

# **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

January 3, 2023  
9:00 AM  
Regular Meeting

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### **MAYOR'S AGENDA**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen (via Microsoft Teams) and Councilors Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Joanne Cogle, Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis, R. Walker Garrett (via Microsoft Teams), John M. House, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas, and Toyia Tucker. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**The following documents have been included as a part of the electronic Agenda Packet:** (1) 2023 Internal Audit Update Presentation; (2) Jail Update Presentation

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley Presentation; (2) Fatherhood Conversation Event Flyer

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Dr. Buddy Cooper from Saint Paul United Methodist Church of Columbus, Georgia

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

### **OATHS OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE GIL MCBRIDE:**

1. Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III
2. Councilor Clairmont J. Barnes – District 1  
Councilor Charmaine Crabb – District 5  
Councilor Joanne Cogle – District 7  
Councilor Judith W. Thomas – District 9 At-Large

### **OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE BEN RICHARDSON:**

3. Councilor Bruce Huff – District 3

### **MINUTES**

4. Approval of minutes for the December 13, 2022 Council Meeting and Executive Session. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

1. **Resolution (001-23):** A resolution appointing a Mayor Pro-Tem for a term of two years. Councilor Thomas made a motion to nominate R. Gary Allen to serve another term as Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council. (*NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Attorney's Agenda Item 1*)
2. **Resolution (002-23):** A resolution appointing a Clerk of Council for a term of two years. Councilor Huff made a motion to nominate Sandra T. Davis to serve another term as Clerk of Council, seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council. (*NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Attorney's Agenda Item 2*)
3. **Resolution (003-23):** A resolution appointing a Deputy Clerk of Council for a term of two years. Councilor Huff made a motion to nominate Lindsey McLemore to serve another term as Deputy Clerk of Council, seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council. (*NOTE: This item was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Attorney's Agenda Item 3*)

*Note: Mayor Henderson announced that there would be a brief ten-minute break in the meeting with the time being 9:26 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:35 a.m.*

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

### **PRESENTATION:**

5. Update from the Internal Auditor Department (Presented by Donna McGinnis, Director of the Internal Auditor Department)

**Internal Auditor Director Donna McGinnis** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the status of internal audits that have been requested. She provided a plan of action to address the pending audits, audits currently in progress, and how to address departments that have not been audited in five to ten years.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORDINANCE**

4. **Ordinance (23-001) - 2nd Reading-** An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 22-045 which adopted a new Classification and Compensation Plan for The Consolidated Government to revise Section 13 pertaining to education incentive pay; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

5. **Resolution (004-23):** A resolution commending Elizabeth Barfield for her work as Forensic Auditor. (Councilor Davis) **Councilor Glenn Davis** read the resolution in its entirety. Councilor Davis then made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**Councilor Glenn Davis** stated for the record, he was told by numerous law enforcement officials that they would not have had a case without the work of Ms. Elizabeth Barfield.

6. **Resolution (005-23):** A resolution commending Nancy Boren for overseeing a successful year of elections. (Councilor Davis) **Councilor Glenn Davis** read the resolution in its entirety into the record. Councilor Davis then made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

1. Ms. Pat Frey, representing United Way / Home For Good, Re: The upcoming 2023 Muscogee / Russell Point in Time Count.
2. Ms. Theresa El-Amin, representing Southern Anti-Racism Network, Re: Gentrification, evictions and access to affordable housing.
3. Mr. Marvin Broadwater, Sr., representing State of Georgia Organization of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Re: An announcement of Fatherhood Conversation, on January 19, 2023 (6:00 p.m - 7:00 p.m.)
4. Mr. John Scott, Re: The Columbus Police Department.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. Best Buy Easement Release**

**Resolution (006-23):** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a quit claim deed to release the permanent access easement at 2925 Manchester Expressway for Kadie the Cow. Councilor Crabb made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

### **2. Uptown Columbus – City Chattahoochee River Park Management Lease Agreement Renewal**

Approval is requested to authorize the City Manager to renew the lease agreement with Uptown Columbus, Inc., for management and operation of the Chattahoochee River Park. Councilor Cogle made a motion to delay the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

Councilor Davis made a motion for a performance audit by the Internal Auditor, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

Councilor Davis made a motion to extend the existing contract for ninety days, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Would like to see performance data on this contract since it has been held for ten years. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)
- Information on economic impact, creation of jobs, and proof of insurance. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

**3. Enterprise Zone: SUNSOUTH PROPERTIES LLC, 1301 Victory Drive**

**Resolution (007-23):** A resolution authorizing the approval of the request for Sunsouth Properties, LLC., a new store located at 1302 Victory Drive, to receive tax abatements under the State of Georgia Enterprise Zone Act. Councilor Davis made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**Planning Director Will Johnson** approached the rostrum to explain the project.

**4. 2023 Legislative Agenda – Add On:**

- Georgia Open Records Act – Disclosure of Job Applications

Approval is requested of the add on resolution for the 2023 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly requesting that the local delegation to the Georgia General Assembly introduce statewide legislation to prohibit disclosure of job applications to local governments under the open records act until the position applied for has been filled.

**5. PURCHASES**

- A. Membership Dues for Georgia Municipal Association

**Resolution (008-23):** A resolution authorizing payment to Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), in the amount of \$43,749.49, for 2023 membership dues for the City of Columbus, Georgia. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

- B. Contract Extension for Security Surveillance Equipment – Public Works and Miscellaneous Locations (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 16-0006

**Resolution (009-23):** A resolution authorizing the extension of the security surveillance equipment – Public Works & miscellaneous locations contract with AdaptToSolve, Inc. (LaGrange, GA) for an additional three-month period. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

- C. Household Hazardous Waste Sorting and Disposal Services (Annual Contract)– RFP No. 23-0004

**Resolution (010-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of a contract with MXI Environmental services, LLC (Abingdon, VA) to provide household hazardous waste sorting and disposal services. The Public Works Department budgets \$40,000 annually for these services. Councilor House made a

motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

D. Repair of Bulldozer for Public Works

**Resolution (011-23):** A resolution authorizing payment to Yancey Brothers (Fortson, GA), in the amount of \$65,465.16, for the repair of a 2018 Caterpillar D6T Bulldozer, Vehicle #11299. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

E. Fire Apparatus Repair – Engine 9 for Public Works/Fire & EMS

**Resolution (012-23):** A resolution authorizing payment to Cummins Sales and Service (Detroit, MI/Albany, GA Branch), in the amount of \$34,253.14, for the repair of a 2017 E-One Fire Apparatus, Engine 9 – Vehicle #3629. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

F. Customization Services for the Court Management System

**Resolution (013-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of the agreement for customization services for the court management system from Tyler Technologies (Dallas, TX) in the amount of \$98,115.00. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

G. Madvac LN50 Diesel All-Terrain Litter Vacuum for METRA – Sourcewell Contract Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (014-23):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) Madvac LN50 Diesel all terrain litter vacuum from Environmental Products Group, Inc. (Apopka, FL) in the amount of \$75,505.00. The purchase will be accomplished by cooperative purchase, via Sourcewell Contract #093021-EXP. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

H. Service Contract for Various Types of Transmissions for METRA (Annual Contract) - RFB No. 23-0020

**Resolution (015-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of annual contracts with Reliable Transmission Service, Inc. (Conley, GA) and Peterbilt of Atlanta, LLC (Jackson, GA) to repair and rebuild transmissions for METRA Transit System. The services will be procured on an as-needed basis. METRA Transit System budgets \$50,000.00 annually for the services. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

I. Amendment 5 for Construction Manager as General Contractor Services for Columbus Government Center Complex - RFQ No. 20-0002

**Resolution (016-23):** A resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment 5 with Gilbane Building Company (Atlanta, GA), in association with Freeman & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$77,000.00 for costs associated with constructing a full-size mock-up of the future judicial center courtrooms.

Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to explain the item, she explained several mock-ups were built on the various courtrooms that would be in the new Judicial Center. She stated all the judicial parties visited these mock-ups December 16 - 23, 2022 to view how the courtrooms would be setup, and they will come back after alterations are made to view them again. In response to a question, she stated this was part of the original contract, but it was not able to come before Council due to the change in meeting schedule.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** explained this was already part of the original bid and the money was included in the original contract. He stated this request is just like what is done with ARP funding, approval would be asked for money to be expended out of the original project budget.

**Inspections & Code Director Ryan Pruett** approached the rostrum to share the importance of mock-up courtrooms to allow judicial parties to have an opportunity to share the needs of their specific offices and to provide input on the setup.

J. Three (3) 2022 Ford F-150 Trucks for Sheriff's Office

**Resolution (017-23):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of three (3) 2022 Ford F150 XL, 4x2 Supercrew Cab, with 5.5 ft. box 145-inch WB Trucks from Rivertown Ford (Columbus, GA) as follows: one (1) at a unit cost of \$45,431.44; one (1) at a unit cost of \$45,927.44; and one (1) at a unit cost of \$46,646.44; for a grand total of \$138,005.32. These are new vehicles. Councilor House made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

## 6. **UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Jail Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager of Finance, Planning & Development

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to provide an update on the Muscogee County Jail. She provided information on an assessment conducted in 2022 by Jericho Design Group, LLC, which outlined the current condition of the facility. She stated the assessment found that most facility components are at the end of life, the exterior brick veneer is failing, ceilings, floors and walls need replacement, and there being a need for upgraded electronic security.

## **BID ADVERTISEMENT**

### **January 11, 2023**

1. **Dumpster/Roll Off Container Rental and Servicing (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 23-0016**

**Scope of Bid**

The Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia (the City) is seeking vendors to provide dumpsters/roll-off containers on a rental basis, to include servicing the equipment on an “as needed” basis. Services will be procured both during the week and on weekends.

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

**January 20, 2023**

**1. Workplace Ergonomics Training and Consulting Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 23-0005**

**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government is requesting proposals for workplace ergonomics training and consulting services for the Risk Management Program. The successful firm shall assist with development of an ergonomics policy and provide training services on an-as needed basis.

The contract term will be for two years, with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal shall be contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

**2. Risk Management Information System – RFP No. 23-0006**

**Scope of RFP**

Columbus Consolidated Government is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide a Risk Management Information System (RMIS). The RMIS will communicate with the Workers Compensation and Accident Reporting systems currently in use to produce reports that will enable Risk Management Staff to work with other City Departments in an effort to reduce accidents and injuries.

**CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA**

**ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

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

Animal Control Advisory Board, October 31, 2022

Board of Tax Assessors, #37-22 and #38-22

Development Authority of Columbus, October 13, 2022

Housing Authority of Columbus, September 28, 2022

Councilor House made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

**2. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- READY FOR CONFIRMATION:**

**A. HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD:** Ms. Marjorie “Mollie” Smith was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Fred Greene as the Historic District Resident (*resigned*). (*Councilor House’s nominee*) Term expires: January 31, 2024. Councilor Davis made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Huff and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the vote.

**B. UPTOWN FACADE BOARD:** Ms. Libba Dillon was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Jud Richardson (*resigned*). (*Councilor Woodson’s nominee*) Term expires: October 31, 2024. Councilor Tucker made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

3. **COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS- VOTE TABULATION:**

A. **ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Patricia Montgomery (*Resigned*) for a term that expires on October 15, 2023, on the Animal Control Advisory Board (*Council's Appointment*). Previously Councilor Crabb nominated Alexander Caldwell and Mayor Pro Tem Allen nominated Stephen Waters for the seat of Patricia Montgomery. Councilor Crabb withdrew her nomination of Mr. Caldwell and made a motion to confirm the appointment of Stephen Waters, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the ten members of Council.

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

A. **BUILDING AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:**

A nominee for the seat of Vincent Allen (*Resigned*) for a term that expires on March 24, 2023, on the Building Authority of Columbus (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

B. **COLUMBUS AQUATICS COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of David Helmick (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2022, on the Columbus Aquatics Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Bruce Samuels (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term that expired on June 30, 2022, on the Columbus Aquatics Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for a vacant seat for a term that expired on June 30, 2022, on the Columbus Aquatics Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

C. **LAND BANK AUTHORITY:**

A nominee for the seat of Tyler Pritchard (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on October 31, 2022, on the Land Bank Authority (*Council's Appointment*). Councilor Davis nominated Lauren Chambers to succeed Tyler Pritchard on the Land Bank Authority.

D. **PERSONNEL REVIEW BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Shanita Pettaway (*Resigned*) as Alternate Member 5 for a term that expires on December 31, 2022, on the Personnel Review Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

E. **TREE BOARD:**

A nominee for the seat of Chris Henson (*Does not desire reappointment*) for a term that expired on July 1, 2022, as the Environmental Advocacy Representative, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.



A nominee for the seat of Troy Keller (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term that expired on December 31, 2020, as the Educator Representative, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Frank Tommey (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term that expired December 31, 2020, as the Residential Development Representative, on the Tree Board (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA (continued)**

4. Mr. John Scott, Re: The Columbus Police Department.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Thomas to adjourn the January 3, 2023, Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by the eight members present, with Councilors Huff and Tucker being absent for the vote, and the time being 1:22 p.m.

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