

# 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 24, 2026  
5:30 PM  
Regular Meeting

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### **MAYOR’S A G E N D A**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen and Councilors John Anker, Travis L. Chambers, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett, Byron Hickey, Bruce Huff, and Toyia Tucker. Deputy City Manager Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore and Deputy Clerk of Council Tameka Colbert.

**ABSENT:** N/A

**The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet:** (1) CM#5(A): The Probate Court Budget FY26 & FY27 Budget Review and City Council; (2) COC#7: Columbus Botanical Garden Columbus City Council Presentation

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) CM#5(A): Email Correspondence, Re: Probate Court Budget; (2) PA#7: Upatoi Ridge Adventure Preserve; (3) PA#14: Transparency and Public Trust; (4) PA#15: Moratorium on Project Ruby; (5) COC#1: Travel Authorization Request; (6) COC#7: Documents Submitted by Columbus Botanical Garden

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Reverend Daniel Potter, Minister to Students – First Baptist Church

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

### **MINUTES:**

1. Approval of minutes for the March 10, 2026, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

2. **Proclamation:** Let's Grow STEAMx

**Receiving:** Robbie Branscomb, CEO of Let's Grow STEAMx, and STEAMx Community Members

**Councilor Travis Chambers** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming February 10, 2026 as *Let's Grow STEAMx Day*, recognizing the organization's 10-year anniversary and its impact on over 25,000 students through STEAM education, college and career readiness, workforce development, and community engagement in the Columbus region.

3. **Proclamation:** National Community Development Week

**Receiving:** Robert Scott, Director of Community Reinvestment

**Councilor Bruce Huff** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming April 6-10, 2026 as *National Community Development Week*, recognizing the importance of community development programs that support affordable housing, economic opportunity, neighborhood revitalization, and improved quality of life for residents in Columbus.

4. **Proclamation:** Jordyn Hunter Appreciation

**Receiving:** Jordyn Hunter

**Councilor Bruce Huff** read the proclamation into the record proclaiming Friday, April 10, 2026 as *Jordyn Hunter Appreciation Day*, recognizing her contributions to the Community Reinvestment Department through her service in the Mayor's Summer Youth Program, including enhancing the department's website and supporting community engagement initiatives.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance (26-007) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-11-25-2091: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2055 Old Guard Road** (parcel # 074-001-008) from Residential Estate – 1 (RE1) Zoning District to Single Family Residential – 4 (SFR4) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (Councilor Davis) Councilor Davis made a motion to amend, adding

the same site plan and landscape plan conditions as 2045 Old Guard Road, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present. Councilor Davis made a motion to amend, adding a condition requiring that if the subject property is not developed in accordance with the approved site plans within 24 months of the adoption of the ordinance, the property will revert to their prior zoning classifications, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present. Councilor Davis made a motion to adopt the ordinance as amended, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

2. **Ordinance (26-008) - 2nd Reading-REZN-02-26-0208:** An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, to change certain boundaries of a district located at **2045 Old Guard Road** (parcel # 079-001-045) from SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District with conditions to SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District with amended conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval.) (As amended on 1st Reading) (Councilor Davis) Councilor Davis made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present. Councilor Davis made a motion to amend, adding a condition requiring that if the subject property is not developed in accordance with the approved site plans within 24 months of the adoption of the ordinance, the property will revert to their prior zoning classifications, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present. Councilor Davis made a motion to adopt the ordinance as amended, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:**

- A request was made for staff to evaluate and provide options to improve pedestrian safety and traffic calming on Old Guard Road. (*Councilor Tucker*)

3. **Ordinance (26-009) - 2nd Reading:** An ordinance amending Article I of Chapter 4 of the Columbus Code to insert a new code section which defines nonprofit community handmade and artisan events sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation; to clarify applicable permit requirements; to provide for a fee waiver; and for other lawful purposes. (Councilors Cogle and Garrett) Councilor Garrett made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **5. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. FY26 Budget Update – Judge Marc D’Antonio, Probate Court

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** explained that pursuant to Ordinance 13-39, departments or elected officials anticipating exceeding their budgeted appropriations must come before Council to request additional funding. He stated that while Probate Court is not yet on the watch list, expenditure trends indicate it may be soon.

**Judge Marc D’Antonio, Probate Court** requested an increase to the Probate Court’s operating budget to approximately \$81,000 for FY26, citing rising costs, while maintaining that the court remains efficient and fully staffed. He requested an additional \$19,655 in funding for FY26 to cover increased operating expenses,

Councilor Garrett made a motion to approve an additional \$19,655 in funding for the Probate Court’s FY26 Operating Budget, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members present.

## **CITY ATTORNEY’S AGENDA (continued)**

**4. 1st Reading:** An ordinance amending Section 2-3.02. of the Columbus Code to insert a new paragraph (c) which provides that members of the Columbus Airport Commission may be residents of Muscogee County or any adjacent county; and for other lawful purposes. (Councilors Davis and Crabb)

A request was made by **Councilor Glenn Davis** to include in the upcoming legislative agenda a proposal to adjust board composition to ensure majority representation from Muscogee County, specifically by designating three members from Muscogee County and two from adjacent counties.

However, it was stated by **City Attorney Clifton Fay** that such a change may not be feasible, as the provision is governed by a constitutional amendment that cannot be modified by the legislature and may only be repealed by voters. He explained that while Council cannot change the number of board members established by the amendment, it does retain discretion through ordinance in appointing members.

**Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore** requested that a resolution be prepared to establish guidance or limitations on board membership representation, ensuring clear and accessible documentation in the official record for future reference.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE AIRPORT COMMISSION:**

-A request was made to amend the Airport Authority bylaws to limit representation from outside counties to one member. (*Councilor Tucker*)

**FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY:**

-A request was made for a resolution to be listed on March 31, 2026, expressing Council's preference to limit appointments to individuals that reside outside Muscogee County. (*Councilor Crabb*)

**RESOLUTIONS**

5. **Resolution (073-26)** - A Resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia (the "Council"), authorizing the issuance of \$135,435,000 Columbus Georgia, Water and Sewerage Revenue Bonds, Series 2026; to authorize the Mayor and other officials of Columbus to take such further actions as are necessary to provide for the sale, issuance and delivery of such bonds for the purpose of refunding certain Series 2014A bonds and Series 2016 bonds as defined herein; to ratify the execution and delivery of a bond purchase agreement relating to the sale of such bonds; and for other purposes. (Request of the Columbus Board of Water Commissioners) Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Hickey and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with Councilor Tucker being absent for the vote.

**President and Chief Executive Officer of Columbus Water Works Jeremy Cummings** informed Council that Columbus Water Works plans to enter the bond market to fund capital improvement projects, primarily to address PFAS treatment requirements mandated by Georgia EPD by 2029, along with other infrastructure upgrades.

**Brian Huskey, Managing Director of Stifel Public Finance,** reported a strong bond market outcome, with approximately \$350 million in orders received for a \$135 million issuance from 59 institutions.

**David Corbin Founder, Chief Executive Officer SMC Terminus** reported strong market confidence, with approximately \$360 million in orders and favorable conditions allowing the city to secure 30-year bonds at a competitive 4.18% rate, comparable to current 10-year Treasury rates.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Miss. Emily Downs, Re: Chattahoochee Dam Alarm Notification on Riverwalk (*Rescheduled from 03-10-2026*) **Not Present**
2. Ms. Tracy Doughty, Re: Concerns regarding Project Ruby and the introduction of data centers within Muscogee County. **Not Present**
3. Mrs. Jessica Warchal, Re: Quality of Life Concerns
4. Ms. Liz Elliott, Re: The Presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents in Columbus.
5. Mrs. Leslie Landi, Re: Questions on Layfield Road Potential Project.
6. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Silencing Certain Constituents.
7. Mr. Ernest Washington, Re: Hyperscale Data Center Proposal
8. Mr. Mick Etchison, Re: Economic Viability of Project Ruby
9. Mr. Paul Olson, Re: Data Center
10. Mr. George McDowell, Re: The State of Our City.
11. Ms. Amy Borton, Re: Reducing the Impact of Data Centers.
12. Mrs. Darlene Laird, Re: The Dangers of Data Centers to Communities. (*Rescheduled from 03-10-2026*)
13. Mr. Eric Kuhlenberg, Re: Data Center.
14. Dr. Natalie Nicole, representing Role Model Academy of Arts, Re: Enhancing Transparency and Public Trust.
15. Mrs. Sandra Turner, Re: Moratorium on Project Ruby.
16. Mr. Ric Rivera, Re: Hyperscale Data Center.
17. Mr. Gregory Foster, Re: Reminding Council that Columbus has Bills to Pay.
18. Ms. Amy Spencer, Re: Opposition to Hyperscale Data Centers in Muscogee County. **Not Present**

19. Rev. Mark Lawrence, representing IMA, Re: Finding Solution for the Future.
20. Mr. Richard Parker, Re: Data Center Opposition. *Not Present*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Henderson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel as requested by City Attorney Fay. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members present, with the time being 8:32 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 9:27 p.m., at which time, Mayor Henderson announced that the Council did meet in Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel; however, there were no votes taken.

## **CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA**

### **COUNCIL HEARINGS:**

7. Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest on property tax as submitted by Mr. Andrew Ruh, Executive Director of Columbus Botanical Garden, for property located in Columbus, Georgia. Councilor Garret made a motion to waive the penalties and interest in the amount of \$7,935.60, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

**Andrew Ruh, Executive Director of Columbus Botanical Garden,** explained that the penalties and interest on a five-acre parcel gifted in 2022 were the result of an administrative error in filing the nonprofit exemption.

**Chief Appraiser Suzzane Widenhouse** clarified that the property, gifted in 2022, did not receive a nonprofit exemption for 2023 and 2024 because no application was filed, and state law does not allow exemptions to be applied retroactively.

In response to a question posed by Councilor Garrett, **Tax Commissioner David Britt** stated that by law, the office is required to bill taxes to the address of record and assess penalties and interest if unpaid. If taxes remain unpaid, the office is also legally required to proceed toward a tax sale, although efforts are made to work with property owners before reaching that stage.

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

## **1. Three Chances LLC, Parking License Agreement**

**Resolution (074-26)** – A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a parking license agreement through May 31, 2029, with Three Chances LLC, for the use of 16 parking spaces at the City Hall parking garage, subject to site-specific conditions and tenant controls. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote.

## **2. FY27 Sec. 5307 Application for Renovation and Expansion of the METRA Transfer Center**

**Resolution (075-26)** – A resolution authorizing Metra to submit a grant application and, if awarded, accept funds from the Federal Transit Administration’s Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 Formula Grant Program for capital and planning assistance in an amount up to \$5,254,230, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the transportation fund by the amount of the grant award. Councilor Tucker made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Chambers and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

## **3. U.S. Department of Justice FY25 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant**

**Resolution (076-26)** – A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to submit an application for, and if awarded, accept a 2025 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$58,653, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match requirement, to amend the multi-governmental fund by the amount of the award, and to allocate the amount awarded to city departments for law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and public safety programs supported by the grant. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote.

## **4. PURCHASES**

- A. Four (4) Chevrolet Tahoes for Sheriff’s Office – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (077-26)** – A resolution authorizing the purchase of Four (4) 2026 Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff ‘s Office from the Hardy Chevrolet (Dallas, GA) at a unit price of \$59,720.00 in the amount of

\$238,880.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia State Contract #99999-SPD-SPD0000218-0006. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

- B. Two (2) Ford Broncos for Sheriff's Office – Georgia Statewide Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (078-26)** – A resolution authorizing the purchase of two (2) 2026 Ford Broncos for the Sheriff 's Office from the Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) at a unit price of \$41,140.00 in the amount of \$82,280.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase via Georgia State Contract #99999-SPD0000183-0006. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

- D. Contract Extension for Elevator Maintenance Services (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 19-0025

**Resolution (079-26)** – A resolution authorizing the extension of the annual contract for Elevator Maintenance Services with Elevated Facility Services (Tampa, FL) through June 30, 2026. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

- E. Contract Extension for Public Employee Retirement System Pension and Benefit Trust (“The Pension Fund”) Investment Consultant Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 20-0007

**Resolution (080-26)** – A resolution authorizing extension of the annual contract with Raymond James and Associates, Inc. (Columbus, GA), through March 31, 2027, for Public Employee Retirement System Pension and Benefit Trust (“The Pension Fund”) Investment Consultant Services. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

- F. Annual Adobe Acrobat Pro DC Licensing Subscription Renewal for Information Technology – Federal GSA Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (081-26)** – A resolution authorizing purchase/payment for the annual licensing subscription renewal for Adobe Acrobat Pro DC software from CPAK Technology (LaGrange, GA) in the amount of \$54,777.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative purchase via

Federal GSA Contract # 47QSWA18D008F. This resolution also authorizes the purchase/payment for the ongoing annual renewals of the Adobe Acrobat Pro DC software licensing subscriptions, including cost increases for all aspects of the software, which will be budgeted in the appropriate subsequent fiscal years. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

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

**Resolution (082-26)** – A resolution authorizing the purchase of 95-gallon blue recycling carts from Rehrig Pacific Company (Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$79,853.60 (1,404 units @ \$55.00 each, plus estimated freight in the amount of \$1,370.00 and Artwork fee in the amount of \$1,263.60). The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #120324-REH. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote.

**Deputy City Manger Lisa Goodwin** clarified that residents may continue using existing carts or bag their waste for collection. For yard debris, such as tree limbs, residents can request pickup by contacting the city, with the condition that larger limbs or trees must be cut into manageable pieces for collection.

**5. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

B. Finance Update - Angelica Alexander, Director, Finance

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** reported that the February 2026 financial update was distributed, along with responses from departments identified as potentially going over budget, in response to a Council referral. While one department indicated it expects to remain within budget, two anticipate exceeding their budgets and will return to Council with requests if needed.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:**

- A request was made for staff to investigate reports of a tent encampment located in the 3400 block of Victory Drive. (*Councilor Huff*)

## **CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA (continued)**

### **ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

1. **Travel Authorization Request:** Approval is requested for Councilor Toyia Tucker to attend the 2026 NACo Annual Conference for July 16–21, 2026. 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 Hickey being absent for the vote.
  
2. **Minutes of the following boards:**
  - Board of Election and Registration 02-02-22, 03-17-22
  - Board of Election and Registration 03-02-23, 05-04-23, 06-20-23
  - Board of Elections and Registration 02-05-26
  - Board of Tax Assessors #08-26, #09-26
  - Board of Zoning Appeals 01-07-26, 02-04-26
  - Convention & Visitors Board 04-16-25
  - Development Authority of Columbus 07-07-22
  - Development Authority of Columbus 01-09-25, 02-06-25,
  - Employee Benefits Committee 12-25-24
  - Employee Benefits Committee 03-19-25, 06-25-25
  - Land Bank Authority 09-18-24
  - Land Bank Authority 07-09-25, 09-10-25
  - Pension Board 04-13-22, 05-11-22, 06-08-22
  - Planning Advisory Commission 01-07-26, 02-18-26
  - The Medical Center Hospital Authority 01-22-2020, 04-22-20, 07-22-20, 10-28-20
  - The Medical Center Hospital Authority 01-27-21, 04-28-21, 07-28-21, 10-27-21
  - The Medical Center Hospital Authority Minutes 07-24-24, 10-23-24

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Garrett 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. HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Larry Cardin (*Eligible*) for a term expiring on April 26, 2026, on the Housing Authority of Columbus (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson renominated Larry Cardin to serve another term. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

A nominee for the seat of William J. Burgin (*Eligible – Interested in serving another term*) for a term expiring on April 26, 2026, on the Housing Authority of Columbus (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson renominated William J. Burgin to serve another term. Councilor Crabb made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote.

##### **B. PENSION FUND, EMPLOYEES' BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

A nominee for a vacant seat with a term that expires on June 30, 2026, as a representative of the Business Community on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

#### **4. NOMINATIONS – CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL:**

##### **A. AIRPORT COMMISSION:**

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term expiring on December 31, 2026, on the Airport Commission (*Waiting on nominee – Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

**B. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (BHAR):**

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Columbus Home Builders Association Representative*) for a term expiring on January 31, 2028, on the Historic & Architectural Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

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

**A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 1 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 1 – Hickey*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Tracy Belt (*Not Eligible*) the District 4 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 4 – Tucker*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the District 5 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 5 – Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Mike Welch (*Eligible for reappointment*) the District 9 Representative for a term expiring on March 27, 2026, on the Community Development Advisory Council (*District 9 – Anker*). There were none.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Paul T. Berry, III (*Not interested in serving another term*) for a term that expired on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 5 – Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Scott Taft (*Not Eligible*) for a term that expired on October 31, 2025, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*District 9 – Anker*). There were none.

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

**A. ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the vacant seat of the Georgia Veterinary Technician with a term expiring on October 15, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the vacant seat of the Animal Rescue Shelter Representative with a term expiring on October 15, 2026, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**B. BOARD OF HEALTH:**

A nominee for the seat of Yasmine Cathright (*Not Eligible*) with the term expiring on December 31, 2025, on the Board of Health (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**C. BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expires on March 24, 2026, on the Building Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**D. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Laura Q. Gower (*Eligible – Interested in serving another term*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2026, on the Development Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen renominated Laura Q. Gower to serve another term.

A nominee for the seat of Doug Jenkins (*Eligible – Interested in serving another term*) for a term expiring on April 30, 2026, on the Development Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). Mayor Pro Tem Allen renominated Doug Jenkins to serve another term.

**E. LIBERTY THEATRE & CULTURAL ARTS CENTER ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expired on August 14, 2026, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expires on August 14, 2026, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expires on August 14, 2027, on the Liberty Theatre & Cultural Arts Center Advisory Board (*Civic Center Director Recommendation / Confirmed by Council*). There were none.

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

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

**G. PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 1*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 2*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat (*Alternate Member 3*) for a term that expires on December 31, 2027, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Delano Leftwich (*Not Eligible – Alternate Member 4*) for a term that expired on December 31, 2025, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)**

5. Mrs. Leslie Landi, Re: Questions on Layfield Road Potential Project. *No Action Taken*
6. Dr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., Re: Silencing Certain Constituents. *No Action Taken*
13. Mr. Eric Kuhlenberg, Re: Data Center. *No Action Taken*

**ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution (083-26)** - A resolution authorizing the Mayor, or his designee, the City Attorney and the Finance Director to make payments which total \$98,000.00 to settle the referenced claims of Adam Bindel against any and all parties, including attorney's fees.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE DEPUTY CITY MANAGER:**

- A request was made for staff to provide a presentation at the upcoming work session on the status of the jail. (*Councilor Anker*)

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Skip Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Allen to adjourn the March 24, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Hickey being absent for the vote, and the time being 10:23 p.m.

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