

# **COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA**

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING** **MINUTES**

Columbus Convention & Trade Center  
801 Front Avenue, South Hall  
Columbus, Georgia 31901

June 8, 2021  
5:30 PM  
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 and Councilors Charmaine Crabb, Glenn Davis (arrived at 5:39 p.m.), R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas, Toyia Tucker (arrived at 5:38 p.m.), and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson (arrived at 5:33 p.m.). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis, and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey G. McLemore were present.

**ABSENT:** Councilor Jerry "Pops" Barnes was absent.

**The following documents were distributed around the Council table:** (1) Public Works – Collection Update; (2) CCG Employment Shortage Update Presentation; (3) METRA Service Adjustment to Saturday's Schedule Presentation; (4) Cooper Creek Tennis Center Update Presentation; (5) Columbus Consolidated Government /Courts Center Presentation; (6) Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Back to Basics Presentation.

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

**INVOCATION:** Offered by Pastor Christopher Poirier at River Valley Church of Columbus, Georgia

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

### **MINUTES**

1. Approval of minutes for the May 25, 2021, Council Meeting and Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Davis and Tucker being absent for the vote, and Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

### **UPDATE:**

2. An update on COVID-19

### **PROCLAMATION:**

3. **PROCLAMATION:** Waste and Recycling Workers Week

**RECEIVING:** Matt Dolan (Landfill Manager), Kaitlyn Matteson (Asst. Landfill Manager), Carl Nunley (Recycling Manager), and Rhonda Rice (Waste Collection Manager)

**Mayor Pro Tem R. Gary Allen** read the proclamation into the record, proclaiming the week of June 14 to June 20, 2021, as *Waste and Recycling Workers Week*, recognizing the employees of Public Works.

**Waste Disposal Manager Matthew Dolan** approached the rostrum and acknowledged all the employees waste collection, waste disposal and collection. He explained next week is an opportunity to recognize the hard work and dedication for those employees who make sure the service is provided to the citizens of Columbus.

**Waste and Recycling Collection Manager Rhonda Rice** came forward to thank the Mayor and Council for their support. She also thanked the drivers, supervisors, and administration staff for their hard work.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** took the opportunity to thank all the employees of the Public Works Department. He explained how much he appreciates all they do to meet the needs of the citizens of Columbus, Georgia, especially during these difficult times.

**FUNDING REQUEST:**

5. Development Authority Funding Request

**Executive Vice President of Economic Brian Sillitto (Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce)** approached the rostrum to request the Columbus Consolidated Government allocate \$175,000 from the Economic Development Fund to help support the Development Authority of Columbus' robotics initiative. He explained the Development Authority will continue to focus on economic development, specifically on what they refer to as the "Robotics Demand Signal", to attract defense related companies to Columbus. He explained it is their hope to not only appeal to defense companies, but also in other sectors such as healthcare and manufacturing.

Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the request for \$175,000 from the Economic Development Fund to the Development Authority of Columbus to support their initiative to promote the Robotics Industry, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** came forward to state they would be amending the FY2022 Budget listed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading to reflect the amended amounts to the Economic Development Fund.

**President & CEO Jerald Mitchell (Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce)** came forward to thank the Mayor and Council for their support. He stated it is his intent to bring updates to Council regarding the strides being taken to promote economic growth in Columbus, Georgia.

## **PUBLIC HEARING:**

4. **TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS PUBLIC HEARING:** 6:00 p.m. The budget tentatively adopted by the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate. Therefore, before the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia Law requires that three public hearings be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on this increase.

*(NOTE: This public hearing, as introduced by Finance Director Angelica Alexander, was called upon later in the meeting at 6:00 p.m. during the City Attorney's Agenda.)*

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance (21-024) - 2nd Reading-** REZN-04-21-0697: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **641 Veterans Parkway** (parcel # 019-031-003) from GC (General Commercial) Zoning District to SFR4 (Single Family Residential 4) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Woodson) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.
2. **Ordinance (21-025) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance of the Columbus Council regarding the use of masks or face coverings in public during the COVID-19 public health emergency; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.
3. **Ordinance (21-026) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13 of the Columbus code so as to provide a \$1,000.00 minimum penalty for littering in Columbus, Georgia; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) *(as amended)* Councilor Woodson made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

In response to a question asked by Councilor Thomas, **Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson** explained the act of littering must either be witnessed by a law enforcement officer or if a citizen witnesses the act and is willing to testify in court.

4. **Ordinance (21-027) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance amending Chapter 3 of the Columbus Code pertaining to Alcoholic Beverages to recognize O.C.G.A. § 3-3-11 which allows on-premises licensees to sell sealed mix-drinks for carry out with food orders subject to certain restrictions; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem) Councilor Crabb made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

5. **Ordinance (21-028) - 2nd Reading-** An Ordinance creating a moratorium on the use of Shared Electronic Scooters on the public right-of ways within the confines of Columbus, Georgia, through 11:59 pm on September 6, 2021; and for other purposes. (Mayor Pro-Tem)

## **MAYOR'S AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

4. **TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS PUBLIC HEARING:** 6:00 p.m. The budget tentatively adopted by the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate. Therefore, before the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia Law requires that three public hearings be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on this increase.

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** approached the rostrum to introduce the second Taxpayer Bill of Rights Public Hearing, explaining the first hearing was held that morning at 9:00 a.m., and the third would be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. She explained the City of Columbus is not increasing the millage rate. She stated the City of Columbus collects the same amount in revenue each year by the Board of Tax Assessors assessing all taxable property in Muscogee County and the millage rate is then adjusted accordingly. (*NOTE: This public hearing was called up as the next order of business at 6:00 p.m. as listed on the Mayor's Agenda Item 5*)

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

6. **1st Reading** - REZN-03-21-0585: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **4322 Rosemont Drive** (parcel # 187-002-001) from SFR3 (Single Family Residential 3) Zoning District to RO (Residential Office) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Garrett) (*Continued on 1st Reading from 5-25-21*)

Councilor Garrett made a motion to amend the ordinance to include the following conditions: (1) A Type C buffer will be applied to all sides including street frontage (outside of ingress/egress), (2) Sidewalks shall be constructed by developer along Rosemont Drive and Acacia Drive in accordance with the Unified Development Ordinance, (3) Off-street parking to serve all units constructed shall be contained within the development in accordance with the UDO, (4) Developer shall work with city in trying to place main point of ingress/egress closest to intersection of Rosemont & Acacia Drive, (5) No units constructed shall exceed 2 stories, all units shall have entry doors facing exterior points of the building with no interior corridors or hallways, (6) Speed tables along both Acacia Drive and Chevin Lane will be constructed if approved by the Department of Engineering, (7) The intersection at Acacia Drive and Chevin Lane will be turned into a three-way stop subject to approval by the Department of Engineering, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**Mr. Marvin Smith** approached the rostrum to express his opposition to the proposed rezoning, stating he is concerned the apartment complex would increase the traffic in the neighborhood and make it unsafe for the residents around the property.

**Mr. Carson Cummings (Coldwell Banker Commercial)** came forward to represent the Muscogee County School District, who owns the property located at 4322 Rosemont Drive, in the sale of the property. He explained there was a meeting held last week, where it was the conditions stated by Councilor Garrett were for the most part agreed upon by the neighbors and the developers. He stated the developers did agree to move the entrance from Acacia Drive to Rosemont Drive.

**Mr. Victor King** approached the rostrum to express his opposition to the proposed rezoning, as a resident of Rosemont Subdivision for fifty-one years.

Councilor Crabb made a motion to allow Mr. Marvin Smith to speak an additional time during the public hearing, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**Mr. Marvin Smith** approached the rostrum for a second time to state there was no agreement to the terms stated at the end of the meeting last week with the residents and developers.

7. **1st Reading-** REZN-03-21-0588: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1372 Celia Drive** (parcel # 086-066-010) from SFR3 (Single Family Residential 3) Zoning District to SFR2 (Single Family Residential 2) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Barnes)

## **RESOLUTIONS**

17. **EXCP-03-21-0589:** A Resolution authorizing a special exception to allow a church to locate at 1372 Celia Drive with greater than 1.0 acre and less than 2.0 Acres in a SFR3 (Single Family Residential 3) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Barnes)

**Planning Manager Will Johnson** approached the rostrum to explain the special exception listed as Item # 17 on the City Attorney's Agenda, though advertised for this meeting, could not be approved until the rezoning has been approved on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. He stated this item would need to be delayed until such time, to which City Attorney Fay agreed.

8. **1st Reading-** REZN-04-21-0660: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **1500 12th Street** (parcel # 026-012-031A) from RMF2 (Residential Multifamily 2) Zoning District to RO (Residential Office) Zoning District with conditions. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Woodson)

**Mr. Reynolds Bickerstaff (Bickerstaff Parham Real Estate)** approached the rostrum to represent the property owner as his Real Estate Company manages the property located at 1500 12<sup>th</sup> Street. He explained there was a fire that damaged 20 of the units in 2020. He stated at some

point this property was rezoned to the current zoning and because of the current zoning, the owners of the property have not been able to obtain a repair permit.

**Mr. Steve Gumbly** came forward to express his opposition to the proposed rezoning, stating his property backs up to the apartments at 1500 12<sup>th</sup> Street. He explained the apartments share his private drive by way of an easement.

**Councilor Evelyn “Mimi” Woodson** stated she would visit the property since it is in her district. She stated she wants to make sure the residents in the area are comfortable with what will be put back on the property.

**9. 1st Reading-** REZN-04-21-0750: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Atlas of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia to change certain boundaries of a district located at **502 15th Street** (parcel # 017-029-002 & 017-029-001) from LMI (Light Manufacturing / Industrial) Zoning District to UPT (Uptown) Zoning District. (Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Woodson)

**Ms. Haley Lyman (The Cotton Companies)** approached the rostrum on behalf of the property owners to answer any questions regarding the planned dog park.

**10. 1st Reading and Public Hearing-** An Ordinance adopting an operating and capital improvement budget for the Fiscal Year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, for certain funds of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, and appropriating the amounts shown in each budget; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

**Finance Director Angelica Alexander** came forward to introduce the ordinance for the FY2022 operating and capital improvement budget. She explained the new proposed Operating Budget total amount is \$296,552,993.00 as amended according to the vote of Council to allocate 2,609,053 to the Economic Development Authority Fund. With the conclusion of the Add/Delete process, we have estimated 60 days for FY2022 in the General Fund; the Other Local Option Sales Tax Fund is 38.43 for a total reserve balance of 98.43 days or approximately \$53 million.

**Councilor Glenn Davis** expressed his concerns regarding the delay in waste collection and the numerous complaints that have been expressed by the citizens. He stated it is his intent to request an ordinance that would amend the budget to compensate the citizens for the services they have paid for but have not received as expected.

**REFERRAL(S):**

**FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- Request to allow citizens to take household and yard waste to the landfill at no charge until the issue has been resolved. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)
- Request for citizens who have been required to pay for waste disposal at the landfills to be reimbursed. (*Request of Councilor Davis*)

## **WASTE COLLECTION PLAN:**

Councilor Thomas made a motion for the City Manager to provide the Council with a plan to address the issues faced by citizens regarding waste collection no later than June 22, 2021, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Allen and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**Councilor Judy W. Thomas** stated she has been associated with the Columbus Consolidated Government since 2006, and she has never had as much contact with citizens over issues like she has regarding waste collection.

**Councilor Evelyn “Mimi” Woodson** expressed her concern in putting such a short timeline on the staff to come up with a plan, especially if they are to include the Columbus Water Works.

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** acknowledged that the city is behind in the collection of yard waste. He called forward the presentation listed on his agenda giving an update on waste collection. Before he called Director Criddle forward, he commended the Public Works Director and staff for the phenomenal job they have done regardless of the circumstances they have dealt with.

## **CITY MANAGER’S AGENDA**

### **3. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

D. Waste Collection Update - Mike Criddle, Public Works Director

**Public Works Mike Criddle** approached the rostrum to give an update on waste collection. He explained the many challenges the Public Works Department has faced due to the pandemic, and issues faced every day as it pertains to the inmate work program. (*NOTE: This update was called up as the next order of business as listed on the City Manager’s Agenda Item 3 “D”*)

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** reiterated the difficulty faced by the employees driving waste collection trucks and stated he has authorized that those employees who come in on their off days to help get caught up will receive overtime pay of one and a half as well as an additional \$175.00 incentive pay.

In response to Councilor Woodson regarding the funding source of the \$1.7 million to cover the cost of the solid waste collection one-year contract, **Finance Director Angelica Alexander** explained that the closure and post closure costs for the landfills are approximately \$13.5 million with there being \$10.9 million on hand as of today, which means we are short by \$2.6 million, which does not include costs for operation. The \$1.7 million is coming from the \$10.9 million.

## **REFERRAL(S):**

### **FOR THE CITY MANAGER:**

- While constructing a plan to solve the waste collection issue, see if the funds that are being allocated for the demolition of blight properties would not be better used now to help with the infrastructure issues in Public Works. (*Request of Councilor Crabb*)

**City Manager Isaiah Hugley** emphasized the need to stay the course as it relates to demolitions. He explained that the city has received a deposit of \$20 million from ARP (American Rescue Plan) and should be receiving another \$20 million with the Council deciding how to spend the ARP funds, which could be for the purchase of trucks for Public Works.

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

### **RESOLUTIONS**

- 18. Resolution (164-21) - EXCP-04-21-0663:** A Resolution authorizing a Special Exception to allow a church with day care, Type III in a RMF1 (Residential Multifamily 1) Zoning District located at 1342 17th Street.(Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Woodson) Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA (continued) – First Reading Ordinances**

- 11. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance adopting non-operating budgets for the fiscal year 2022 beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, for certain funds of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, and appropriating the amounts shown in each budget. (Budget Review Committee)
- 12. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance providing for contributions to the Columbus, Georgia General Government Employees' Pension Plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. (Budget Review Committee)
- 13. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance providing for the governmental contributions to the Columbus, Georgia Pension Plan for employees of the Department of Public Safety for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. (Budget Review Committee)
- 14. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance providing for Government funding of a Major Disability Income Plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022..(Budget Review Committee)
- 15. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance providing for Government funding of a Death Benefit Escrow for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. (Budget Review Committee)
- 16. 1st Reading-** An Ordinance amending Article VII of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code Solid Waste Collection and Disposal by updating the guidelines for an offset to the residential rate for low-income households; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)



## **RESOLUTIONS**

- 17. EXCP-03-21-0589:** A Resolution authorizing a special exception to allow a church to locate at 1372 Celia Drive with greater than 1.0 acre and less than 2.0 Acres in a SFR3 (Single Family Residential 3) Zoning District.(Planning Department and PAC recommend approval) (Councilor Barnes)

**City Attorney Clifton Fay** recalled that earlier in the meeting, it was determined that this resolution would be delayed until the second reading of the accompanying ordinance and would be listed for the June 22, 2021 Meeting.

## **CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

### **1. Street Acceptance – That Portion of Shagbark Lane located in Section Four, Hickory Grove**

**Resolution (165-21):** A resolution of the Council of Columbus, Georgia authorizing the acceptance of a deed to that portion of Shagbark Lane, located in Section Four, Hickory Grove on behalf of Columbus, Georgia. 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 Barnes being absent for the meeting.

### **2. PURCHASES**

#### **A. Utility Service Barge – PQ No. 21-0007**

**Resolution (166-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) Utility Service Barge from Elastec, Inc. (Carmi, IL) in the amount of \$27,800.00. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

#### **B. Mowers for Parks and Recreation – Cooperative Contract**

**Resolution (167-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of nine (9) mowers (John Deere Z915E ZTRAK) at a unit price of \$7,204.37, and a total price of \$64,839.33, from Deere & Company (Cary, NC), by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #062117-DAC. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

#### **C. Utility Carts for Parks and Recreation – Cooperative Contract**

**Resolution (168-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of five (5) Utility Carts (John Deere Gator TX) at a unit price of \$7,174.18, and a total price of \$35,870.90, from Deere & Company (Cary, NC) by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #062117-DAC. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

D. Utility Tractors for Parks and Recreation – Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (169-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of three (3) Utility Tractors (John Deere 5045E Utility Tractors) at a unit price of \$26,407.81, and a total price of \$79,223.43, from Deere & Company (Cary, NC), by Cooperative Purchase via Sourcewell Contract #110719-JDC. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

E. Mobile Technology System for Waste Collection Vehicles – RFP No. 21-0015

**Resolution (170-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of a Mobile Technology System for Waste Collection Vehicles from Gofleet Corporation (Mississauga, Ontario, Canada). The recommended vendor's cost proposal is within budget. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

F. Ford Explorer for Parks and Recreation – Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (171-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2021 Ford Explorer, for the Parks and Recreation Department, from Allan Vigil Ford (Morrow, GA), in the amount of \$30,571.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199373-002. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

G. Ford Explorer for Public Works – Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (172-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2021 Ford Explorer, for the Public Works Department, from Allan Vigil Ford (Morrow, GA), in the amount of \$31,501.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199373-002. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

H. Loader/Landscaper Series Backhoe for Public Works – Cooperative Contract

**Resolution (173-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of one (1) Loader/Landscaper Series Backhoe (L47TLB), for the Public Works Department, from Beshears Tractor and Equipment (Opelika, AL), in the amount of \$47,038.25. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199373-002. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

I. Inmate Supplies (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 21-0021

**Resolution (174-21):** A resolution authorizing the annual contract for the purchase of Inmate Supplies from Bob Barker Company, Inc. (Fuquary Varina, NC), Charm-Tex, Inc. (Brooklyn, NY) and Victory Supply, LLC (Mount Pleasant, TN) for the estimated annual contract value of

\$245,952.55. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

J. Network Rewiring Supplies for the Public Safety Building – Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (175-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of Network Rewiring Supplies from CPAK Technology Solutions (LaGrange, GA) in the amount of \$57,099.00, by Cooperative Purchasing, via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-T20120501-0006. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

K. Netapp Drives for Netapp Storage Network – Cooperative Purchase

**Resolution (176-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of Netapp Drives from CPAK Technology Solutions (LaGrange, GA) in the amount of \$52,800.00, by Cooperative Purchasing, via GSA Federal Contract #GS-35F-0511T. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

L. Tasers and Associated Accessories for the Sheriff's Office

**Resolution (177-21):** A resolution authorizing the purchase of Tasers and associated accessories from Axon Enterprises, Inc. (Phoenix, AZ) in the amount of \$52,623.19. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**EMERGENCY PURCHASES**

1. Emergency Purchases – Information Only

**1) FORD F150 CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK**

On May 25, 2021, the City Manager approved the emergency purchase of a Ford F150 Crew Cab Pickup Truck from Allan Vigil Ford (Morrow, GA), in the amount of \$30,863.00 by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199373-002.

The vehicle will be used to assist the Public Works Waste Collection Division staff in the distribution of the new recycling bins.

Currently, the Waste Collection Division is using vehicles out of the salvage yard to deliver recycling bins to citizens. Using these salvaged vehicles is part of the ongoing effort to keep up with the community demand for recycling bins. The vehicles being used are vehicles that have met the replacement criteria for the City and were salvaged due to the immediate condition and the cost to repair. This leads to a greater liability for breakdown which could cause an accident. Due to the urgency of meeting the demand of our community, these vehicles have been repaired in order to provide Solid Waste with transportation.

Allan Vigil Ford also informed the Fleet Division that the deadline to order these vehicles was Friday, May 28, 2021, meaning none would be available until after January of 2022.

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## **2. FORD F150 CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCKS**

On May 27, 2021, the City Manager approved the emergency purchase of two (2) Ford F150 Crew Cab Pickup Trucks from Allan Vigil Ford; one for Public Works in the amount of \$30,863.00, and one for Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$31,810.00, for a grand total amount of \$62,673.00. The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Georgia Statewide Contract #99999-SPD-ES40199373-002.

One vehicle is for the Public Works Department which will be used by staff of the Facilities Maintenance Division, and the second vehicle is for the Parks and Recreation Department and will be used by staff of the Athletic Division. Both of these vehicles will be used in the day-to-day operations of these departments and will prevent the sharing of vehicles.

Allan Vigil Ford has also informed the Fleet Division that the deadline to order these vehicles was Friday, May 28, 2021, meaning none would be available until after January of 2022.

Funds are budgeted in the FY21 Budget:

Public Works - General Fund – Public Works – Facilities Maintenance – Light Trucks; 0101-260-2700-MNTN-7722.

Parks and Recreation - General Fund – Parks and Recreation – Athletics – Light Trucks; 0101-270-3410-ATHL-7722.

## **3. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Employment Shortage Update - Reather Hollowell, Human Resources Director

**Human Resources Director Reather Hollowell** approached the rostrum to give a presentation on the employment shortage various CCG (Columbus Consolidated Government) Departments are currently experiencing. She explained this is an issue being experienced worldwide, and many states are discontinuing the extra compensation for those individuals on unemployment. She stated there are many factors that contribute to the shortage in employment to include health reasons, lack of childcare, and being responsible for the care of loved ones. She explained there are approximately 500 positions currently vacant in CCG, and they are holding a hiring event on June 11, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Columbus Civic Center.

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

#### **FOR THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR:**

- Provide QR code to the members of Council to share on their social media pages and include the hiring event details on CCG-TV. *(Request of Councilor Woodson)*
- Provide QR code on CCG-TV. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*
- Provide QR code on CCG homepage. *(Request of Councilor Crabb)*

B. METRA Transit Update - Rosa Evans, METRA Director

**METRA Director Rosa Evans** came forward to give an update on the employee shortage being experienced by the METRA Transit Department and the METRA service adjustments to Saturday's schedule. She explained the schedule adjust going from 18 buses to 15 buses is due to a reduction in ridership and the severe shortage of CDL (Commercial Driver's License) Bus Operators due to COVID-19.

- C. Parks and Recreation Update/Cooper Creek Park - Holli Browder, Parks and Recreation Director

**Parks & Recreation Director Holli Browder** approached the rostrum to give an update on the employment shortage at the Cooper Creek Tennis Center. She explained they are currently short one full-time employee and four part-time employees, so they are reducing their hours from eighty-six hours to seventy-six. She stated they are also experiencing employment shortages in all the division within the department.

- D. Waste Collection Update - Mike Criddle, Public Works Director

*(NOTE: This update, as provided by Public Works Director Mike Criddle, was called upon earlier in the meeting during the City Attorney's Agenda.)*

- E. Government Center Options - Doug Kleppin, Principal Architect, S/L/A/M Collaborative

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** approached the rostrum to introduce the presentation on the options that have been discussed regarding the Government Center and potential funding from the SPLOST to be voted on by the citizens in November 2021. She explained there have been many meetings held with department directors and newly elected officials to assess their current and future needs.

**Principal Architect Doug Kleppin (S/L/A/M Collaborative)** came forward and provided information on the various options that have been established as potential solutions to the issues regarding space and condition of the Government Center. He explained after the assessment of needs, it was established the need of the Columbus Consolidated Government is 466,738 sq ft. for what is considered best practice.

**Principal Architect Doug Kleppin** concluded by recommending Option 3(A), which is a new courthouse to remain on the current site, a new Sheriff Administration and the Government Center facility in a renovated building.

- F. Proposed SPLOST Project Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager

**Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge** came forward to give a presentation on the 2021 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) that will be listed on the ballot for the November 2021 Special Election. She went over the proposed list of projects, as well as, improvements and renovations to many of the facilities of CCG if the SPLOST is passed. She explained there are three public meetings scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for public comment.

## **BID ADVERTISEMENT**

**June 18, 2021**

- 1. Anchor Tenants for Concession & Retail Services/Columbus Civic Center (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 21-0007**

Scope of RFP

The Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia (the City) invites qualified offerors to submit proposals for anchor tenants for concession and retail services at the Columbus Civic Center.

**CLERK OF COUNCIL'S AGENDA**

**ENCLOSURES - ACTION REQUESTED**

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

Board of Elections & Registration, May 6, 2021

Board of Tax Assessors, #17-21

Columbus Board of Health, April 28, 2021

Housing Authority of Columbus, April 21, 2021

Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission, June 3, 2021

Personnel Review Board, May 19, 2021

Uptown Facade Board, February 15, 2021

Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to receive the minutes of various boards, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**ADD-ON RESOLUTION:**

**Resolution (178-21):** A Resolution excusing Councilor Jerry "Pops" Barnes from the June 8, 2021 Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS - ACTION REQUESTED**

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

A. **CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

A nominee for the seat of Marianne Richter (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on December 31, 2021, as a representative of the Restaurant/Retail Industry on the Convention & Visitors Bureau Board of Commissioners (*Mayor's Appointment*). There were none.

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

A nominee for the seat of Deputy Chief Mike Higgins (*Does not desire reappointment*) as the Public Safety Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Pension Fund, Employees' Board of Trustees (*Mayor's Appointment*). Mayor Henderson nominated Rob Graham to succeed Deputy Chief Mike Higgins. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

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

**A. BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS:** Mr. Wes Kelley was nominated to succeed Mr. Reynolds Bickerstaff. (*Councilor Thomas' nominee*) Term expires: December 31, 2025. Councilor Woodson made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Crabb and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**B. BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:** Mr. Shaun Roberts was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Charles Smith. (*Councilor Davis' nominee*) Term expires: March 31, 2022. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**C. COLUMBUS AQUATICS COMMISSION:** Mr. Chris Kennedy was nominated to succeed Mr. Brian Abeyta. (*Mayor Pro Tem Allen's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2023. Councilor Woodson made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**D. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:** Ms. Alyssa Williams was nominated to succeed Ms. Cortney Laughlin (**At-Large Member**). (*Councilor Tucker's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2023. Councilor Woodson made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

**E. REGION 6- REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:** Ms. Marianne Young was nominated to serve another term of office. (*Councilor Crabb's nominee*) Term expires: June 30, 2024. Councilor Tucker made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

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

**A. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Laurie Smithson (*Interested in serving another term*) as the District 2 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 2- Davis*). Councilor Davis renominated Laurie Smithson to serve another term. Mayor Pro Tem Allen made a motion for confirmation, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting.

A nominee for the seat of Sheila Mitchell (*Not eligible to succeed*) as the District 3 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 3- Huff*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Patricia Thomas (*Not eligible to succeed*) as the District 4 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 4- Tucker*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Warren Wagner (*Resigned*) as the District 5 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 5- Crabb*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Susan Gallagher (*Does not desire reappointment*) as the District 7 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 7-Woodson*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Mark McCollum (*Not eligible to succeed*) as the District 8 Representative for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council District 8- Garrett*). There were none.

#### **B. PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of Friar Noel Danielewicz (*Seat Declared Vacant*) as the District 3 Representative for a term expiring on October 31, 2022, on the Public Safety Advisory Commission (*Council District 3- Huff*). There were none.

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

##### **A. BOARD OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES:**

A nominee for the seat of Dr. Deepali Agarwal (*Not eligible to succeed*) for a term that expires on June 30, 2021, on the Board of Family and Children Services (*Council's Appointment*). There were none. Clerk of Council Davis explained there are specific categories that members of this board must fall under to serve.



**B. KEEP COLUMBUS BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION:**

A nominee for the seat of David Goldberg (*Moving out of the county*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021 on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Arsburn "Oz" Roberts (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Dr. William Kendall (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Fran Fluker (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Orlean Baulkmon (*Not Eligible to succeed*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

A nominee for the seat of Larry Derby (*Did not desire reappointment*) as an At-Large Member for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Keep Columbus Beautiful Commission (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**C. REGION 6- REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:**

A nominee for the seat of Beverly Garland (*Not Eligible to succeed*) for a term expiring on June 30, 2021, on the Region 6- Regional Advisory Council for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (*Council's Appointment*). There were none.

**D. TREE BOARD:**

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

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

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Crabb to adjourn the June 8, 2021 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilor Tucker and carried unanimously by the nine members present, with Councilor Barnes being absent for the meeting, and the time being 9:49 p.m.

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