



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbia City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at City Hall (Council Chambers), 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. and the following City Council members were present: The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Will Brennan, Mayor Pro-Tem, The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, and The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey. The Honorable Peter M. Brown participated remotely. 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 3:06 p.m. for the discussion of **Item 1** and discussion of the employment of an employee pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(1) – Municipal Court Judges.

1. Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(5)
 - *Project Catalyst*

Council adjourned the Executive Session at 3:57 p.m. and convened the regular meeting at 4:07 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. extended condolences and prayers for the families of Master Police Officer Chris Carrizales and the late Mr. Brent Wiley. Following these remarks, he offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Little Miss Jayme Hill led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.



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ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Jim Daniel, president of the Wheeler Hill Neighborhood Association spoke in support of **Item 26** (Resolution No.: R-2025-010). He agreed that despite the number of student housing developments, there is a growing number of them being built in residential neighborhoods. There is a need to address the growing trend of developers buying properties in downtown neighborhoods, building duplexes, and overpopulating the area with too many residents.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Council is asked to approve the January 21, 2025 Work Session Meeting Minutes and February 4, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the January 21, 2025 Work Session Minutes and February 4, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

3. Jayme Hill's Kidz Kindness Day Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed February 18, 2025 as Jayme Hill's Kidz Kindness Day in the City of Columbia.

Little Miss Jayme Hill thanked the Mayor and City Council for the special honor. She emphasized that kindness is important and that by being kind, we can improve our schools and communities. Her book "Good Manners, Good People" is available for purchase on Amazon.



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4. Corey Mitchell Multiple Sclerosis Foundation Day Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed March 1, 2025 as Corey Mitchel Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Columbia.

Mr. Corey Mitchell expressed gratitude for his faith and recognized the support of his family, friends, fellow members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and coworkers from the Columbia Police Department, all of whom were in attendance. He dedicated the day to those who have endured the hardships of multiple sclerosis and thanked the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager Teresa Wilson.

Councilor Bailey welcomed Senator Darrell Jackson to the Council Chambers and acknowledged his significant contributions to the City of Columbia.

5. University of South Carolina Student Government City Advocacy Commission - Ms. Olivia Smeltzer, Director

Ms. Oliva Smeltzer, University of South Carolina Student Government City Advocacy Commission Director thanked the Mayor and City Council for their continued support of the University of South Carolina. The City Advocacy Commission focuses on housing, parking, health, and student success. This year's recommendations include improving dorm safety and sanitation, offering off-campus housing education, expanding COMET routes to include grocery stores, providing an Instacart student membership, ensuring access to mental health resources, and fostering internship partnerships.

Mayor Rickenmann highlighted Ms. Smeltzer's involvement with the College Engagement Council. He acknowledged the students' desire for a safe community and their eagerness to learn more about it.

Dr. Bussells asked the students to share one thing they love about Columbia.

Many of the students praised the "community feel" while others highlighted the abundance of activities, opportunities, and the strong partnership between the City and the University.



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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 6 THROUGH 17

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 6** through **17**.

6. Council is asked to approve a new Professional Services Contract for Development Strategies and Analysis for Affordable and Mixed Income Housing - Phase I, as requested by City Administration on November 24, 2024. Award to DreamKey Partners, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$263,400.00, which includes contingency. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with an end date six (6) months from commencement and the option to renew for one (1) additional six-month period. This firm is located in Charlotte, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan Act Funds - American Rescue Plan Act-Affordable Housing - Professional Services (2619999-ARPA202202-636600). The total budget amount is \$263,400.00.

DreamKey Partners, Inc. is the prime and will be providing needs analysis and identification resources, market analysis, and draft and final plan services at 72.89% (\$160,000.00) of the contract amount.

The following subconsultant will also provide services:

D. Wilson Agency, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise (W), located in Charlotte, NC, will provide community engagement services at 27.11% (\$59,500.00) of the total contract amount.

Mayor Rickenmann shared that City Council has been discussing redevelopment, particularly in light of the city's empty lots. They are working with multiple resources to attract talent to the community and support all segments. They are also assisting individuals in leveraging different funding sources to address these challenges.

7. Council is asked to approve a Contract Renewal for UKG Pro Workforce Management Software, as requested by the Budget and Program Management Office on January 24, 2025. Award to UKG Kronos Systems, LLC, in the amount of \$211,999.69. This vendor is located in Lowell, MA. – *Approved*



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Funding Source: Program Management Office – Cloud Based Software Solutions (6218950-632170) \$161,000.00 and Program Management Office – Professional Services (6218950-636600) \$50,999.69. The original budget amount is \$211,999.69.

8. Council is asked to approve funding for Body Cameras, Tasers, Evidence and Storage Services, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on January 27, 2025. Award to Axon Enterprise, Inc. using the Sourcwell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$999,791.32 for year 3 of the 5 year initial term. The current term of the contract ends on January 31, 2028. This vendor is located in Scottsdale, AZ. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Police Administration Services - Cloud Based Solution (1012402-632170). The original budget amount is \$999,791.32 for year 3.

9. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of One (1) 2025 Pierce Custom Pumper Fire Truck, as requested by the Fleet Services Division for the Columbia Fire Department on January 27, 2025. Award to Spartan Fire & Emergency Apparatus using the HGAC Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$1,047,303.00. This vendor is located in Roebuck, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Auto, Truck Heavy Equipment-Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$1,047,303.00.

10. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #1 for Project PK005608; Finlay Park Revitalization and Construction Services, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department on January 8, 2025. Award to Mashburn Construction Company, Inc., in an amount not exceed \$1,400,000.00. The current term of the contract ends on September 13, 2025. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: General Capital Projects - Finlay Park Rehabilitation - Capital Project Cost (4039999-PK005608-658650). The current budget amount is \$22,450,000.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$1,400,000.00. The revised budget amount is \$23,850,000.00.

Mashburn Construction Company, Inc., is the prime and will provide general contractor services at 75.04% (\$1,050,625.01) of the total amendment amount.

The following subcontractors will provide additional services:

Chapin Concrete Contractors, Inc., located in Chapin, SC, will provide concrete services at 7.93% (\$110,997.68) of the total amendment amount.



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JRAM, LLC Klockner Group & Chain Reps, located in Columbia, SC, will provide structural and miscellaneous steel services at 10.07% (\$140,937.00) of the total amendment amount.

Echerer Painting Contractor, Inc., located in Columbia, SC, will provide paint services at 3.78% (\$52,888.34) of the total amendment amount.

Lucas Concrete Products, Inc., located in Charlotte, NC, will provide precast concrete at 3.18% (\$44,551.97) of the total amendment amount.

11. Council is asked to approve a new Sole Source Contract for a Sludge Drive Gearbox for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water on October 23, 2024. Award to Applied Industrial Technologies in the amount of \$68,930.45. This vendor is located in Greenwood, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Machinery and Equipment-Capital (5516208-658300). The original budget amount is \$68,930.45.

12. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of One (1) Portable Blue Star Generator for the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water on November 27, 2024. Award to Generator Services using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$137,328.80. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Columbia Canal Water Plant - Machinery and Equipment Capital (5516206-658300). The original budget amount is \$137,328.80.

13. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #1 for Project WM4733; Trenholm Road Water Main Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water on January 21, 2025. Award to HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas, in an amount not to exceed \$218,000.00. The current term of the contract ends on August 11, 2025. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Forest Acres Water Quality Improvement - Capital Project Costs (5529999-WM473301-658650). The current budget amount is \$1,189,000.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$218,000.00. The revised budget amount is \$1,407,000.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program project. HDR Engineering Inc. of the Carolinas is the mentor and will provide construction observation services at 100.00%



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(\$218,000.00) of the total amendment amount.

14. Council is asked to approve a new Agreement for Project SS756501; Sewer Improvement and Rehabilitation for Lower Kinley Creek, as requested by Columbia Water on February 18, 2025. Award to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. in the amount of \$225,194.10 for the purpose of relocating a 6-inch gas main at Piney Grove Road and Hempstead Road. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - West Columbia Pump Station Improvements - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS756401-658650). The original budget amount is \$225,194.10.

15. Council is asked to approve a new Professional Services Contract for Project SS7640; New North Columbia Pumping Station and Phase 1 Force Main, as requested by Columbia Water on December 20, 2024. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$1,481,005.00. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with an end date four (4) years from commencement and the option to renew for two (2) additional one-year periods. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Project - North Columbia Pump Station and Force Main Phase 1 - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS764001-658650). The original budget amount is \$1,481,005.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program project. Black & Veatch Corporation is the Mentor and will be performing project management and administration, preliminary engineering design, and coordination of field investigation services at 53.54% (\$792,905.00) of the total contract amount.

Highfill Infrastructure Engineering, PC, located in Columbia, SC, is the Protégé and will be performing design phase administration, geotech, Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE), and wetland delineation services at 22.96% (\$340,100.00) of the total contract amount.

The following subconsultants will provide additional services:

Howard Engineering, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise (W), located in Columbia, SC, will be performing electrical/instrumentation and control design services at 0.54% (\$8,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, Inc., located in Columbia, SC, will be performing field



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surveying services at 14.52% (\$215,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Veredantas, LLC, located in Anderson, SC, will be performing physical scale modeling services at 8.44% (\$125,000.00) of the total contract amount.

16. Ordinance No.: 2025-005 - An Ordinance Providing for an Installment Plan of Finance for Undertaking or Completing Certain Downtown City Projects; approving Columbia Facilities Corporation and its activities, including the issuance by the Corporation of not exceeding \$54,000,000 principal amount of its Installment Purchase Revenue Bonds, in one or more series, tax-exempt or taxable; approving the forms of or authorizing the execution and delivery of one or more amendments or supplements to the Base Lease and Conveyance Agreement and the Installment Purchase and Use Agreement each Dated May 19, 2021 and between the City of Columbia, South Carolina and the Corporation and the Trust Agreement dated May 19, 2021, between the Corporation and Regions Bank, as Trustee; authorizing the preparation of a Bond Purchase Agreement, Official Statement and other documents with respect to the marketing and sale of such bonds; delegating authority to the Mayor, the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager for Development and Finance, or any two of them acting together, to approve and determine certain matters; and other matters relating thereto – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on February 4, 2025.

17. Ordinance No.: 2025-006 - Granting an encroachment to the University of South Carolina for the use of the right of way area of the 1200 block of Greene Street for the installation and maintenance of a brick paver field, a brick seat wall, site furnishings, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 1212 Greene Street, Richland County TMS# 11303-03-01 – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on February 4, 2025.



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PUBLIC HEARING & FIRST READING FOR ZONING / PLANNING MATTERS

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

18. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT for Reaching Riverbanks Community Mobility Plan – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2025-002 - Adopting the Reaching Riverbanks Community Mobility Plan as an addendum to Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 – Approved on first reading.

Council Districts: 2 & 3

Proposal: Request recommendation to adopt the Reaching Riverbanks Community Mobility Plan as an addendum to the City of Columbia's Comprehensive Plan.

Applicant: City of Columbia

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 01/09/2025; Approval (7-0)

Presented to the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee on October 22, 2024.

Ms. Leigh DeForth, Senior Comprehensive Planner shared that this ordinance is the result of a regional planning effort by the Central Midlands Council of Governments. The plan focuses on improving river access, neighborhood connectivity, and multimodal transportation, particularly for bike and pedestrian access linked to the Riverwalk. It proposes no changes to land use or zoning but highlights areas for growth and conservation. The request is to adopt the plan as an addendum to the city's Comprehensive Plan. The plan also considers regional and statewide transportation agencies' involvement in future infrastructure planning.

Councilor Brennan asked about bike and pedestrian access as it ties to the Riverwalk.

Ms. Leigh DeForth, Senior Comprehensive Planner explained that the plan's framework approach prioritizes improvements to river access. It also emphasizes the use of wide right of ways, similar to those in the downtown area. The plan includes recommendations for road build-outs that aim to enhance safety and



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connectivity for all users, making it easier to navigate and connect throughout the area.

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2025-002 - Adopting the Reaching Riverbanks Community Mobility Plan as an addendum to Columbia Compass: Envision 2036.

19. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 2212 Senate Street, TMS# 11410-22-06 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2025-001 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 2212 Senate Street, Richland County TMS #11410-22-06 – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 2

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Residential Single Family – Small Lot District (RSF-3), Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP, Old Shandon/Lower Waverly Historic District Area A) to Residential Mixed District (RM-1), Historic Preservation Overlay District (OV-HP, Old Shandon/Lower Waverly Historic District Area A).

Applicant: Miles Madden, Handcrafted Property Solutions LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 12/12/2024; Approval (7-0)

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Zoning Map Amendment for 2212 Senate Street, TMS# 11410-22-06 and Ordinance No.: 2025-001 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 2212 Senate Street, Richland County TMS #11410-22-06.



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20. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 427 Harden Street, TMS# 11311-03-07 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2025-008 Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 427 Harden Street, Richland County TMS #11311-03-07 – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 3

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Residential Mixed District (RM-1) to Residential Single Family – Medium Lot District (RSF-2).

Applicant: Councilman Brennan

Staff Recommendation: Council Sponsored

PC Recommendation: 01/09/2025; Approval (7-0)

Mr. Jim Daniel, president of the Wheeler Hill Neighborhood Association expressed concerns about larger lots being bought and subdivided for various construction projects. He emphasized the significance of the property, noting that the house should qualify for landmark status, the Bailey Bill, and the abandoned property tax incentives.

Mr. Toby Ward, Esq. appeared on behalf of the applicant to express concerns about the proposed rezoning which conflicts with both the current and future comprehensive plans.

Councilor Brennan asked about alternative methods to save the house without rezoning.

Mr. Toby Ward, Esq. proposed a collaborative effort between the City of Columbia and the property owner to help identify an appropriate buyer within a reasonable timeframe. He also suggested rezoning the entire side of the street as Residential Single Family.

Ms. Caitlin Heyward, 415 Harden Street expressed concerns about the rezoning affecting the investment value of her home.

Mr. Francis Goldstein expressed support for rezoning that side of the road versus the individual property.



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Ms. Sandy McGuckin expressed support for rezoning multiple parcels versus the individual lots.

Mayor Rickenmann asked staff to analyze Mr. Ward's recommendation to rezone the stretch of parcels along Harden Street prior to second reading consideration.

Councilor Brennan requested that staff provide City Council with information regarding the possibility of someone coming in to demolish the existing structure and rebuilding it as a single-family residence.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Zoning Map Amendment for 427 Harden Street, TMS# 11311-03-07 and Ordinance No.: 2025-008 Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 427 Harden Street, Richland County TMS #11311-03-07.

21. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for E/S Bluff Road, TMS# 13510-01-07, 13510-01-08, 13500-02-02, 13500-02-07 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2025-009 Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for E/S Bluff Road, Richland County TMS #13510-01-07, 13510-01-08, 13500-02-02, 13500-02-07 – Approved on first reading.

Council District: 3

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Residential Mixed (RM-2) and Community Activity Center/Corridor District (CAC) to Employment Campus (EC).

Applicant: Felicia Maloney, Columbia Empowerment Zone

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 01/09/2025; Approval (7-0)

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Zoning Map Amendment for E/S Bluff Road, TMS# 13510-01-07, 13510-01-08, 13500-02-02, 13500-02-07 and Ordinance No.: 2025-009 Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for E/S Bluff Road, Richland County TMS #13510-01-07, 13510-01-08, 13500-02-02, 13500-02-07.



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22. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 1205 Colleton Street, TMS# 11705-05-16 –
Deferred

Ordinance No.: 2025-010 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 1205 Colleton Street, Richland County TMS #11705-05-16 - Deferred

Council District: 1

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Single Family Residential Large Lot (RSF-1) to Mixed-Use District (MU-1).

Applicant: Reynaldo Barron, Barron Properties Group, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 01/09/2025; Approval (7-0)

Ms. Gwendolyn Singletary asked to receive additional information about the project.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to defer the Zoning Map Amendment for 1205 Colleton Street, TMS# 11705-05-16 and Ordinance No.: 2025-010 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 1205 Colleton Street, Richland County TMS #11705-05-16.

Council closed the public hearing at 5:07 p.m.



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ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

23. Ordinance No.: 2025-003 - Amending Ordinance 2023-065 granting an encroachment to Gadsden & Greene, LLC, for use of the right of way areas of the 700 block of Devine Street, the 700 block of Gadsden Street and the 700 block of Greene Street for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, landscaping, irrigation, on-street parking spaces, a bus pull-out lane, bike racks and benches adjacent to 737 Gadsden Street, TMS# 08915-12-01 – *Approved on first reading*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2025-003 - Amending Ordinance 2023-065 granting an encroachment to Gadsden & Greene, LLC, for use of the right of way areas of the 700 block of Devine Street, the 700 block of Gadsden Street and the 700 block of Greene Street for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, landscaping, irrigation, on-street parking spaces, a bus pull-out lane, bike racks and benches adjacent to 737 Gadsden Street, TMS# 08915-12-01.

24. Ordinance No.: 2025-007 - Approval for Granting an Easement to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. along a Portion of City-Owned Property Located at 930 Laurel Street and 901 Taylor Street known as Finlay Park and Identified as Richland County TMS#09014-01-03 and TMS#09010-08-01 for Electric Lines for the Finlay Park Revitalization Project; CF#250-657 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2025-007 - Approval for Granting an Easement to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. along a Portion of City-Owned Property Located at 930 Laurel Street and 901 Taylor Street known as Finlay Park and Identified as Richland County TMS#09014-01-03 and TMS#09010-08-01 for Electric Lines for the Finlay Park Revitalization Project; CF#250-657.

25. Ordinance No.: 2025-011- Approval of Reservation of Easement for the Crane Creek Greenway along a Portion of City-Owned Property Identified as Richland County TMS#07316-02-01A, TMS#07413-02-01, TMS#07414-04-01 & TMS#07415-02-01; CF#250-656 – *Approved on first reading.*



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Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Bailey, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2025-011- Approval of Reservation of Easement for the Crane Creek Greenway along a Portion of City-Owned Property Identified as Richland County TMS#07316-02-01A, TMS#07413-02-01, TMS#07414-04-01 & TMS#07415-02-01; CF#250-656.

RESOLUTIONS

26. Resolution No.: R-2025-010 - Resolving to Consider an Ordinance Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances, Chapter 17 (Unified Development Ordinance), to Prohibit Private Student Dormitories in the Downtown Activity Center and Mixed Commercial districts (DAC and MC) and to Update Regulations and Definitions Related Thereto; and Setting and Advertising to the Public the Date of a Public Hearing on this Ordinance; and, referring Ordinance Amendments to the Planning Commission for its Consideration; and Invoking the Pending Ordinance Doctrine with Respect to this Ordinance – *Approved*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this resolution is a text amendment. An amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance is being reviewed, which would remove the permission to construct private dormitories in two Central Business Districts: the Downtown Activity Center and the Mixed Commercial districts, covering areas like Assembly, Main, Sumter Streets, and parts of the Vista. Public dormitories and student housing would still be allowed, but private dormitories used to house more than three unrelated people would be prohibited. The amendment is scheduled for Planning Commission review on March 13, 2025 and City Council discussion on April 15, 2025.

Mayor Rickenmann said this resolution will go to the Planning Commission. Then it will come to City Council for a public hearing and two readings. We plan to have discussions with interested parties. We want to talk about private dormitories and the number of bedrooms while understanding the long-term effect. This Council supports student housing, market rate housing and mixed use housing. This is an opportunity to have a discussion about what this will look like in the future, how we will support the growth of our students, and how we protect the integrity of the community.



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2025-010 - Resolving to Consider an Ordinance Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances, Chapter 17 (Unified Development Ordinance), to Prohibit Private Student Dormitories in the Downtown Activity Center and Mixed Commercial districts (DAC and MC) and to Update Regulations and Definitions Related Thereto; and Setting and Advertising to the Public the Date of a Public Hearing on this Ordinance; and, referring Ordinance Amendments to the Planning Commission for its Consideration; and Invoking the Pending Ordinance Doctrine with Respect to this Ordinance.

APPOINTMENTS

27. Municipal Court Judges

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Judge Gail Jabber and Judge Carlton Bagby as part-time municipal court judges for a 2-year term effective March 1, 2025 and the appointment of Mr. Wes Kirkland as a substitute municipal court judge for a 2-year term effective March 1, 2025.

Mr. Wes Kirkland said I appreciate this. I want to help out in the community. I understand that the courts are clogged help and I will do what I can to take care of that.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS

28. Council is asked to refer the creation of a Parental Support & Accountability Court to the Richland County-City of Columbia Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to refer the establishment of a Parental Support & Accountability Court to the Richland County-City of Columbia Committee. Mr. Brown was not present for this vote.

PUBLIC INPUT

No one appeared at this time.



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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk