



## **COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

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The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable William Brennan, The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, and The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. 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. *The minutes are numbered to coincide with the order of the meeting.*

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **INVOCATION**

The Honorable Mayor Pro Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr. offered the invocation.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda, subject to deferring Item 1 and Item 23; adding Ordinance 2021-021 to Item 36; and adding State of South Carolina Ex Rel Alan Wilson, Attorney General v. City of Columbia to Item 37.

### **PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

*No comments were received at this time.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Council is asked to approve the February 1, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes. – *Deferred*



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### **PRESENTATIONS**

2. Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification Award - Mr. Buck Wilson, SC DHEC Regional Health Director

Mr. Buck Wilson, SC DHEC Regional Health Director presented the Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification to the City of Columbia. To become certified, local governments must adopt and implement clean air protections that prohibit smoking and the use of e-cigarettes and vapes in all indoor workplaces, restaurants, and bars. Congratulations on being one of the first in the Midlands to take specific measures to protect the health of South Carolinians.

### **CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION**

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager reported that employees affected by COVID-19 has decreased to 2%. The vaccination rate remains at 89%.

3. COVID-19 Situational Report - Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director

Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director said forecasting models from the CDC indicate a continued decrease in cases and deaths over the next four weeks. The state cumulative case count for today is 1.4 million. There have been over 15.3 million tests administered in our state. The cumulative case count for today is 1,210, and the percent positive on that sample is 11.5%. Unfortunately, there were two additional deaths reported out by DHEC today. That brings the cumulative count to 16,243 for our state. In Richland County, we have over 95,000 confirmed cases. The case count for today is 94. As of the February 9th report, the 14-day recent disease activity rate in all 46 counties are now decreasing as well. DHEC reported that over 6.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccinations have been administered in our state. In Richland County, 56.5% of the population has completed their vaccination series.

4. Federal Legislative Briefing - Mr. Ralph Garboushian and Ms. Debra DeHaney-Howard, CapitalEdge, LLC

Mr. Ralph Garboushian, CapitalEdge, LLC reviewed the key dates of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is three bills wrapped into one: Divisions A-C are a 5-year \$476.8 billion reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs; Division D-I authorizes other infrastructure investments; and Division J is a 5-year advance appropriations bill providing \$520 billion for a wide array of infrastructure investments. Most funds will continue to be allocated by formula to state DOTs, MPOs, transit agencies, and



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Amtrak. There will be about \$20 billion available each year over the next five years for competitive transportation grant programs. A summary was provided of the water and wastewater, energy, and broadband investments included in the infrastructure bill. The next steps are to monitor state and federal agencies and review grant opportunities to begin developing plans to apply based on the city's priorities. The Build Back Better Act (BBB) includes \$1.75 trillion in new spending over ten years and changes to the tax code to increase revenue and expand the child tax credit and other similar tax provisions. The House has passed BBB, but the measure is stalled in the Senate. A summary of the allocations included in BBB were reviewed. Negotiations continue in regards to the fiscal year 2022 appropriations. If there is an agreement, most programs of interest to cities should see modest increases. The City has \$709,000 for body-worn and in-car camera modernization pending. The fiscal year 2023 appropriations will start with the President's budget proposal in early March. We will begin identifying fiscal year 2023 community project funding requests. An overview of other issues to include Supreme Court nominations, R&D/Supply Chain/China Bill, Postal Service Reform Bill, and Administration Regulatory Agenda was provided.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 14**

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda **Items 5** through **14**.

5. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase two MCC7500 Dispatch Consoles with Programming, Installation, and Optimization, as requested by the Emergency Management Department. Award to Motorola Solutions, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$157,187.12. The vendor is located in Lancaster, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: General Capital Projects - Municipal Emergency Management Operations Center - Computer/ Electric Equipment - Capital (4039999-CP105906-658600) \$100,401.12; General Capital Projects - Municipal Emergency Management Operations Center - Maintenance & Service Contract (4039999-CP105906-638200) \$56,786.00. The original budget amount is \$157,187.12.*

6. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase 28 Laptops for the Columbia Police Department Vehicles, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Synnex Corporation, using the GSA Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$131,202.59. The vendor is located in Greenville, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Computer Equipment Hardware (6308972-627500). The original budget amount is \$131,202.59.*



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7. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase a 2023 Western Star 4700 Cab/Chassis Truck for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Shealy's Truck Center, Inc. using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$288,716.00. The vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$288,716.00.*

8. Council is asked to approve a Contract for the Booker Washington Heights Paving Project, as requested by the Public Works Department. Award to Eurovia Atlantic Coast, LLC dba Blythe in the amount not to exceed \$524,485.83, which includes contingency. The firm is located in West Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: General Fund Paving (4079999-CP850101-658650) \$11,985.83 and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (4079999-CP850101-658650) \$512,500.00. The original budget amount is \$524,485.83.*

*Eurovia Atlantic Coast, LLC, dba Blythe will provide paving services at 95.06% (\$453,250.30) of the total contract amount.*

*The following subcontractor will provide additional services:*

*Peek Pavement Markings, LLC of Columbus, GA will provide striping at 4.94% (\$23,555.00) of the total contract amount.*

9. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase Parts and Labor for Bearing Assemblies, Clarification Equipment, and Pumping Equipment for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC, as a Sole Source in the amount not to exceed \$100,000.00. The vendor is located in Waukesha, WI. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Machinery and Equipment - Capital (5516208-658300). The original budget amount is \$100,000.00.*



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10. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement to Provide Compliance Training Services for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Industrial Pre-treatment Program and Stormwater Program, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation, in the amount of \$101,449.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Wastewater Compliance - Professional Services (5516231-636600). The original budget amount is \$101,449.00.*

11. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement for Project WM4140; Horseshoe Booster Pump Station Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to AECOM Technical Services, Inc. in the amount of \$328,990.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Project - Capital Project Costs - Engineering Services/Horseshoe Pump/Improvements (5529999-658650-WM414001). The original budget amount is \$328,990.00.*

*This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. AECOM Technical Services, Inc. is the mentor and will provide project plans and specification services at 80.00% (\$263,192.00) of the total contract amount. Atlantic South Consulting Services, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise located in Columbia, SC, is the protégé and will provide surveying, permitting services, construction administration, and construction observation at 20.00% (\$65,798.00) of the total contract amount.*

12. Council is asked to approve a Reimbursement for an 8" Sewer Main Extension Project to Serve 401 Heyward Street, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to PMC Property Group in the amount of \$355,124.00, upon completion of construction. The vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Sewer CIP FY 21/22 CIP (SS728801 Unforeseen & Miscellaneous Projects). The original budget amount is \$355,124.00.*

13. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #8 for Project WM4326; Water Tank Repainting and Maintenance Services, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Utility Service Company, Inc. in the amount of \$615,184.00. The firm is located in Perry, GA. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Utilities Columbia Canal WTP (5516206-WM432601-638305) \$453,611.00 and Utilities Lake Murray Water Plant (5516207-WM432601-638305) \$161,573.00. The original budget amount is \$100,985.00. The budget amount for amendments 1-7 is \$2,750,712.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$615,184.00. The total revised budget amount is \$3,365,896.00.*

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*Utility Service Company, Inc. is the prime contractor and will provide renovation, painting, and preventative maintenance services at 67.81% (\$417,184.00) of the amendment amount.*

*The following subcontractors will provide additional services:*

*Nordic Tank & Tower, Inc. of Menahga, MN will provide blast/paint labor services at 12.03% (\$74,000.00) of the amendment amount.*

*Semper Fi Steel of La Grange, KY will provide blast/paint labor services at 10.08% (\$62,000.00) of the amendment amount.*

*Carolina Tank Maintenance, LLC of Madison, NC will provide blast/paint labor services at 10.08% (\$62,000.00) of the amendment amount.*

14. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement for the Assembly Street Roadway Rehabilitation and Safety Enhancements between Pendleton Street and Lady Street, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Mead and Hunt in the amount of \$665,900.00. The firm is located in Lexington, SC. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Streetscaping Control - Assembly Street Corridor - Capital Project Costs (4139999-CP002003-658650). The original budget amount is \$665,900.00.*

*Mead & Hunt is the prime consultant and will provide preliminary design and data collection services at 70.01% (\$466,175.00) of the total contract amount.*

*The following subconsultants will provide additional services:*

*Chao & Associates, a Minority Business Enterprise located in Columbia, SC, will provide civil engineering services at 15.00% (\$99,885.00) of the total contract amount.*

*F&ME Consultants of Columbia, SC will provide geotechnical services at 3.99% (\$26,600.00) of the total contract amount.*

*Vaughn & Melton of Columbia, SC will provide subsurface utility engineering services at 6.00% (\$39,950.00) of the total contract amount.*

*Grimball Cotterill & Associates of Columbia, SC will provide landscape architecture services at 4.00% (\$26,630.00) of the total contract amount.*

*New South Associates, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) located in Columbia, SC, will provide cultural resource services at 1.00% (\$6,660.00) of the total contract amount.*



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### **ORDINANCE - FIRST READING**

15. Ordinance No.: 2022-009 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Ninth Amendment to Lease between the City of Columbia and Old Boy Properties, LLC for property consisting of 100± acres in Richland County, South Carolina being a portion of the property formerly owned by Columbia Venture, LLC and Sunday School, LLC – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-009 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Ninth Amendment to Lease between the City of Columbia and Old Boy Properties, LLC for property consisting of 100± acres in Richland County, South Carolina being a portion of the property formerly owned by Columbia Venture, LLC and Sunday School, LLC.

### **EVENT RESOLUTIONS**

16. Resolution No.: R-2022-008 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Live on Lincoln Fundraiser for the Arts on Sunday, April 24, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Sunday, May 1, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-008 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Live on Lincoln Fundraiser for the Arts on Sunday, April 24, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Sunday, May 1, 2022.

17. Resolution No.: R-2022-009 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Artista Vista Crafty Feast on Sunday, April 24, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-009 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Artista Vista Crafty Feast on Sunday, April 24, 2022.



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18. Resolution No.: R-2022-010 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Columbia Food and Wine Festival in the 1600 block of Blanding Street on Sunday, April 3, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-010 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Columbia Food and Wine Festival in the 1600 block of Blanding Street on Sunday, April 3, 2022.

19. Resolution No.: R-2022-011 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the 2022 First Annual Artistic Showcase Festival at Maxcy Gregg Park, 1651 Park Circle on Saturday, April 9, 2022, with a rain contingency date of Saturday, April 16, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-011 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the 2022 First Annual Artistic Showcase Festival at Maxcy Gregg Park, 1651 Park Circle on Saturday, April 9, 2022, with a rain contingency date of Saturday, April 16, 2022.

20. Resolution No.: R-2022-014 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Happy Hours at Saluda Riverwalk, 650 Candi Lane on Tuesdays, March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2022 with rain contingency dates of Thursdays, March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26 and June 2, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-014 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Happy Hours at Saluda Riverwalk, 650 Candi Lane on Tuesdays, March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2022 with rain contingency dates of Thursdays, March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26 and June 2, 2022.



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21. Resolution No.: R-2022-015 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Columbia Food and Wine Festival – Mixer on Main Satellite Event at Boyd Plaza, 1515 Main Street on Thursday, March 31, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-015 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Columbia Food and Wine Festival – Mixer on Main Satellite Event at Boyd Plaza, 1515 Main Street on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

22. Council is asked to approve the Installation of 17 Street Lights within the Belvedere Community, as requested by the Public Works Department. Award to Dominion Energy in the amount of \$2,021.64. – *Approved*

*Funding Source: Traffic Engineering – Electric and Gas (1013205-632000).*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of 17 streetlights within the Belvedere Community, as requested by the Public Works Department.

Councilor McDowell took a moment of personal privilege to commend the members of the Belvedere Community led by neighborhood president Ms. Diane Wiley for working with the city to make this happen in their community. Thank you for your leadership.

23. Non-Profit Stabilization Assistance Requests - Ms. Missy Caughman, Budget, Program Management, and Grants Director – *Deferred*

### **APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SPECIAL COMMITTEES, TASK FORCES, OR COMMISSIONS**

24. Advisory Committee on Equality – *Deferred to Committee.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to refer the Advisory Committee on Equality to the Administrative Policy Committee for the development of policies, procedures, and a structure for the committee.



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25. Affordable Housing Task Force – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of 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.

26. Columbia - Fort Jackson Joint Committee on Cooperation – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr., The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., and The Honorable William Brennan to the Columbia-Fort Jackson Joint Committee on Cooperation.

Mayor Rickenmann expressed the desire to have a future conversation about the appointment of a chair for this committee.

27. Council Legislative Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. and The Honorable Aditi Bussells to the Council Legislative Committee.

28. Richland County - City of Columbia Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, The Honorable William Brennan, and The Honorable Aditi Bussells to the Richland County-City of Columbia Committee.

29. Task Force to Prevent and End Homelessness – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mayor Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Aditi Bussells as chair, The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. as a member, and The Honorable William Brennan as a member of the Task Force to Prevent and End Homelessness.



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Mayor Rickenmann stated the desire to have the committee provide all recommendations to Council in 180 days.

30. Tax Modernization Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. as interim chair and The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. as a member to the Tax Modernization Committee.

### **APPOINTMENT OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO EXTERNAL BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS**

31. Capital City Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board – *Deferred*

Councilor Taylor asked if a designee can be appointed instead of a Council member.

Mayor Rickenmann said we need to submit a formal request to the board. We can defer the appointment until we get clarity.

32. Central Midlands Council of Governments – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. and The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr. to the Central Midlands Council of Governments.

33. Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (The COMET) – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Ms. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment The Honorable Tina N. Herbert to the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority.

34. Columbia Museum of Art – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Aditi Bussells as liaison to the Columbia Museum of Art.



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### **35. River Alliance – *Approved***

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann to the River Alliance.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS / REPORTS**

*No reports or referrals were made at this time.*

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Ms. Diane Wiley, Belvedere Community President thanked Council for approving the installation of 17 street lights within the Belvedere Community. She expressed her desire to participate in the opportunities available for citizens to join committees.

Dr. Germon Miller, R.I.C.H Program President said we have reached our 10th anniversary of the peace pledge that was signed by what is referred to as street level associations in Pacific Park. I can proudly say that none of our members who signed the peace pledge have been incarcerated or involved in violence among other young men. In the spirit of Black History Month, I would like to thank Mayor Rickenmann and Council with a little token of our appreciation for all that you do.

Mayor Rickenmann thanked Dr. Miller for all she continues to do in the community.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:54 p.m. for the discussion of **Item 36** and **37**, as amended.

36. Receipt of legal advice related to matters covered by attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)

*COVID-19*

37. Receipt of legal advice relating to a pending, threatened or potential claim pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)

*Alex Smith v. City of Columbia*



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**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC  
City Clerk