

## **BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE**



Councilor Judy W. Thomas- Chairperson

Councilor John M. House- Vice Chairperson

Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen

Councilors: Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis,  
R. Walker Garrett, Bruce Huff, Toyia Tucker and Evelyn ‘Mimi’ Woodson

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January 26, 2021 / 5:00 PM /  
Columbus Ironworks Convention & Trade Center  
801 Front Avenue, South Hall  
Columbus, GA 31901

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I. CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Judy W. Thomas

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Judy W. Thomas, Vice Chairperson John M. House and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors Jerry ‘Pops’ Barnes, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 5:06 p.m.) and Toyia Tucker. Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III, City Manager Isaiah Hugley, Deputy City Manager Pamela Hodge, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Finance Director Angelica Alexander, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**ABSENT:** Councilors R. Walker Garrett, Bruce Huff, and Evelyn “Mimi” Woodson were absent.

## **A G E N D A**

1. ADD/DELETE List

**Chairperson Judy Thomas** opened the meeting by explaining the City Council of Columbus, Georgia also serves as the Budget Review Committee, where they approve the budget each fiscal year. She explained during the budget review process for FY 2021, it was decided to delay items on the Add/Delete List to be addressed at mid-year, due to the unknown impact the COVID-19

Pandemic was going to have on the budget. She stated the purpose of this meeting is to see if there are any items that Council wishes to add or delete from the list but explained that she and Vice Chairperson John House are recommending that no items be added to the FY 2021 Budget at this time.

Chairperson Thomas stated the budget process for FY 2022 will begin on Thursday, January 28, 2021, where the administration will address department heads and give them direction on the predicted condition of the upcoming budget. She explained the City Manager and Mayor have the authority to bring items to Council that are imperative and need to be approved outside of the regular budget.

**Vice Chair John House** stated with the uncertainty that we are still faced with from the pandemic, he agrees with Chairperson Thomas in that he does not recommend any changes be made to the budget at this time. He reiterated if a department head feels there is a purchase that is needed, to inform the City Manager.

**Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** expressed his appreciation to the work of Chairperson Thomas and Vice Chair House, stating the budget is reviewed almost daily with the increase in operational costs and loss of revenue due to the ongoing pandemic.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** stated in the recent months, Council has addressed the urgent capital needs of the Fire/EMS and Public Works Departments.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** approached the rostrum to express her agreeance with the comments made concerning the budget. She thanked the Budget Review Committee for their commitment and for sticking to the budget process.

**Councilor Glenn Davis** stated he agrees with the recommendation. He explained he is interested in looking into equitable pay, capital replacement and emergency requests in the upcoming budget. He stated these issues have been discussed many times, and he believes in order to get these things accomplished, Council is going to have to set priorities and stick to them.

With there being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Thomas entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Vice Chairperson House to adjourn the January 26, 2021 Budget Review Committee Meeting, seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Garrett, Huff and Woodson being absent, and the time being 5:20 p.m.

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