

**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

May 13, 2025  
9:00 AM  
Regular Meeting

**M A Y O R ’ S   A G E N D A**

**PRESENT:** Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle (arrived at 9:01 a.m.), Charmaine Crabb (arrived at 9:10 a.m.), Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore (arrived at 9:45 a.m.) and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

**ABSENT:** Councilor Bruce Huff was absent.

**The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet:** (1) Columbus Police Department – Sworn Personnel Staffing Update; (2) Engineering Department – Countywide Map of Flood Zones (3) Columbus Water Works – Understanding the Combined Sewer Treatment System

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) MA#5: City of Columbus Police Department 2024 Annual Report (2) MA#7: Transitional Audit of the Solicitor General’s Office May 13, 2025 (3) MA#7 Internal Audit of the Office of Solicitor General (4) CM Add-On: Agenda Report Street Acceptance - Section Twenty, Garrett Pines

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Chaplain Emilio Rosa – Love in Action Outreach

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mayor Skip Henderson

**MINUTES**

- Approval of minutes for April 29, 2025, Consent Agenda/Work 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 Crabb being absent for the vote, and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

- Proclamation:** Salvation Army of Columbus, Georgia Week  
  
**Receiving:** Director Andre Pereira and Development & Communications Manager Drew Hunt

**Councilor John Anker** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming the week of May 12-16, 2025, as *Salvation Army of Columbus, Georgia Week* recognizing the Salvation Army for providing vital service to those in need in the community and helping to break the cycle of generational poverty.

3. **Proclamation:** Mental Health Awareness Month

**Receiving:** Chloe Landreth

**Councilor Byron Hickey** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming the month of May 2025, as *Mental Health Awareness Month*, recognizing New Horizons Behavioral Health for providing affordable and effective mental health rehabilitation services and specialty programs for individuals with mental illness.

**PRESENTATIONS**

4. STEAM Project Update – Presented by Katrina Long, Principal, Reese Road Leadership Academy

**Students of Reese Road Leadership Academy** approached the rostrum to provide an update on Reese Road Leadership Academy’s school wide project-based learning initiative. Each student provided a brief overview of the projects they completed. They also offered suggestions for potential improvements to Cooper Creek Park.

**Katina Long, Principal of Reese Road Leadership Academy,** approached the rostrum and expressed her pride in the students and thanked the City of Columbus for their partnership. She stated the project has been a tremendous success and emphasized how students are gaining a better understanding of community partnership through this initiative.

**ADD-ON PRESENTATION:**

River Surfing Project Update – Presented by John Turner

**Mr. John Turner** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the progress of the river surfing project. He stated that the project is in the early stages, and while it appears feasible, further research is necessary before moving forward. He noted the sport’s increasing popularity and significant market potential.

Mr. Turner requested that the city consider providing funding in the FY26 budget to continue engineering and permit studies. He referenced multiple successful events held at the riverwalk and announced that Columbus has been selected to host the 2028 World Kayaking Championship.

**Mr. Selvin Hollingsworth, Chairman of the Development Authority,** emphasized the project’s potential to attract international visitors and highlighted the sport’s uniqueness.

**ADD-ON PRESENTATION:**

Development of South Commons Update - Presented by Selvin Hollingsworth, Development Authority of Columbus

**Mr. Selvin Hollingsworth, Chairman of the Development Authority** announced the recent appointment of Missy Kendricks as President and CEO of the Development Authority. He expressed enthusiasm to have her on board

He said the Development Authority is excited about the commitment to conducting studies to support development in the South Commons area. He clarified that issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) is a later phase and research must be done prior to moving forward. He expressed his commitment to developing a good plan and bringing it back before the Council.

At this time, Mayor Pro Tem Allen requested that item #2 on the City Manager's Agenda be brought forward as the next order of business.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **2. South Commons Redevelopment**

**Resolution (138-25):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia hereby authorizing the City Manager or his designee 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. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **MAYOR'S AGENDA (Continued)**

### **5. Police Retention Update – Presented by Roderick Graham, Deputy Chief**

**Chief Mathis** provided an overview of the Police Department's crime prevention initiatives for the purpose of eliminating crime in Columbus, Georgia. He highlighted efforts over the past two years in recruitment, retention, and crime reduction. He also shared statistics reflecting decreases in crime and murder rates.

**Deputy Chief Roderick Graham** approached the rostrum and provided a presentation highlighting current staffing in the Columbus Police Department, the cost to train public safety employees and talent management program. He outlined suggestions to retain officers and attract new police officers.

### **REFERRAL(S):**

#### **FOR THE MAYOR:**

- Could we look at addressing the drop plan just for Public Safety. *(Request of Councilor Tucker)*
- Would like to revisit Ordinance No. 15-35 and the 171 Rule. *(Request of Councilor Cogle)*

### **6. Audit Committee Update – Presented by John Redmond, Committee Chair & Michael Bruder, Committee Member**

**Mr. John Redmond** reported on efforts to increase audit planning efficiency. He proposed creating a model for audit risk assessments and requested \$75,000 in funding to support this initiative.

Councilor Tucker made a motion to amend the current budget to add up to \$650,000 for a performance, operational and risk assessment, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **7. Transitional Audit of the Office of the Solicitor General – Presented by Donna McGinnis, Internal Auditor/Compliance Officer, Jonathan Smith, Benjamin Meadow & Grant Conaway, Forensic Auditors**

**Internal Auditor Donna McGinnis** approached the rostrum and stated that an audit was authorized by City Council on January 7, 2025, at the request of the newly elected Solicitor General.

**Forensic Auditor Grant Conaway** approached the rostrum to provide information regarding the audit. He reported that the audit included a review of three pay periods, with no discrepancies found. Budget management was consistent, though areas for improvement were identified, including workspace limitations, lack of advancement opportunities, and the need for updated software.

**Forensic Auditor Jonathan Smith** approached the rostrum and followed with recommendations for improvements for the Solicitor General's Office including securing additional office space, additional staff, and developing a pre-trial diversion program, funding for continuing education and reevaluation of software.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORDINANCES**

1. **1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Sections 3-1 (mm) and 3-12(e) of the Columbus Code pertaining to the various regulations pertaining to on-premises alcohol consumption; and for other purposes. (Councilor Chambers, Mayor Pro-Tem and Councilor Garrett)

*(NOTE: The floor was declared open for public comment. No public comment and no questions from Council.)*

### **RESOLUTIONS**

2. **Resolution (139-25):** A resolution approving a Special Exception to allow for a Club or Lodge, Not for Profit located at 6655 Lynch Road located in the Residential Estate – 1 (RE1) zoning district. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Mayor Pro-Tem) 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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Ms. Ashlee Williams, Re: Leadership Concerns.
2. Mr. Russell Pickron, Re: Transparency in our Government. ***Not Present***
3. Dr. (Rev.) Johnny Flakes, III, Re: Contradictions
4. Mr. George Shoultz, Re: Ethics of Council. ***Not Present***
5. Mr. Mark Lawrence, Re: Caring for Others.
6. Mr. Gary Johnson, representing Home Hardware, Inc., Re: Spiderweb. ***Not Present***
7. Mrs. Audrey Holston-Palmore, Re: Property located at 2928 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA (Continued)**

### **ADD-ON RESOLUTION**

**Resolution (140-25):** A resolution of the council of Columbus, Georgia, authorizing the acceptance of a deed to that of Pine Tar Drive and that portion of Pine Chase Drive located in section twenty, Garrett Pines, on behalf of

Columbus, Georgia. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **1. Three Transportation Planning Studies**

**Resolution (141-25):** A resolution to enter into contractual agreements with the Georgia Department of Transportation to accept Federal/State Transportation Planning Funds for three transportation planning studies: 1) School Traffic Impact Study, 2) Edgewood Road Study, and 3) Master Plan for Trails/Sidewalks, and to amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount of the award, which includes a 20% local cash match. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **3. 1242 Broadway - Balcony Encroachment**

**Resolution (142-25):** A resolution authorizing a permanent encroachment of a balcony five feet into the public right-of-way at 1242 Broadway; said encroachment is approved with the condition that should the balcony ever become a conflict with any future public improvement, the balcony shall be removed at no cost to the City. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **4. Sidewalk and Maintenance Easement Acceptance**

**Resolution (143-25):** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of a 5 ft. sidewalk and maintenance easement at 3340 Buena Vista Road, right of way, on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. 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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **5. Lakebottom Public Art**

**Resolution (144-25):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, requesting approval to execute a memorandum of understanding between the Columbus Consolidated Government (the “City”) and Peach Little League (“PLL”) for a public arts project and approve the design of the mural located at Lakebottom Park. 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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

### **6. Public Art- Frank D. Chester Rec Center Hitting Wall**

**Resolution (145-25):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, requesting approval to execute a memorandum of understanding between the Columbus Consolidated Government (the “City”) and Regional Prosperity Initiative, Inc., a/k/a Columbus 2025 (“RPI”) for a public arts project and approve the final design of the mural. Councilor Hickey made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **7. FY25 Local Road Assistance (LRA)**

**Resolution (146-25):** A resolution to make application and receive the FY 2025 Local Road Assistance (LRA) grant from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). 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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **8. Georgia Cities Foundation Youth Placemaking Grant**

**Resolution (147-25):** A resolution authorizing the application for and, if approved, acceptance of a grant on behalf of the Youth Advisory Council through the Georgia Cities Foundation, GeorgiaForward Grant. 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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **9. PURCHASES**

- A. Amendment 20 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex - RFQ No. 20-0002

**Resolution (148-25):** A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 20 in the amount of \$350,000.00 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associates, Inc., for construction manager as general contractor services for the Government Center Complex. The City Manager is also authorized to execute future amendments with Gilbane Building Company not to exceed the bond proceeds. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

- B. Maintenance Repair and Operations (MRO) Supplies, Parts, Equipment and Materials – OMNIA Partners Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (149-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of maintenance repair and operation (MRO) supplies, parts, equipment and materials from Grainger Industrial Supply, via OMNIA Partners contract #240078-01. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

- C. Contract Extension for Banking & Smart Card Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No 19-0002

**Resolution (150-25):** A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract with Synovus Bank (Columbus, Ga) for financial services: option 1 - banking services and option 2- smart card services, through September 30, 2025, to allow time to advertise a new RFP. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

- D. Breathing Apparatus for the Fire and EMS Department (Annual Contract) – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (151-25):** A resolution authorizing an annual contract for the purchase of breathing apparatus from MSA Safety Sales, LLC. (Cranberry Township, PA), on an “as needed” basis for the

Columbus Fire and EMS Department, via Sourcewell Contract #011824-mss. Based on prior years usage, the Fire and EMS Department spends approximately \$250,847.00 annually, for breathing apparatus. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

E. Stage Curtains for Columbus Civic Center – RFB No. 25-0008

**Resolution (152-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of twenty-three (23) stage curtains for the Columbus Civic Center from Splendid Drapes (Winder, GA) to include (9) nine middle stage curtains at a cost of \$34,965.00, (14) fourteen side curtains at a cost of \$41,090.00, for a total cost of \$75,785.00. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

F. 18 Yard Dump Truck for Public Works – Georgia State Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (153-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 18 Yard Dump Truck from Rush Truck Center Atlanta, (Atlanta, GA) at a total cost of \$170,291.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD-0000155-0001. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

G. 7 Yard Dump Truck for Public Works – Georgia State Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (154-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 7 YD Dump Truck from Rush Truck Center Atlanta, (Atlanta, GA) at a total cost of \$133,227.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD-0000155-0001. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

H. Security Gate for Public Works/Fleet Management – Federal GSA Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (155-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase and installation of a security gate, for Public Works/Fleet Management, from Adaptosolve, Inc./Minuteman Company (Lagrange, GA), in the amount of \$116,607.32. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Federal GSA Contract #GS-07F-0482W. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

I. Network Switches and Access Points for the Judicial Center – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (156-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of network switches and access points from CPAK Technology Solutions (Lagrange, GA), in the amount of \$1,255,350.00, for the Judicial Center. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000219-0002. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

J. Sound System Upgrade for the Civic Center

**Resolution (157-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of the sound system upgrade, for the Civic Center, from Columbus Tape and Video (Columbus, GA), in the amount of \$236,449.77. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

K. Replacement Rubber Flooring and Flooring Base for the Civic Center – Annual Contract Purchase

**Resolution (158-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase replacement rubber flooring and flooring base for the Civic Center from Huckaby Brothers Flooring (Phenix City, AL), in the total amount of \$14,307.50, for the event hallway. Council approval is requested 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 Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

L. Replacement Glass Doors for the Civic Center – The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (159-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of replacement glass doors for the Civic Center, from Binswanger Glass (Memphis, TN), in the amount of \$212,635.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), Contract #220604. Council approval is requested 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 Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

M. Crowd Control Barriers for the Civic Center – OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (160-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of crowd control barricades, for the Civic Center, from Quill, LLC (Licolnshire, IL), in the amount of \$ 13,499.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Omnia Partners Contract # R190304. Council approval is requested 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 Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

N. Golf Cart for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (161-25):** A resolution authorizing one (1) 2025 E-Z Go Express 6 golf cart, for the Civic Center, from Diamond Golf Cars (Birmingham, AL), in the amount of \$13,445.60. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #122220-JCS/091024-JCS. Council approval is requested 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 Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.



O. Haulers for the Civic Center – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (162-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of three (3) 2025 Cushman Haulers, for the Civic Center, from Diamond Golf Cars (Birmingham, AL), in the total amount of \$33,859.50. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #122220-JCS/091024-JCS. Council approval is requested 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 Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

P. One 11 Yard Viper Rear Load Refuse Truck for Public Works Department – Sourcewell Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (163-25):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 11-Yard Viper Rear Load Refuse Truck from Sansom Equipment Company, (Scranton, IA) in the amount of \$204,473.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #110223-NWY. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

## **10. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. FY25 Budget Update – Danielle Forté, Clerk of Superior Court

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** advised that Clerk of Superior Court Danielle Forté is appearing before Council pursuant to Ordinance 13-39, as they are expected to exceed their FY25 Budget. The request is for an additional appropriation of \$21,300 to cover an increase in hearings.

In response to a question from Councilor Anker, **Lauri Smithson, Director of the Board of Equalization** clarified that the Board of Equalization does not control the volume of appeals received annually. She made mention of an increase in appeals over recent years.

Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the request for additional appropriation in the FY25 Budget for Superior Court in the amount of \$21,300, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote, and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

B. Combined Sewer Overflow Update. - Vance Beck, Director, Engineering *No Action Taken*

**Engineering Director Vance Beck** approached the rostrum to address concerns regarding the role of Water Works facilities in flood management. He clarified that the facilities are not designed for flood control, but instead treat water before it is discharged into the river.

### **BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**DATE:** May 13, 2025  
**TO:** Mayor and Councilors  
**FROM:** Finance Department  
**SUBJECT:** Advertised Bids/RFPs/RFQs

**May 14, 2025**

**1. Hot Asphalt, Micro Surfacing & General Road Repair Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0004**

**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide hot asphalt, micro surfacing, and/or general road repair services to include removing old asphalt, resurfacing roads, asphalt patching, concrete patching, milling existing asphalt paving, etc. on an “as needed” basis to the Columbus Consolidated Government (the City).

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

**June 6, 2025**

**1. Grant Writing Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0020**

**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government (the City) is seeking qualified, experienced individuals, groups, or firms to provide Grant Writing Services. The Successful Proposer will secure grant funding through the preparation and submittal of grant proposals to federal, state agencies, and any other applicable entities.

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

## **CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA**

### **ENCLOSURES - INFORMATION ONLY**

1. Memo from Clerk of Council - Public Agenda Application

**Clerk of Council McLemore** advised there have been concerns regarding the updated public agenda application. She addressed the recent confusion regarding the guideline that addresses meeting decorum. She explained that while the guideline was available on the physical application located in the Clerk of Council’s lobby, it was inadvertently left off the online application and was added to be consistent. She apologized for the impression it made and that it was added to be consistent. She stated the guideline would be removed from the application and the revision date listed as May 13, 2025.

2. Resolution approved by the Board of Health, adopting the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia Administrative Code in Title 511 – Georgia Department of Public Health.

### **ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

3. Email correspondence from Director Lisa Thomas-Cutts, requesting the seat of David Houser be declared vacant on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to declare the seat vacant, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.
4. Email correspondence from Charlotte Ingram, resigning from her seat as the District 1 Representative on the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC). Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the resignation, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

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

Board of Tax Assessors, #14-25, #15-25

Board of Zoning Appeals, 03.05.25

Columbus Iron Works Convention and Trade Authority, 03.27.25

Hospital Authority of Columbus, 03.25.25

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 Huff being absent from the meeting.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED**

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

A. **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.

7. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS – READY FOR CONFIRMATION:**

A. **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Allen Taber was nominated to serve another term. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

B. **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Brad Coppedge was nominated to serve another term. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2027. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

C. **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** Karl Douglass was nominated to serve another term. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: August 15, 2025. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

8. **APPOINTMENTS – NOMINATIONS ARE CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:**

A. **COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for a new seat as Deputy City Manager, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Council confirms the appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated City Manager

Hugley has nominated Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for a new seat as Parks & Rec. Director or Designee, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Council confirms the appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Director Holli Browder will be serving. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for a new seat as, Inspections & Code Director or Designee on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Council confirms the appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Director Ryan Pruett will be serving. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for a new seat as IT Director or Designee, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Council confirms the appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Director Forrest Toelle will be serving. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

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.

#### **B. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE:**

A nominee for the seat of Ardria McGruder (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Ardria McGruder has been selected by the General Government Employees. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

A nominee for the seat of Rachel S. Banks (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council's Appointment*). Clerk of Council McLemore stated Rachel S. Banks has been selected by the Public Safety Employees. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

#### **C. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Tyler Pritchard for the term expiring on January 31, 2025, on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Karl Douglass to serve another term. Clerk of Council McLemore stated Councilor Cogle is nominating John Sheftall on behalf of the Historic Columbus Foundation to succeed Tyler Pritchard on the Historic & Architectural Review Board. Councilor Tucker made a motion for confirmation, seconded

by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting.

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

**A. COLUMBUS SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for a new seat as a Promotional Entity – Professional Hockey, on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority. (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Cogle nominated Jeff Croop to serve as the Promotional Entity – Professional Hockey Representative on the Columbus Sports & Entertainment Authority.

**B. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Billy Blanchard (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on August 15, 2023, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Billy Blanchard to serve another term on the Downtown Development Authority.

A nominee for the seat of Stephen Butler (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on August 15, 2023, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). Councilor Crabb renominated Stephen Butler to serve another term on the Downtown Development Authority.

A nominee for a vacant seat for the term expiring on August 15, 2023, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Ernest Smallman, IV (*Not Eligible to succeed – Currently serves on the Board of Zoning Appeals*) for the term expiring on August 15, 2023, on the Downtown Development Authority (*Council’s Appointment*). There were none.

**C. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE:**

A nominee for the seat of Shannon Hubbard (*Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council’s Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen renominated Shannon Hubbard to serve another term on the Employee Benefits Committee.

A nominee for the seat of Troy Vanerson (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council’s Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Tommy Beauchamp to succeed Troy Vanerson on the Employee Benefits Committee.

A nominee for the seat of Timothy Smith (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for the term expiring on April 30, 2025, on the Employee Benefits Committee (*Council’s Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Jules Hazen to succeed Timothy Smith on the Employee Benefits Committee.

**PUBLIC AGENDA (continued):**

7. Mrs. Audrey Holston-Palmore, Re: Property located at 2928 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, potential litigation, and acquisition and disposal of real estate 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 Tucker and carried unanimously by the five members present, with Councilors Anker, Crabb, Chambers and Hickey being absent for the vote and Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting, with the time being 12:18 p.m.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 2:03 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss personnel, potential litigation, and acquisition and disposal of real estate; 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 May 13, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Cogle and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Huff being absent from the meeting, and the time being 2:04 p.m.

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