



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbia City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at City Hall (Council Chambers), 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. and the following members were present: The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Will Brennan, Mayor Pro-Tempore, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, The Honorable Peter M. Brown, The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, and The Honorable Samuel P. Johnson. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC INPUT

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. –
Approved

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Johnson, Council voted unanimously to approve the January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 2 THROUGH 7

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brown, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 2 through 7**.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

2. Council is asked to approve a new Contract for the Daily Fire Operations Management System, as requested by the Columbia Fire Department on December 4, 2025. Award to Carahsoft Technology Corporation, using the OMNIA Software Solutions and Services Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$82,494.78. The term of the contract is January 21, 2026 to December 21, 2026. This vendor is located in Reston, VA. – *Approved*

Funding Source: City of Columbia Fire Suppression - Software License (1012303-627510) \$41,247.39 and Richland County Fire Administration - Software License (2082301-627510) \$41,247.39. The original budget amount is \$82,494.78.

3. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #1 to provide additional funding for Fleet In-Car Camera Systems, Tasers, Virtual Reality Training, and Subscription Services, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on January 5, 2026. Award to Axon Enterprise, Inc., using the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$308,430.39. The term of this contract ends on January 31, 2026. This vendor is located in Scottsdale, AZ. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Police Administrative Services - Cloud Based Software Solutions (1012402-632170). The current budget amount is \$308,430.39.

4. Council is asked to approve a new Construction Contract for SS762301; Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Dewatering Roll-Off Receiving Station, as requested by Columbia Water on December 18, 2025. Award to Hammer Construction, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$1,623,292.00, which includes contingency. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with an end date two hundred ten (210) days from commencement. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Dewatering Roll-Off Receiving Station - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS762301-658650). The original budget amount is \$1,623,292.00.

Hammer Construction, LLC, is the prime contractor and will provide construction renovation services at 42.27% (\$623,720.00) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractors will provide additional services and materials:

CarterCon of South Carolina, LLC, located in Blythewood, SC, will provide concrete installation services at 52.52% (\$775,000.00) of the total contract amount.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Electrical Services, Inc., located in Irmo, SC, will provide electrical services at 3.39% (\$50,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Hayes Aluminum, LLC, located in Chapin, SC, will provide handrails at 1.01% (\$15,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Watts and Associates Waterproofing, LLC, located in Columbia, SC, will provide waterproofing services at 0.81% (\$12,000.00) of the total contract amount.

5. Ordinance No.: 2026-001 - Granting an encroachment to Columbia-Garners Ferry DB, LLC, for the use of the right of way areas of the 6900 block of Garners Ferry Road, the 100 block of Old Veterans Road and the 100 block of Veterans Road for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks adjacent to 7001 Garners Ferry Road, Richland County TMS# 16406-01-01 – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on January 6, 2026.

6. Ordinance No.: 2026-002 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Consent Decree Modification in the matter of The United States of America and State of South Carolina by and through the Department of Health and Environmental Control v. The City of Columbia to resolve alleged violations of the Federal Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq., the South Carolina Pollution Control Act ("PCA"), S.C. Code Ann. §§ 48-1-10 et seq., and the terms and conditions of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit authorizing discharge of treated wastewater from its Waste Water Treatment Plant located at 1200 Simon Tree Lane ("NPDES Permit") – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on January 6, 2026.

7. Ordinance No.: 2026-003 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Estoppel Certificate and Agreement between the City of Columbia and Core Columbia Hampton, LLC – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on January 6, 2026.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING & FIRST READING FOR ZONING / PLANNING MATTERS

Council opened the public hearing at 4:19 p.m.

8. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for SW/S Holloway Road, TMS# 19201-01-04 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2025-084 - Annexing SW/S Holloway Road, Richland County TMS # 19201-01-04 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on first reading.

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign the land use classification of Urban Edge Residential Small Lot (UER-1) and assign zoning of Residential Single Family – Small Lot District (RSF-3) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density) and zoned Residential 2 (R2) by Richland County.

Council District: 4

Applicant: Alexander Forbes Patterson, Trustee and Toma T. Patterson, Trustee

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 09/11/2025; Recommended approval (7-0)

City Council held a Public Hearing on October 21, 2025 and this item was deferred.

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Johnson, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Annexation, Future Land Use Map Amendment, and Zoning Map Amendment for SW/S Holloway Road, TMS# 19201-01-04 **and** Ordinance No.: 2025-084 - Annexing SW/S Holloway Road, Richland County TMS # 19201-01-04 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map.

9. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 4316 and 4340 Old Leesburg Road, TMS# 22113-01-02 – *Approved on first reading.*



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Ordinance No.: 2026-004 - Annexing 4316 and 4340 Old Leesburg Road, Richland County TMS # 22113-01-02 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 4

Proposal: Request to annex, assign a land use classification of Urban Edge Residential Small Lot (UER-1) and the assignment of zoning of Residential Single Family - Small Lot District (RSF-3) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density) and zoned Residential 4 (R4) by Richland County.

Applicant: Vandy and Barbara Waller / Canary Woods, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 12/11/2025; Recommended Approval (7-0)

Mayor Rickenmann asked about the change in zoning.

Mr. Andrew Livengood, Zoning Administrator / Planning & Development Services explained that it wouldn't be a change. It is equivalent zoning of the surrounding county.

Ms. Mary Lynn Bare, 4307 Old Leesburg Road expressed concerns about the proposed Canary Woods development on family land. There is an undocumented cemetery with sunken graves and a live-fed pond on the property. She clarified that while Brown's Chapel Cemetery is a separate, deeded parcel owned by the United Methodist Church and would only border the development, there is an additional cemetery located on the parcel that was identified during a recent survey. She noted the land had been clear-cut in the past without studies and urged the city to require further environmental and historical review before proceeding with annexation and development.

Mayor Rickenmann asked about ownership of the property.

Ms. Mary Lynn Bare, 4307 Old Leesburg Road said that she is not the owner of the property. However, she is the granddaughter of the former owner and a cousin of the individual who sold the property.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Mr. Gerald Waller, 4308 Old Leesburg Road spoke in opposition to the Canary Woods development, explaining that the land was formerly owned by his family and that he and his relatives have lived on the adjacent property for decades. He expressed concern that the development would place hundreds of homes extremely close to his residence. He said the developer previously provided a tree preserve buffer on another phase and he requested similar buffers on the south and east sides of the property to protect his home and quality of life.

Councilor McDowell asked how much of the land belongs to the cemetery and if there are headstones.

Mr. Gerald Waller, 4308 Old Leesburg Road said that two acres belongs to the Brown's Chapel Cemetery and that .7 acres belongs to the unknown cemetery. There are headstones.

Ms. Mary Lynn Bare, 4307 Old Leesburg Road also shared that Brown's Chapel Cemetery is established.

Councilor Herbert asked if there was developer knowledge of the cemetery. She shared that through the South Carolina Department of Public Health, there is proper procedure for the removal of bodies. Is the concern that you don't want the bodies moved?

Ms. Mary Lynn Bare, 4307 Old Leesburg Road said I would like for them not to be moved just for the sake of a housing development.

Councilor McDowell said perhaps the headstones could be moved or taken up and the houses can be built on top of the cemetery.

Councilor Herbert said that there are several steps that applicants have to go through if they are developing land, including notifying certain people.

Mr. Hank Mabry, Canary Woods representative clarified that there was some miscommunication regarding the cemeteries, stating that while two cemeteries exist in the broader area, only one is located on the subject parcel. He noted that both marked and unmarked graves identified by the surveyor will be protected and that no homes will be constructed over them. He added that the developer previously completed Canary Woods phases three and four nearby and will submit development plans for this project in compliance with Planning Commission requirements and applicable regulations.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Mayor Rickenmann asked if there can be a provision for a buffer, as was done in the past.

Mr. Hank Mabry, Canary Woods representative agreed that a buffer can be provided.

Councilor Brown asked about the zoning plans for the newest development.

Mr. Hank Mabry, Canary Woods representative said that it will be high density residential, similar to what's next door.

Mr. Andrew Livengood, Zoning Administrator / Planning & Development Services reminded City Council that the Planning Commission will still do a subdivision review of the project and the concerns highlighted today will be brought to the commission's attention.

Mayor Rickenmann requested that the parties meet, a buffer is provided between properties and a plan is created for the cemetery happen before second reading.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Annexation, Future Land Use Map Amendment, and Zoning Map Amendment for 4316 and 4340 Old Leesburg Road, TMS# 22113-01-02 **and** Ordinance No.: 2026-004 - Annexing 4316 and 4340 Old Leesburg Road, Richland County TMS # 22113-01-02 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map.

10. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 3329 River Drive, TMS# 09107-11-08 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2026-006 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 3329 River Drive, Richland County TMS # 09107-11-08 – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 1

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Residential Mixed District (RM-2) in a Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP - Earlewood Protection Area A) to Mixed Use District (MU-1) in a Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP - Earlewood Protection Area A).

Applicant: Lasenta Lewis-Ellis, 3329 River Drive, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

PC Recommendation: 12/11/2025; Recommended Approval (7-0)

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Zoning Map Amendment for 3329 River Drive, TMS# 09107-11-08 **and** Ordinance No.: 2026-006 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 3329 River Drive, Richland County TMS # 09107-11-08.

11. ZONING MAP AND TEXT AMENDMENT for 4120 N Main Street, TMS# R09214-14-08 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2026-005 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 4120 N Main Street, Richland County TMS # R09214-14-08 – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 1

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Community Activity Center/Corridor (CAC), North Main Corridor Design Overlay District (OV-NMC) to Community Activity Center/Corridor (CAC), North Main Corridor Design Overlay District (OV-NMC), Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP, Individual Landmark, Type 3) and amend the Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 17, Appendix C: Type 3 Landmarks to establish the property as a City of Columbia Landmark.

Applicant: Claudia Donnelley, Old House Properties, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 12/11/2025; Recommended Approval (7-0)

D/DRC Recommendation: 12/18/2025; Recommended Approval (6-0)

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Zoning Map and Text Amendment for 4120 N Main Street, TMS# R09214-14-08 **and** Ordinance No.: 2026-005 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 4120 N Main Street, Richland County TMS # R09214-14-08.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Council closed the public hearing at 4:44 p.m.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

12. Ordinance No.: 2026-007 - Granting an encroachment to Larry Rowe for the use of the right of way area of the 3200 block of Amherst Avenue for the installation and maintenance of brick pavers, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 3208 Amherst Avenue, Richland County TMS# 13804-14-02 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2026-007 - Granting an encroachment to Larry Rowe for the use of the right of way area of the 3200 block of Amherst Avenue for the installation and maintenance of brick pavers, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 3208 Amherst Avenue, Richland County TMS# 13804-14-02.

RESOLUTIONS

13. Resolution No.: R-2026-012 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Lease Agreement between the City of Columbia and Oliver Gospel Mission - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2026-012 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Lease Agreement between the City of Columbia and Oliver Gospel Mission.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

14. Mayor Pro-Tempore

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Tina N. Herbert as Mayor Pro-Tempore.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

15. City Council Standing Committees

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of members to the following City Council Standing Committees.

Administrative Policy Committee

This committee reviews matters related to City of Columbia policies and procedures to include boards and commissions, honorary naming of buildings, facilities, and sites, Municipal Court, and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Ed McDowell, Chair
The Honorable Peter Brown
The Honorable Sam Johnson

Staff Liaison: Chanique Belton, Legislative
Liaison to City Council

Arts, Historic Preservation & Philanthropy Committee

This committee reviews matters related to cultural and performing arts, historic preservation, philanthropic endeavors / donations in support of city sponsored events, public art placement projects, and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Tyler Bailey, Chair
The Honorable Ed McDowell
The Honorable Tina Herbert

Staff Liaison: Henry Simons, Assistant City
Manager for Operations

Community Development Committee

This committee reviews matters related to community development, federal funding opportunities and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Tina Herbert, Chair
The Honorable Will Brennan
The Honorable Sam Johnson

Staff Liaison: Missy Caughman, Assistant
City Manager for Strategic Initiatives &
Innovation



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee

This committee reviews matters related to economic development, infrastructure development and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Peter Brown, Chair
The Honorable Will Brennan
The Honorable Tyler Bailey

Staff Liaison: Jeff Palen, Assistant City
Manager for Development & Finance / Chief
Financial Officer

Health, Social and Environmental Affairs Committee

This committee reviews matters related to quality-of-life issues to include homelessness, community partnerships, health initiatives, environmental and sustainability initiatives, beautification, and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Sam Johnson, Chair
The Honorable Ed McDowell
The Honorable Tyler Bailey

Staff Liaison: Clint Shealy, Assistant City
Manager for Columbia Water

Public Safety Committee

This committee reviews matters related to public safety and the use of smart technology, emergency preparedness, neighborhood safety, animal services, code inspection, and other matters related thereto.

The Honorable Will Brennan, Chair
The Honorable Tina Herbert
The Honorable Peter Brown

Staff Liaison: Teresa Wilson, City Manager

16. City Council Special Committees, Task Forces, and Commissions

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Johnson, Council voted unanimously to approve appointments to the following City Council Special Committees and to dissolve the Columbia-Fort Jackson Joint Committee on Cooperation.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Affordable Housing Task Force: On February 15, 2022, Columbia City Council appointed the Honorable Tina N. Herbert as chair to lead the Affordable Housing Task Force through the submission of a report and recommendations to City Council.

The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, Chair
The Honorable Peter M. Brown, Co-Chair

Liaison: Teresa Wilson, City Manager

Bull Street Commission: On July 9, 2013, Columbia City Council voted unanimously to approve the creation of the Bull Street Commission to be comprised of seven (7) members serving in an advisory role to the city in advancing the vision and the goals articulated by this Council in achieving quality development on Bull Street, including funding issues, benchmarks and development activities. The commission will be chaired by a member of City Council and comprised of six (6) other representatives from the following categories: the business community including a minority business owner, the Coalition of Downtown Neighborhoods and the historic preservation community. All appointments will be approved by City Council and appointees will be duly sworn to advise the city and the developer in the discharge of their respective responsibilities. The Bull Street Commission is asked to meet at least every other month and report to Council at least twice a year.

Chair: The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey

Liaison: Jeff Palen, Assistant City Manager
for Development & Finance / Chief Financial
Officer

Columbia Town & Gown Committee: The Columbia Town and Gown Committee serves as a collaborative forum fostering positive relations and partnerships between the City of Columbia and its academic institutions. The committee will focus on addressing shared challenges and promoting mutual interests. By facilitating open communication and cooperation, the committee aims to enhance the overall well-being of both the academic community, students, and the broader city, thereby fostering a thriving and harmonious relationship between the Town and Gown.

The Columbia Town and Gown Committee will consist of 21 representatives from the community's colleges and universities, neighborhoods, city government, and other related community sectors. There will be 15 voting members. City of Columbia staff will be ex officio, non-voting members. All community representative appointments will be approved by City Council. Committee composition includes: seven college and university representatives (President or their designee):



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Allen University • Benedict College • Columbia College • Columbia International University • Lenoir-Rhyne University • Midlands Technical College • University of South Carolina; five City of Columbia ex-officio representatives: Columbia Police Department • Planning and Development Services • Code Enforcement • Parking Services • Mayor's Office; four neighborhood representatives (open application and Council appointed); one transportation representative (appointed by COMET); one hospitality sector representative (open application and Council appointed); one Collegiate Engagement Council representative (appointed by Mayor); and two co-chairs: Mayor, City of Columbia • Representative from University of South Carolina.

The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann

Liaison: Justin Steinmann, Planning and Development Services Director

Council Legislative Committee: On February 15, 2022, Columbia City Council voted unanimously to create the Council Legislative Committee, which will consist of the mayor and two council members. This committee will work together on proposals and policies for the Statehouse, be the liaisons for legislative committee meetings and hearings and act as ambassadors from the city to state government. This committee will meet on an ongoing basis.

The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor
The Honorable William Brennan
The Honorable Sam Johnson

Liaison: Payton Lang, Program & Policy Advisor to the Mayor

Fire Services Advisory Committee: The Fire Advisory Committee (FAC) was established to maintain an open line of communication between the City and Richland County. It will consist of the following members: Richland County Council will select two Richland County Council Members, who represents primarily unincorporated areas of Richland County; Columbia will select two Columbia City Council Members; County Administrator or a representative; City Manager or a representative; Richland County Emergency Services Director; and the Columbia Fire Chief. Both parties can appoint one additional member each.

The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann
The Honorable Will Brennan
The Honorable Tyler Bailey
City Manager Teresa Wilson

Liaison: Aubrey Jenkins, Fire Chief



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

Homeless Services Ad Hoc Committee: On December 17, 2024, Columbia City Council voted unanimously to form the Homeless Services Ad Hoc Committee. The committee's primary focus is to enhance homeless services within the city by addressing current challenges, identifying opportunities for improvement, and supporting sustainable solutions to include funding. A key goal of the committee is to strengthen the city's collaboration with the Continuum of Care network and align resources to better serve Columbia's homeless population. The committee consists of three City of Columbia councilmembers.

The Honorable William Brennan, Chair
The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey
The Honorable Tina N. Herbert

Liaison: Kameisha Heppard,
Homeless Services Director

Municipal Court Advisory Committee: The Municipal Court Advisory Committee is established to provide guidance in matters pertaining to the municipal judiciary. Its primary responsibilities include evaluating candidates for appointment as municipal judges and making recommendations to the City Council regarding such appointments and in adherence to the highest professional standards. The committee will consist of three Columbia City Council members.

The Honorable Tina N. Herbert
The Honorable Tyler Bailey
The Honorable Sam Johnson

Liaison: Tiniece P. Javis, Ed.D., Human
Resources Director

Richland County-City of Columbia Committee: On February 15, 2022, Columbia City Council voted unanimously to create the Richland County-City of Columbia Committee. The aim of this committee is to increase the working relationships between the two governments. The committee will consist of three City of Columbia councilmembers and three Richland County councilmembers. This committee will meet on a quarterly basis.

The Honorable William Brennan
The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey
The Honorable Sam Johnson

Liaison: Teresa Wilson, City Manager



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS

Upon a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to refer a program to the Health, Social, and Environmental Affairs Committee that would facilitate litter cleanup & beautification through a youth employment opportunity and empower/leverage our neighborhoods to clean up our interior arteries. The City of Columbia will explore litter and beautification of our major thoroughfares through entities we already contract with by inserting that effort into the scope of work.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Christy Fossum, 2917 Blossom Street expressed concern about the lack of long-distance bus service departing from Columbia since February, noting that residents must now travel to Camden to access intercity buses. She described this as a significant hardship for low-income residents who rely on bus travel. She urged the city to explore initiatives to restore this basic transportation service and asked whether there were agencies, programs, or task forces through which residents could engage on the issue.

Mayor Rickenmann acknowledged the disruption caused by changes to long-distance bus service and said the city is continuing discussions with providers to find workable locations. He noted the possibility of recruiting another operator or exploring integrated options and committed to follow up.

Councilor Herbert announced the United States Postal Service will be honoring Phillis Wheatley, the first African-American published poet, with a stamp as of January 29, 2026.

Councilor Johnson commended staff for organizing a successful Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day event. He noted the strong community participation and expressed appreciation for the many events held across the city to honor the occasion.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, MMC, CPM
City Clerk