Government and amending Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Ordinance No. 24-027; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) (Councilor Tucker) *No public comment.*

RESOLUTIONS:

6. **Resolution (078-25):** A resolution amending Resolution No. 077-21 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$24,705,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until August 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

7. **Resolution (079-25):** A resolution amending Resolution No. 019-23 to consent to the extension by the Columbus Water Works of a \$8,869,800 Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from

the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority up to and until August 2027. (Request of Columbus Water Works) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. Mr. Howard Jackson Turner, Re: The Long-Standing Practice of Inverse Condemnation and Illegal Eminent Domain. The Amount Due from CCG to Potentially Hundreds of Citizens from Illegal Takings.
2. Mrs. Monica Luker, Re: Request for a Traffic Study and the Implementation of Speed Reduction Measures.
3. Ms. Jennifer Le Denney, representing the Disabled Community, Re: ADA Compliance Concerns with City Hall, Lack of Response, and Status Update Request. **Cancelled**
4. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Perception & the City Charter.
5. Mr. Henry Wimberly, Re: Appointment of John Anker. **Not Present**
6. Ms. Carolyn Chaney, Re: Support for City Manager Isaiah Hugley.
7. Ms. Royal Anderson, representing the Muscogee County Democratic Committee, Re: John Anker.
8. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing the Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Stop Attempting to Terminate City Manager Isaiah Hugley. **Not Present**
9. Mr. John Fitzpatrick, Jr., Re: City Government, on the Outside Looking In. Who's next?
10. Ms. Simi Barnes, Re: City Government.
11. Mrs. Kathryn Tanner, Re: Changes to the Code of Ordinances to Ensure Transparency.
12. Mr. James Ogburn, Re: Representative Leadership for our Community.
13. Mr. Harry Underwood, representing Columbus, GA Indivisibles, Re: Opposing the Appointment of John Anker to an At-Large Seat on Council.
14. Mr. Marquese Averett, Re: Appointments.
15. Mr. Melvin Tanner, representing the NAACP, Re: To Address the Appointment of a Councilor.
16. Ms. Pamela Moss, Re: RFP for the Development of South Commons. **Not Present**
17. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Transparency, Accountability, and Equitable Decision-Making from Staff in the Mayor's Office.
18. Mr. Donald Moeller, representing Veterans with PTSD, Re: Awareness of Substandard Veterans PTSD Treatment and Examinations by the Columbus Veterans Administration Clinic.
19. Mr. Wane Hailes, representing The Courier Eco Latino Newspaper, Re: Request of Mayor.
20. Mr. Edward DuBose, Re: Discuss the Appointment of John Anker to Council and Request the Mayor to Call for an Investigation.
21. Ms. Monica Whatley, Re: Making Time for Democracy When a Councilor Resigns.

22. Dr. Melvin Steed, representing The Melting Pot/Grace Apostolic Center, Re: Proposed Land Use by a Non-Profit Organization at 10th Avenue & 4th Street.
23. Rev. Johnny Flakes, III, Re: Process for City Council Appointment.
24. Mr. Demetrius McBride, representing the Urban League of the River Valley Young Professionals, Re: Review of the City Charter on the Process of Appointing Individuals to Fill Vacant Seats.
25. Ms. Laura Irvin, Re: Transparency and Citizen Representation.
26. Dr. John Van Doorn, Re: Defense of Public Servants and Reconsideration of Council Appointment.
27. Rev. Richard A. Jessie, representing The Friends of Historic Claflin, Inc., Re: Request to Establish the Historic Liberty District Restoration & Preservation Foundation.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Trade Center Authority – Trade Center Master Plan

A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia accepting the Trade Center Master Plan adopted by the Trade Center Authority.

Executive Director Hayley Tillery, Columbus Convention & Trade Center approached the rostrum to answer questions and provide additional information regarding the Trade Center Master Plan to address parking issues. She highlighted the need for accurate parking to support economic growth and provide services to the citizens.

NOTE: Councilor Tucker arrived at 7:51 p.m.

Councilor Cogle expressed some concerns regarding parking spaces reserved for the Marriot Hotel's patrons. She questioned whether there would be 125 designated parking spaces and whether they would be charged a fee. She emphasized the importance of prioritizing the needs of the citizens.

Executive Director Hayley Tillery, Columbus Convention & Trade Center advised that currently there is no agreement for dedicated parking for the Marriott hotel. She said while there may be some discussion in the future, the previous plan was to use the River Center as overflow parking. No finalized numbers or agreements are in place.

Councilor Cogle also expressed concerns regarding the 8th Street Corridor and how it would impact the flow of traffic.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge approached the rostrum and advised that there would be a separate public meeting to talk about the 8th Street improvements along with the stormwater improvements for Broadway. She said this meeting would be scheduled some time in April.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Would like to see a report from the Travel Bureau that shows how many people are coming to the Trade Center and driving back and forth to their hotel. *(Request of Councilor Cogle)*

City Manager Isaiah Hugley clarified the discrepancy regarding the (300) parking spaces. He explained that the final plan will have approximately (500) parking spaces, not (300) as mentioned in the agenda summary. He said with the additional \$5million from SPLOST, the total budget (\$10 million) will support around 500 parking spaces.

Councilor Crabb made a motion to include the additional 200 parking spaces in the agenda summary, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and found inconclusive with a five-to-four vote, with Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Crabb, Chambers, Garrett and Huff voting in favor, Councilors Anker, Cogle, Hickey, and Tucker voting in opposition, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

2. South Commons Redevelopment

A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia to request the Development Authority of Columbus, Georgia to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of the open space at South Commons to potentially include a hotel, retail/office, multifamily, parking deck, workforce housing, and other uses. (*NOTE: This item was delayed by the City Manager.*)

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge approached the rostrum and explained that the Development Authority will issue an (RFP) to explore development opportunities for South Commons, with proposals to be vetted and presented to the Council. She said the process does not involve transferring land ownership to the Development Authority.

3. Fiscal Year 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program

Resolution (080-25): A resolution to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant of \$3,000, or as otherwise awarded, from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program / EOD K-9, with no local match requirement, and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. Funds will be utilized to assist with resources (food & supplies) for explosive ordnance disposal with k9 partners designated to help strengthen the nation's communities against potential terrorist attacks. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

4. Fiscal Year 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program

Resolution (081-25): A resolution to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant of \$4,500.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FY 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program / EOD K-9, with no local match requirement, and to amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount awarded. Funds will be utilized to assist with resources (food, supplies & body armor) for explosive ordnance disposal with K9 partner designated to help strengthen the nation's communities against potential terrorist attacks. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

5. FY26 Congressionally Directed Funding Grant

Resolution (082-25): A resolution to apply for and accept if awarded a grant for a vehicle and equipment to implement a Mobile Integrated Healthcare program within Columbus Fire and

Emergency Medical Services in the amount of \$150,056.00, or as otherwise awarded, from the FY26 Congressionally Directed Spending program with no matching funds required. The multi-governmental fund will be amended by the amount of the award. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

6. Columbus Police Department: Donation

Resolution (083-25): A resolution to accept donated funds in the amount of \$2,500 from Jordan Outdoor Enterprises, LTD, on behalf of the Columbus Police Department. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

7. PURCHASES

- A. Design and Construction Services for Columbus Convention and Trade Center – RFP No. 25-0002 (**NOTE: This item was delayed by the City Manager.**)

- B. Auditing Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0006

Resolution (084-25): A resolution authorizing the execution of an annual contract with Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC (Macon, GA) to provide auditing services for the Finance Department. Councilor Huff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge approached the rostrum to respond to a request of Councilor Tucker. She explained the role of External Auditors in performing city-wide audits. She said they ensure financial statements are presented fairly, using sampling methods and reviewing internal controls. They verify the accuracy of annual financial reports and issue management letters if concerns arise. She emphasized that External Auditors do not perform the same functions as an Internal Auditor.

- C. Bullet Recovery System – RFP No. 25-0010

Resolution (085-25): A resolution authorizing execution of a contract with CyberNational, Inc (Murfreesboro, TN) to furnish and install one Bullet Recovery System for use in forensic firearms examinations for the Columbus Police Department. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

- D. Temporary Staffing Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 17-0017

Resolution (086-25): A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract for Temporary Staffing Services with Global Personnel Services (Columbus, GA), Primary Contractor, and Labor Finders (Columbus, GA), Secondary Contractor thru March 31, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

E. Additional Sources for Temporary Staffing Services (Annual Contract) – Georgia Statewide Contract

Resolution (087-25): A resolution authorizing an annual contract for Temporary Staffing Services from the following suppliers: New World Employment, LLC (Tucker, GA), Ingenesis, Inc. (San Antonio, TX), Corporate Temps 2000 (Norcross, GA), Dover Staffing (Atlanta, GA), Abacus Corporation (Baltimore, MD), Shaga Consulting and Recruiting (Albany, GA), Nitelines USA (Duluth, GA), ARK Temporary Staffing, LLC (Lawrenceville, GA) and Focus People, Inc. (Atlanta, GA), via the Georgia State Contract Numbers 99999-001-SPD0000136-0001 thru 99999-001-SPD0000136-0009. 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 Davis being absent from the meeting.

F. Three (3) Paratransit Buses for METRA – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (088-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of three (3) paratransit buses from ABC Bus, Inc. (Winter Garden, FL) at a unit cost of \$243,464.50, and a total cost of \$730,393.50. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000212-0010. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE CITY MANAGER:

- Would like an update on the Brookstone Center extension of the paratransit buses. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

G. One (1) Low Floor Paratransit Cutaway Bus for METRA – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (089-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) low floor paratransit cutaway bus (ARBOC Spirit of Freedom 6.6L V8 Gas 165" WB 14,200 GWVR with Options) for METRA from Model 1 Commercial Vehicles, Inc. (College Park, GA) in the amount of \$231,224.75. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000212-0005. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

H. One (1) E-Rescue/Pumper Fire Service Apparatus with Equipment for Fire & EMS – HGAC Cooperative Contract

Resolution (090-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of fire apparatus to include one (1) E-One Rescue/Pumper with equipment, in the amount of \$894,863.00, from Fireline, Inc. (Winder, GA), by Cooperative Purchase, via HGACBuy Contract #FS12-23. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

I. Household Trash Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase

Resolution (091-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of seven hundred two (702) 95-gallon black trash carts and seven hundred two (702) 95-gallon brown trash carts from Rehrig Pacific

Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$78,830.00 (1,404 units @ \$55 each, plus freight in the amount of \$1,610.00). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #041521-REH. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

J. Household Recycling Carts for Public Works – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract Purchase

Resolution (092-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of 95-gallon blue recycling carts from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$78,970.00 (1,404 units @ \$55.80 each, plus freight in the amount of \$1,750.00). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #041521-REH. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

K. Vector Check Software Module for Fire & EMS – National Purchasing Partners (NPPGOV) Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (093-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of the Vector Check software module, for Fire & EMS, from Target Solutions Learning, LLC/Vector Solutions (Tampa, FL) in the amount of \$50,325.40; and approve payments for the subsequent annual subscription/license fees for the module. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via National Purchasing Partners (NPPGOV) contract #PS21095. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

L. Upgrade/Purchase of Fast Fare Fareboxes with Accessories for METRA

Resolution (094-25): A resolution authorizing the upgrade/purchase of twenty-two (22) fast fare fareboxes with accessories from Genfare - A Division of SPX Corporation (Elk Grove Village, IL) in the total amount of \$470,542.58. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

M. Camera Equipment for the Civic Center – OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (095-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) Canon XF705 HD Camcorders in the amount of \$11,938.02 and 1 (one) Sony A7 Mark III Digital Camera in the amount of \$1,598.00 from B & H Photo (New York City, NY) for the Civic Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Omnia Partners Contract #R201202. Council approval is required for these purchases due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

N. Metal Storage Buildings for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (096-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) metal storage building from ClearSpan (South Windsor, CT), in the amount of \$85,214.37, for the Civic Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract ##110822-CSS. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor

Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

O. Battery Operated Ice Edger for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (097-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) battery operated ice edger from All Star Arenas (Riverview, FL), in the amount of \$14,320.60, for the Civic Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract ##120320-FCZ. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

P. 2025 Ford F-350 Truck for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (098-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2025 Ford Super Duty F-350 Truck for the Civic Center from 72 Hour/National Auto Fleet Group (Watsonville, CA), in the amount of \$77,841.64 for the Civic Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #091521-NAF. This is an “Off the Lot” vehicle purchase; however, Council approval is required due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

Q. Hockey Glass Support Posts and Gaskets for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (099-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of hockey glass support posts and gaskets, for the Civic Center, from Athletica Sport Systems, Inc. (Shakopee, MN), in the amount of \$3,150.20. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120320-ATH. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

R. Additional Staging Equipment for the Civic Center

Resolution (100-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of additional staging equipment, for the Civic Center, from StageRight (Clare, MI), in the amount of \$80,590.00. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

S. Compressor Replacement for the Civic Center

Resolution (101-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of a replacement compressor, for the Civic Center, from American Refrigeration (Jacksonville, FL), in the amount of \$97,434.58. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

T. Outdoor Tables for New Pools for Parks and Recreation – OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (102-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of forty-four (44) tables, from Play South (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$85,423.90, for Parks and Recreation. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Omnia Partners Contract #R220201. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

U. Forklift for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (103-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) Hyundai forklift, for the Civic Center, from Ring’s Forklift & Battery Company (Lagrange, GA), in the amount of \$33,285.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #053024-HCE. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

V. Scissor Lift for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (104-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) scissor lift, for the Civic Center, from Jackarse Rentals (Columbus, GA), in the amount of \$13,555.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #020923-SKJ. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

W. Event Radios and Earpieces for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (105-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of event radios and earpieces, for the Civic Center, from Mobile Communications America (Columbus, GA), in the amount of \$7,605.65. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #020624-MCA. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

X. Mobile Light Tower for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (106-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) mobile light tower, for the Civic Center, from Federal Contracts Company (Tampa, FL), in the amount of \$10,130.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #020923-GNR. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

Y. One (1) 2025 Ford Transit 350 Van for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

Resolution (107-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2025 Transit 350 Van, for the Civic Center, from 72 Hour/National Auto Fleet Group (Watsonville, CA), in the amount of \$58,146.57 for the Civic Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #091521-NAF. This is an “off the lot” vehicle purchase; however, Council approval is required due to

funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting..

Z. Carpet and Related Flooring for the Civic Center – Annual Contract Purchase

Resolution (108-25): A resolution authorizing the purchase of carpet and related flooring for the Civic Center from Huckaby Brothers Flooring (Phenix City, AL) in the total amount of \$67,695.00. Council approval is required for the purchase due to funding via the Friends of Columbus account for the Civic Center. Councilor Cogle made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

EMERGENCY PURCHASES

1. Information Only: Exigent “Off the Lot” Vehicle Purchases – Resolution No. 354-24

BID ADVERTISEMENT

DATE: March 25, 2025
TO: Mayor and Councilors
FROM: Finance Department
SUBJECT: Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

April 2, 2025

1. **Muscogee County Board of Elections & Registration Voting Equipment Delivery Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0016**

Scope of RFP

Muscogee County Board of Elections and Registration is seeking proposals from qualified moving firms to deliver voting equipment to voting sites before the scheduled election events, and to retrieve the same equipment after the election event. The election schedule consists of up to five election events in a presidential election cycle, up to four election events in a mid-term election cycle, and the possibility of special elections in odd-numbered years. Deliveries vary from county-wide (25 precincts) to district elections (as few as five) based on the type of election.

Note: The first election expected to be serviced under this contract, if awarded, will be June 17, 2025, Special Primary Election.

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

April 11, 2025

1. **Medical Evaluation Services for Columbus Fire & EMS Department (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0014**

Scope of RFP

Columbus Consolidated Government invites qualified firms to submit proposals for medical evaluation services for employees of the Fire & EMS Department on an annual basis.

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

8. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance

Finance Director Angelica Alexander came forward to provide a monthly finance update for February 2025 comparing it to February 2024. She provided the fund balance history of various revenue sources, such as occupational taxes and general property taxes.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to provide information regarding the Community Care Fund. She advised that the consultants would be present at the April 8th meeting to make a presentation of the final program.

REFERRAL(S):

FOR THE FINANCE DIRECTOR:

- Would like to see year-to-date expenditures of personnel in 2024. (*Request of Councilor Chambers*)

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

1. Resignation of Councilor John Anker from the Board of Tax Assessors. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation of John Anker, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

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

Board of Elections & Registration, February 6, 2025

Board of Tax Assessors, #07-25, #08-25 & #09-25

Board of Zoning Appeals, January 8 & February 5, 2025

Crime Prevention Board, February 21, March 20, April 17, July 22 & July 29, 2024

Crime Prevention Board, February 26, 2025

Hospital Authority of Columbus, January 28, 2025

Housing Authority of Columbus, September 20, October 18 & December 13, 2023

Housing Authority of Columbus, January 25, March 20, April 23, May 15, June 19, July 24, August 28, September 25, October 23 & December 18, 2024

Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board, November 20, 2024

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED

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

A. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for the seat of Renee Sturkie (*Eligible to succeed – Not interested in serving*) for a term expiring on March 24, 2025, on the Building Authority of Columbus. (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

B. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a new seat as a Certified Public Accountant, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Corporate/Employment Attorney, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Law Enforcement Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

A nominee for the seat of Benjamin Link (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on the March 25, 2025, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

D. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

A nominee for the seat of John F. Greeman (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on the April 30, 2025, on the Housing Authority of Columbus (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

4. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- READY FOR CONFIRMATION:

A. CRIME PREVENTION BOARD: Richard Kelly was nominated to succeed Marcus Gibson. (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen's nominee*) Term expires: March 31, 2028. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

B. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION: Zarome Lakey was nominated to succeed Dr. Xavier McCaskey. (*Councilor Huff's nominee*) Term expires: March 31, 2028. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

C. VALLEY PARTNERSHIP JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Ben Moser was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Monte Galbraith. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2026. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

5. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- ANY NOMINATIONS WOULD BE LISTED FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

A. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a new seat as a Commercial Businessperson, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council's Appointment)*. Councilor Cogle nominated Mike Welch.

A nominee for a new seat as a Marketing Background Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council's Appointment)*. Councilor Davis nominated Andy Luker.

A nominee for a new seat as a Promotional Entity – Professional Hockey, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council's Appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Trade Center Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council confirms the appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a River Center Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council confirms the appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Convention & Visitors Board Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council confirms the appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for a new seat as a Sports Council Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council confirms the appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore stated the Sports Council nominated Herman Lewis. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for a new seat as a Golf Authority Representative, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. *(Council confirms the appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore stated the Golf Authority nominated Gerald Riley. Councilor Huff made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

B. COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CULTURAL LIAISON ENCOUNTERS (CIRCLE):

A nominee for the seat of Samantha Wooden *(Eligible to succeed)* for a term expiring on March 1, 2025, on the Commission on International Relations and Cultural Liaison Encounters. *(Council's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council Councilor Crabb is nominating Brandon Wilkins to fill the seat of Samantha Wooden.

C. CRIME PREVENTION BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Lane Jimmerson *(Not Eligible to succeed)* for a term expiring on March 31, 2025, on the Crime Prevention Board *(Council's Appointment)*. Clerk of Council McLemore stated Councilor Crabb is nominating Ralph King to succeed Lane Jimmerson.

D. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE:

A nominee for the seat of Holli Browder (Dept. Director/Assistant Director) *(Eligible to succeed)* for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee *(Council's Appointment)*. There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Nancy Boren (Dept. Director/Assistant Director) (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Shannon Hubbard (General Government Employee) (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Troy Vanerson (General Government Employee) (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Ardria McGruder (General Government Employee) (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council confirms the appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Rachel S. Banks (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council confirms the appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Timothy Smith (Sworn Officer) (*Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

E. LAND BANK AUTHORITY:

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term expiring on October 31, 2026, on the Land Bank Authority (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

F. PLANNING ADVISORY COMMISSION:

A nominee for the seat of Ralph King (*Not Eligible to Succeed*) for a term expiring on March 31, 2025, on the Planning Advisory Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Larry Derby (*Not Eligible to Succeed*) for a term expiring on March 31, 2025, on the Planning Advisory Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

PUBLIC AGENDA (continued):

4. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Perception & the City Charter.

23. Rev. Johnny Flakes, III, Re: Process for City Council Appointment.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION:

Resolution (109-25): A resolution excusing Councilor Glenn Davis from the March 25, 2025, Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and acquisition and disposal of land as requested by City Attorney Fay earlier in the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting, with the time being 9:37 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:56 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss real estate acquisition and litigation; however, there were no votes taken.

ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution (110-25): A resolution authorizing a settlement payment of \$350,000 to settle all claims of Michael Holloway, individually, and on behalf of the heirs of Lesley Holloway, deceased, from the incident which occurred on March 27, 2023, and to execute all appropriate settlement documents to this effect. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to adjourn the March 25, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Davis being absent from the meeting and the time being 9:57 p.m.

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