

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

November 5, 2019
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 6:00 p.m.), R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Bruce Huff (arrived at 6:07 p.m.), Judy W. Thomas, Valerie Thompson and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem Tameka Colbert.

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) Columbus Government Center Complex (2) Criminal History Summit (3) 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (4) Update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Process (5) Columbus Government Center Complex (6) Columbus Consolidated Government Monthly Financial Snapshot (Unaudited) FY2020 - September 2019

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

INVOCATION: Offered by Rev. Reginald Thompson- Revelation Missionary Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Faith Middle School National Junior Honor Society.

1. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for the October 29, 2019 Consent Agenda/ Work Session and October 22, 2019 Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

PROCLAMATIONS

PROCLAMATION: Georgia Retired Educators' Day

RECEIVING: Mrs. Margaret Ingersoll, Muscogee Retired Educators Association President, and members of the Muscogee Retired Educators Association

Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators' Day, November 3, 2019, read by Councilor Thomas.

PROCLAMATION: National Nurse Practitioner Week

RECEIVING: Dr. Aimee Vael, Dr. Sarah Gravel, Dr. Gwendolyn Miller, and Dr. Marguerite Lawrence

Proclamation for National Nurse Practitioner Week, November 10 - 16, 2019, read by Councilor Thompson.

PROCLAMATION: **Columbus State University’s Military Appreciation Day**

RECEIVING: Cameron Bean

Proclamation for Columbus State University’s Military Appreciation Day, November 12, 2019, read by Councilor Thomas.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Councilor Barnes announced that on this Saturday, November 9, 2019 is the 11th Annual Veterans Parade.

PROCLAMATION: **Al Haynes Day**

RECEIVING: Elbert (Al) Eugene Haynes Jr.

After it was determined that Al Haynes was not present, Councilor Barnes requested that the proclamation be delayed.

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Mayor Pro Tem Allen read the following two resolutions in its entirety into the record.

Resolution (373-19) – A resolution expressing appreciation to Mr. Timothy Butts for his meritorious service on the Animal Control Advisory Board. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Resolution (374-19) – A resolution expressing appreciation to Ms. Becky Carter for her meritorious service on the Animal Control Advisory Board. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES:

1. **2nd Reading – Ordinance (19-060)** - An ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 16-47 to reinstate the previous provisions of the procurement ordinance so as to remove the requirement that various expenditures between \$10,000 and \$24,999 require Council approval. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
2. **1st Reading** - An ordinance amending Chapter 3 of the Columbus Code pertaining to Alcoholic Beverages to create a new category of on-premises license for a food hall; and for other purposes.
3. **1st Reading** - An Ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the Columbus Code to revise provisions pertaining to registration requirements and false alarm penalties for police, fire and medical alarms. (Councilor House)

Assistant Chief of Police Gil Slouchick came forward to give an explanation on what it considered to be a false alarm and responded to questions of Council in regard to the ordinance.

Fire Marshal Ricky Shores came forward to call attention to the number of false alarms that the Fire Department responds to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Attorney Fay requested an executive session on a real estate matter involving property acquisition.

PUBLIC AGENDA

{Public Comments were provided by the individuals listed below; unless otherwise stated.}

1. Ms. Danielle Forte- Clerk of Superior Court, Re: Summit on records expungement. The Summit is scheduled for November 21st from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Government Center, 11th Floor, at 100 – 10th Street, Columbus, Georgia.

REFERRAL:

TO THE CITY MANAGER:

- Let's have this information on CCG-TV. *(Request of Councilor Woodson)*

2. Mr. Edward Dubose, Re: The consolidation of the Marshal's Office.

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - REMOVAL OF COURTHOUSE SQUARE RESTRICTIONS (ADD-ON)

Resolution (375-19): A resolution requesting that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce a local act rescinding any restrictions on its courthouse square property now known as 100 10th Street in Columbus, Georgia which were imposed by 1828 Ga. L. p.167. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Approval is requested that the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce legislation to remove any impediments to the sale or lease of the property for non-governmental purposes that may still be in effect from the 1828 Act.

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - FILM FUND SUPPORT

Resolution (376-19): A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, to authorize the Development Authority to use Economic Development Funds to support the film industry in Columbus, GA. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Thomas and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

Approval is requested to provide \$500,000 to Development Authority to be utilized for the Film Fund solely for the purpose of making incentive grants to film producers in order to stimulate job creation in the film industry in Columbus, GA.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge came forward to further explain the city's contribution of \$500,000 for the Film Fund.

Mr. Peter Bowden, Executive Director of the Convention & Visitor's Bureau approached the rostrum to make some further comments in this regard.

3. PURCHASES:

A. Mini-Hydraulic Excavator – RFB No. 20-0017

Resolution (377-19): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) mini-hydraulic excavator from Vermeer Southeast Sales & Service (Marietta, GA) at a unit price of \$34,597.00. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

B. Full-Size Crew Cab 4WD Pickup Truck – RFB No. 20-0015

Resolution (378-19): A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) full-size crew cab 4WD pickup truck from Ginn Chrysler Jeep Dodge LLC (Covington, GA) at a unit price of \$26,028.00. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

C. Inmate Work Vans – RFB No. 20-0014

Resolution (379-19): A resolution authorizing the purchase of ten (10) inmate work vans from Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) at a unit price of \$45,930.00, and a total price of \$459,300.00. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

D. Engineering Services for J. R. Allen Parkway / US 80 Corridor Study P.I. #0016425 – RFP No. 19-0018

Resolution (380-19): A resolution authorizing the execution of a negotiated contract with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) for engineering services related to the J.R. Allen Parkway / US 80 Corridor study. The recommended firm's cost proposal is within the \$200,000.00 amount budgeted for this project. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

E. Annual Technical Support And Maintenance For The Notification Module™ Of The Bus Routing System

Resolution (381-19): A resolution authorizing payment to Routematch Software (Atlanta, GA), in the amount of \$10,137.75, for the annual technical support and maintenance for the notification module™ of the bus routing system. This payment covers the period from November/ 2019 – October /2020. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

F. Master Services Agreement Renewal For Public Works' Communications Software App

Resolution (382-19): A resolution authorizing payment to Recollect Systems, Inc., (Vancouver, BC, Canada), in the amount of \$10,208.00, for the master services agreement renewal for Public Works' communication software app. This payment will cover the period from November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2022. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

G. Repair Services For Garbage Truck – Vehicle #6909

Resolution (383-19): A resolution authorizing payment to Rush Truck Center (Columbus, GA) in the amount of \$10,511.38, for repair services required for a garbage truck, vehicle #6909. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and

carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Woodson being absent for the vote.

H. Space Planning and Programming & Design Professional Services for Columbus Government Center Project – RFQ No. 20-0001

Resolution (384-19): A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with CBRE/Heery, Inc. (Atlanta, GA) for space planning and programming & design professional services for the Government Center project. The recommended firm’s cost proposal for Phase I is within the \$1 million budgeted for this project. It is also requested that Council authorize the negotiation of costs for the remaining phases of the space planning and programming & design professional services. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodges, as well as, **Mr. Doug Kleppin** came forward to make comments regarding the Government Center Project.

UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS:

A. Long Range Transportation Plan - Rick Jones, Planning Director

Mr. Rick Jones, Planning Director, came forward to give an update on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Process. He explained that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has the responsibility of overseeing the expenditure of federal and state transportation funds, and every five years, the MPO must address changing transportation related conditions and adhere to new planning guidelines. Planning Director Jones then shared images of areas for the list of various projects to be implemented over the next several years.

B. Monthly Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director

Angelica Alexander, Finance Director, approached the rostrum to share a snapshot for FY2020 as of September 2019 with a comparison to September 2018.

REFERRALS:

TO THE CITY MANAGER:

- Have the staff to look at the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) for dumpster screening and report back in a work session. (*Request of Councilor House*)

- Have the staff to review the Sign Ordinance- Section 4.44(g). (*Request of Councilor Woodson*)

- While staff is looking into dumpster screening, also look at sunseting the grandfather clause. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)

- As it relates to a sunset for the dumpster screening, staff would want to review the minutes, because the ordinance does not mention a sunset. (*Request of Councilor Woodson*)

BID ADVERTISEMENT

November 6, 2019

1. Leather Items (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 20-0013

Scope of Bid

Provide assorted leather items on an “as needed” basis for the Public Safety Departments of the Columbus Consolidated Government.

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

2. Arts & Craft, Hobby and Recreational Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 20 0023
Scope of Bid

Provide arts and craft, hobby and recreational supplies for the Columbus Consolidated Government's Department of Parks and Recreation on an "as needed" basis.

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

November 15, 2019

1. Public Employee Retirement Systems Pension and Benefit Trust Fund ("The Fund")
Investment Consulting Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0007
Scope of RFP

Provide Columbus Consolidated Government Pension Board with the highest quality consultant services at the lowest cost to taxpayers, to include: Consulting, Custodial, and Fiduciary Services.

The contract period shall be for five (5) years, beginning March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2025.

November 20, 2019

1. Claradon Avenue Culvert Replacement & Benning Drive Culvert Extension – RFB No. 20-0024

Scope of RFP

This project includes culvert work at two separate locations in Columbus, GA. On Claradon Avenue, the scope includes removal and replacement of the existing concrete box culvert along with water line relocations, asphalt, curb and gutter, pavement markings, and signage. On Benning Drive the scope includes extending the existing concrete culvert to allow for three lanes of traffic. The scope also includes asphalt, curb and gutter, sidewalk, pavement markings, signage, and landscaping.

CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA:

ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED

- EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE:** Memorandum from the Human Resources Department submitting the results of the employee survey and are as follows: **Ardria McGruder-** Criminal Records Technician- Sheriff's Office (*General Government Employee Selection*) to fill the unexpired term of Michael Jordan; **Shannon Hubbard-** Deputy Clerk-Recorder's Court (*General Government Employee Selection*) to fill the unexpired term of the late Linda Lunsford; **Nancy Boren-** Director of Elections and Registration (*Department Director or Assistant Director*) to fill the unexpired term of Dustin Heath. Mayor Pro Tem Allen moved confirmation of the three nominees, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.
- AIRPORT COMMISSION:** Email Correspondence from Amber Clark- Airport Director submitting the nomination of Carl A. Rhodes, Jr. to serve another term of office on the Airport Commission. Councilor Woodson moved confirmation, at which time, Councilor Thomas explained that the Airport Commission is to send to the Council three nominees for each seat. She then requested that there be communication with the Airport Commission to advise that they need to submit two more nominees.

3. **Minutes of the following board:**
Board of Tax Assessors, #37-19 and #38-19.
Board of Water Commissioner, September 9, 2019.
Columbus Board of Health, September 25, 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS- ACTION REQUESTED:

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

A. CONVENTION AND VISITORS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

A nominee for the seat of Paul Pierce (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Convention and Visitors Board of Commissioners for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

B. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

A nominee for the seat of Charles Staples (*does not desire reappointment*) on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees for a term that expired on June 30, 2019 (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

5. **COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS TO BE CONFIRMED:**

PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Michael Forte (*eligible to succeed*) on the Personnel Review Board for a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Huff's nominee*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

A nominee for the seat of Charles Harp (*eligible to succeed*) on the Personnel Review Board for a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Huff's nominee*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

A nominee for the seat of Willie Butler (*eligible to succeed*) on the Personnel Review Board for a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Huff's nominee*). Councilor Huff moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Sherisse Malone (*eligible to succeed*) on the Recreation Advisory Board as the District 5 Representative, with a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*). Councilor Crabb moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

TREE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of Kirsten Youngquist (*eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Huff's nominee*). Councilor Huff moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

A nominee for the seat of Catherine Trotter (*eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Councilor Huff's nominee*). Councilor Huff moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

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

A. **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Reverend Willie Phillips (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Public Safety Advisory Commission as the District 7 Representative for a term that expires on October 31, 2019 (*Councilor Woodson's Appointment*). Councilor Woodson nominated Lisa Branchcomb to succeed Reverend Willie Phillips. Mayor Pro Tem Allen moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

7. **COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS- VOTE TABULATION:**

A. **BOARD OF TAX ASSESSORS:**

A nominee for the seat of Daniel Hill (*eligible to succeed*) on the Board of Tax Assessors for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). At the October 22, 2019 Meeting, Councilor Barnes re-nominated Daniel Hill and Councilor Crabb nominated Trey Carmack for this seat.

After a vote tabulation was conducted, the results are as follows: Daniel Hill received two votes: Councilors Barnes and Thompson and Trey Carmack received eight votes: Mayor Pro Tem Allen and Councilors Crabb, Davis, Garrett, House, Huff, Thomas and Woodson. Mayor Pro Tem Allen then moved confirmation of Trey Carmack, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

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

A. **PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Charles Little, Jr. (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Personnel Review Board for a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat on the Personnel Review Board as an Alternate Member with an expiring term of December 31, 2022 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

B. **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Michael Peacock (*resigned*) on the Recreation Advisory Board as the District 6 Representative, with a term that is expiring on December 31, 2019 (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen's nominee*). There were none.

C. **REGION SIX REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:**

A nominee for the seat of Edward Barnwell (*resigned*) on the Region Six Regional Advisory Council for Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities for a term that expires on June 30, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

D. TREE BOARD:

A nominee for the seat of William Consoletti (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none

A nominee for the seat of Brad Huff (*eligible to succeed – not interested*) on the Tree Board for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Candice L. Wayman (*not eligible to succeed*) on the Tree Board as the Environmental Advocacy Group Representative for a term that expires on December 31, 2019 (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Hospital Authority of Columbus
- B. Housing Authority of Columbus

PUBLIC AGENDA- THREE ADDITIONAL MINUTES

1. Mr. Edward Dubose, Re: The consolidation of the Marshal's Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At the request of City Attorney Fay, Councilor Garrett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a real-estate matter, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 8:57 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:18 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in executive session to discuss a real-estate matter; however, there were no votes taken.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the November 5, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 9:18 p.m.

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