COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018

WORK SESSION - 2:00 P.M.

The Columbia City Council met for a Work Session on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 2:26 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, the Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, the Honorable Howard Duvall, Jr., the Honorable Edward McDowell, Jr., and the Honorable Daniel Rickenmann. The Honorable Moe Baddourah was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin offered the invocation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Ms. Jan Alonso, Finance Director will be present to answer questions regarding the November 2017 Financial Report.

Councilor Duvall expressed concerns about the monthly reports being behind schedule. He asked for an update on the 2017 audit.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said that an update will be provided on March 6, 2018.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

2. Water and Sewer Rate Study: Initial Presentation - Mr. Robert Chambers, Financial and Utility Management Consultant for Black and Veatch Management Consulting, LLC

Mr. Jeff Wells, Client Director for the City of Columbia / Black and Veatch Management Consulting, LLC thanked the members of Council for keeping water and sewer as a focal point in moving forward financially.

Mr. Robert Chambers, Financial and Utility Management Consultant for Black and Veatch Management Consulting, LLC presented an overview of the water and sewer rates. He said financial planning for water and sewer impacts customers and it affects how we do business. He presented the City's key drivers, which includes the increased demand for utility services; a more diverse, informed, and focused customer base; sustainable implementation of the capital and operating programs; maintaining revenue stability; and enhancing stakeholder engagement. The goal is to produce revenues that meet the financial. He provided an update on the revenue adjustments for fiscal year 2013 through 2017 and he presented financial planning scenarios for fiscal year 2017 through 2022. He presented the water industry report for infrastructure and a plan for integrating financial planning.

Councilor McDowell asked about the customer class equity.

Mr. Robert Chambers, Financial and Utility Management Consultant for Black and Veatch Management Consulting, LLC explained that services will be charged to customers requesting certain amenities. The goal is to provide balanced equality for all customers and the City will gain equity on what it will cost to provide services to the customer. He presented the project approach for reduced revenue growth; implementing capital programs; providing service to new bulk use customers; impact fee analysis; and maintaining and enhancing financial metrics. He described the study approach for impact fees as a contribution from a new customer solely for the construction and development of water and wastewater system facilities. The study approach is the fundamental principle that establishes a relationship between the nature of the service required and the cost to provide the service. He presented the buy-in approach, the incremental cost approach, and the combined systems approach for impact fees.

The member of Council thanked Mr. Chambers for the presentation. There were no questions at this time.

3. Review of requests for funding from the Hospitality Tax Fund Surplus

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager explained that this will be a discussion on hospitality tax surplus funding to include amending the fiscal year 2017 /2018 hospitality tax budget. She said an action is required at tonight's City Council Meeting.

Councilman Davis asked about the remaining balance.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said there was a total of $780,000: $120,000 was approved last week, and the current balance is $643,000.

Councilor Rickenmann expressed concerns about the additional funding request from the City Center Partnership.

Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Administrator / Community Projects Liaison said we currently have three (3) groups that are responsible for clean and safety. Two of the groups are assigned to the Vista and Five Points communities. The committee decided to combine the clean and safe programs for fiscal year 2017/2018.

Councilor Rickenmann asked about the allocated funding for each organization.

Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Administrator / Community Projects Liaison said the City Center Partnership received $260,000; the Congaree Vista Guild received $260,000; and Five Points received $229,000 overall to include the clean and safe program funding.

Councilor Devine inquired about the additional funding for fiscal year 2018/2019 for the clean and safe program for Five Points.

Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Administrator / Community Projects Liaison said they are asking for money that didn't get funded this fiscal year.

Councilor Rickenmann sought clarity about the commitment to fund the Vista clean and safe program for fiscal year 2018/2019.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said they are asking for a three year commitment. We are presenting this to Council as an option for your consideration. When the committee meets in March 2018, hopefully they will sustain them at their requested level for fiscal year 2018/2019.

Councilor Rickenmann said we need to put money aside in a separate account for surplus funding for each fiscal year.

Councilor McDowell asked about access to the the groups' financials.

Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Administrator / Community Projects Liaison said Zoom Grants will allow you to review applications and financial information to include previous allocations.

Mayor Benjamin said it would be helpful to have four to five data references for each organization. This will help with the future consideration of funding.

Councilor Devine agreed that money should be set aside in fiscal year 2018/2019. She noted that Black Pages was previously allocated $25,000. She suggested a funding increase to $50,000 for fiscal year 2018/2019.

Councilor Rickenmann said we need a weaning process. This will give more opportunity for new organizations to apply for funding.

Councilor Devine expressed concerns about the group's performance if the funding is dwindled.

Councilor McDowell asked about the accountability of the Hospitality Tax Committee.

Mr. John Whitehead, Chair of the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee said the committee is concerned with spreading funding around the community. The goal is to provide a steady funding source for the arts community. The committee looks for ways to supplement each organization and not to give them everything they need. We are dedicated to helping every organization fill out their application to ensure they are meeting the requirements.

Mayor Benjamin said this is a human process which requires shifting priorities and values for certain types of events. The connection between events and driving more hospitality funds is getting more tenuous. We need to use these resources to improve the equity, innovation and quality of life for every organization. Having money set aside will give us the latitude we need to make more decisions. There are some urgent needs that we will have to address at tonight's meeting. He expressed concerns about the remaining $643,000 surplus being over budgeted.

Mr. Jeff Palen, Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer said our revenue collections are usually higher in April, May, and June. Currently, we are barely on budget from January 2018. As we continue to collect, we will more than likely have a surplus for the next fiscal year.

Councilor Duvall presented a proposal for setting up four categories for hospitality tax funding. The first category will include signing a contract with cultural groups to assure they will provide the specified services and the City will provide the funding. The second category will allow the committee to be more involved with issuing funding. The third category will include setting money aside for helping new organizations. The fourth category will include funding capital projects.

Councilor Davis asked about the audit process for the proposed categories.

Councilor Duvall said all groups will be subject to an audit.

Councilor Rickenmann expressed concerns about signing a contract with cultural groups.

Ms. Teresa, City Manager said we have to be cautious on how we express the deliverables for each contract.

Mayor Benjamin said we need a system that is accountable. We will need to spend more time understanding the fundamental philosophy for each category. I am interested in the efficiency of our process, but we will need a more inclusive approach for each organization. He asked staff to bring back recommendations for fiscal year 2018/2019 in April 2018 to include a discussion of Mr. Duvall's proposal. He listed the organizations that will need funding approval at tonight's meeting.

Councilor Devine asked that $25,000 be added for Black Expo.

Councilor Duvall said I will not support the recommendations. He suggested carrying forward the surplus balance to fiscal year 2018/2019 budget.

Mayor Benjamin clarified that the consideration for approval from the new list will be the Language Buzz Foundation, Palmetto Opera, Five Points Association Food and Wine Festival, Sally Salmander-Expansion Walking Tour, and Black Expo. Consideration from the previous list will be Security Cameras, City Center Partnership Ambassador Program, Palmetto Capital City Classic, NCAA Basketball Tournament, State Firefighters Conference, Regional Sports Council, and Girl Scouts.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager thanked Grants Professional Ms. Chris Segars for five (5) years services with the City of Columbia.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:06 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 4** through **8** as amended to include the discussion of negotiations incident to the proposed purchase of property in North Columbia and the Rosewood Community pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2).

4. Receipt of legal advice relating to a pending, threatened or potential claim – S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)
   - *City of Charleston, SC, City of North Charleston, SC, City of Columbia, SC, City of Myrtle Beach, SC and Town of Hilton Head Island, SC vs. Hotel-Guides.Com, Inc. (f/k/a Hotel-Guides.US, Inc.), et al. (Failure to pay business license fee)*

- *Larry Strickland, et al. v. City of Columbia*

5. Receipt of legal advice related to matters covered by attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
   - *Extended Hours Permits for Commercial Establishments*
   - *Railroad Referendum*
   - *Security Measures*

6. Discussion of matters relating to proposed location or expansion of services to encourage location or expansion of industries or other businesses pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
   - *Sewer Expansion Fees*

7. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
   - *Capital City Stadium*
   - *Bull Street Development*
   - *Lower Richland Sewer Agreement*
   - *Carolina Water*
   - *Park Repairs*

8. Discussion of employment of an employee pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2

Council adjourned the Executive Session at 5:40 p.m.

We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018

COUNCIL MEETING - 6:00 P.M.

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, the Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, the Honorable Howard Duvall, Jr., the Honorable Edward McDowell, Jr., and the Honorable Daniel Rickenmann. The Honorable Moe Baddourah was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

9. Council is asked to approve the December 19, 2017 and February 6, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the December 19, 2017 and February 6, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 10** through **18**.

10. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of two (2) Chevrolet Tahoes for the Police Department, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Love Chevrolet, using the SC State Contract in the amount of $66,468.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: US Justice Grants Control - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital / FY18 Highway Safety Grant - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital 2659999-658500 / 9210006018-658500. The original budgeted amount is $66,468.00. – Approved*

11. Council is asked to approve Annual Software and License Support Services for Cityworks, as requested by the Information Technology Services Department. Award to Azteca Systems, LLC in the amount of $100,000. This firm is located in Sandy, UT. *Funding Source: Public Works Administration - Computer Equipment/Hardware 1011124-627500 ($1,990.00); Public Works Administration – Maintenance & Service Contract 1011124-638200 ($5,000.00); Forestry Horticulture – Maintenance & Service Contract 1011217-638200 ($7,500.00); Streets: Street & Sidewalk Repair - Maintenance & Service Contract 1013201-638200 ($2,000.00); Traffic Operations - Maintenance & Service Contract 1013204-638200 ($3,000.00); Streets-Storm Drains - Maintenance & Service Contract 5534203-638200 ($1,500.00); Customer Service - Special Contracts 5511407-638300 ($3,000.00); Utilities-Water Maintenance Customer Service - Maintenance & Service Contract 5516202-638200 ($15,000.00); Utilities Wastewater Maintenance - Computer License 5516205-627510 ($49,010.00); Solid Waste Street Sweeping - Maintenance & Service Contract 5534408-638200 ($10,000.00); and Streets-Water & Sewer Repair - Maintenance & Service Contract 5513202-638200 ($2,000.00). The original budgeted amount is $100,000.00. – Approved*

12. Council is asked to approve an Contract Amendment #2; An Extension for Project SS7278 to collect structural data with the use of Closed-Circuit Television Cameras, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Hydromax USA. This firm is located in Louisville, KY. Funding Source: 5529999-SS727801-658650. – *Approved*

    This is a no cost change amendment.

13. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SD8423; Improvements to Stormwater Storage at Martin Luther King Park Detention Facilities, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to LAD Corporation of West Columbia, a Minority Business Enterprise in an amount not to exceed $1,159,780.60 including a contingency in the amount of $105,434.60. This firm is located in Swansea, SC. *Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Project Cost; 5549999-658650. The original budgeted amount is $1,159,780.60. – Approved*

This project includes the design of several depressed areas in traditionally wet areas adjacent to Rocky Branch that will promote water quality through plants and provide some storage of stormwater runoff. Boardwalks to access the areas will be constructed and educational material will teach about the created wetlands.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Lexington Earthworks of Columbia, SC is the Protégé and will provide services at 20% ($210,869) of the contract value.

The following sub-consultants will provide additional services:

Greenview Landscaping of Lexington, SC will provide landscaping services at 54% ($574,156) of the contract value.

Wickcraft Boardwalks of Madison, WI will provide boardwalk services at 18% ($187,264) of the contract value.

Premier Constructors, Inc. of West Columbia, SC will provide electrical services at 6% ($60,000) of the contract value.

Infrastructure Supply Co. of Columbia, SC will provide storm drainage services at 2 % ($25,760) of the contract value.

Councilor Rickenmann asked for a description of the project.

Ms. Dana Higgins, Director of Engineering said this project will create boardwalks and educational opportunities for the wetland area.

14. Council is asked to ratify six (6) Emergency Purchase Orders for Contractual Services for the Repair of Waterlines throughout the City, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to North American Pipeline of Marietta, GA in the amount of $1,000,000; McClam and Associates of Little Mountain, SC in the amount of $55,640; LAD Corporation of West Columbia, SC in the amount of $199,465; Carolina Tap and Bore of West Columbia, SC in the amount of $148,280; and G.H Smith Construction Co. of Columbia, SC in the amount of $68,565 for a total amount of $1,471,950.00. *Funding Source: Engineering – Paving and Asphalt Supplies; 5511706—623500. The original budgeted amount is $1,471,950.00. – Approved*

15. Resolution R-2018-001 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Columbia Food & Wine Festival in the 700 block of Saluda Avenue on April 15, 2018 with a rain contingency date of Sunday, April, 22, 2018. – *Approved*

16. Resolution No.: R-2018-003 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Dinner on Main Street on April 22, 2018. – *Approved*

17. Resolution No.: R-2018-004 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Back to the Roots Festival at City Roots Farm on April 28, 2018. – *Approved*

18. Resolution No,: R-2018-012 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the South Carolina Cornbread Festival in Earlewood Park on Saturday, April 21, 2018 with a rain contingency date of Sunday, April 22, 2018. – *Approved*

PRESENTATIONS

19. Recognition of the Honorable Sam Davis - Reverend Clark McGriff, President of the Midlands Coalition of Churches

Reverend Clark McGriff, President of the Midlands Coalition of Churches said each year we host a Martin Luther King, Jr. prayer breakfast not only to recognize Dr. King's legacy, but to recognize members of the community. In January 2018, the coalition recognized The Honorable Sam Davis. We wanted to publicly present him with an award for his years of service on City Council and leadership in the metro community.

Councilor Davis thanked Reverend Clark McGriff for the recognition. This is unexpected, but I am pleased for the people who are committed and working on behalf of our fellow man with no expectation in return.

RESOLUTIONS

20. Resolution No.: R-2018-009 - Approving the Honorary naming of the 1000 block of Blossom Street between Assembly Street and Huger Street “Ward One Way". – *Approved*

Mayor Benjamin said many people have been waiting a long time for this formal recognition. He said Ms. Agnes Harris Perez was the pillar of this community and the people here tonight represent her remarkable leadership. We are honored to identify the 1000 block of Blossom Street as “Ward One Way".

Mrs. Mattie Anderson Roberson thanked the members of Council for the recognition. On behalf of all of our ancestors, it’s an honor to have a street renamed where most of us grew up and attended Saxon Elementary School.

Mr. David Tucker, son of Ms. Agnes Harris Perez thanked the members of Council for recognizing his mother’s contribution to the community.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2018-009 - Approving the Honorary naming of the 1000 block of Blossom Street between Assembly Street and Huger Street “Ward One Way".

OTHER MATTERS

21. Council is asked to approve the installation of one (1) additional street light each on Petigru Street and Hagood Avenue, as requested by the Traffic Engineering Division.

Councilor Rickenmann inquired about the request for speed humps for Bellfield Lane in district four.

Mr. Robert Anderson, Public Works Director said the road is owned by SCDOT. We are in the process of doing traffic counts and we will update you once we get the speed counts.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of one (1) additional street light each on Petigru Street and Hagood Avenue.

22. Affordable Housing Initiative - Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager

Ms. Missy Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager recalled that on February 6, 2018, staff presented the City's Affordable Housing Initiative and we are coming back with the recommendations for your approval.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Affordable Housing Initiative recommendations.

- Reallocate $250,000 from the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund to an Affordable Housing Initiative and allowing staff to develop criteria for projects to be eligible for this funding.
- Allocate $250,000 from General Fund Revolving Loan Fund to Affordable Housing Initiative and allowing staff to develop criteria for projects to be eligible for this funding.
- Direct staff to consider allocating taxes generated from identified projects to Affordable Housing Initiative during the upcoming Budget Cycle, funds of which will be made available via same criteria used for General Fund Revolving Loan $.

Mayor Benjamin said as we develop the criteria let's give added weight to those looking to leverage other sources of funding. He explained that we are discussing having the latitude of using new tax revenue generated from student housing to help develop more workforce housing in the City.

Councilor Rickenmann asked staff to look at including alternatives for expedited services for developers working to create mixed income projects.

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED DURING THE WORK SESSION

23. Council is asked to approve requests for funding from the Hospitality Tax Fund and to amend the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Hospitality Tax Budget.

A motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine to approve the following allocations from the 2017/2018 Hospitality Tax Fund surplus and an additional allocation from the fiscal year 2018/2019 Hospitality Tax Fund to the Congaree Vista Guild - Clean and Safe Program as a three-year commitment in the amount of $115,000 per year, failed by a vote of three (3) to three (3). Voting aye were Ms. Devine, Mr. Davis, and Mayor Benjamin. Voting nay were Mr. McDowell, Mr. Rickenmann and Mr. Duvall.

Security Cameras - Hospitality Districts	$75,000
City Center Partnership - Ambassador Program	$40,000
Palmetto Capital City Classic	$7,000
NCAA Basketball Tournament (2019) Planning	$75,000
State Firefighters Conference	$6,000
Regional Sports Council - Marketing	$75,000
Girl Scouts	$130,000
Language Buzz – Cinco De Mayo Festival	$5,000
Palmetto Opera	$10,000
Five Points - Food & Wine Festival	$10,000
Sally Salamander - Expansion of Walking Tour	$5,620
Black Expo	$25,000

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously four (4) to two (2) to approve the following allocations from the 2017/2018 Hospitality Tax Fund surplus and an additional allocation from the fiscal year 2018/2019 Hospitality Tax Fund to the Congaree Vista Guild - Clean and Safe Program as a three-year commitment in the amount of $115,000 per year. The remaining requests will be considered on March 6, 2018. Voting aye were Mr. McDowell, Ms. Devine, Mr. Davis, and Mayor Benjamin. Voting nay were Mr. Rickenmann and Mr. Duvall.

Security Cameras - Hospitality Districts	$75,000
City Center Partnership - Ambassador Program	$40,000
Palmetto Capital City Classic	$7,000
NCAA Basketball Tournament (2019) Planning	$75,000
State Firefighters Conference	$6,000
Regional Sports Council - Marketing	$75,000
Girl Scouts	$130,000
Five Points - Food & Wine Festival	$10,000
Sally Salamander - Expansion of Walking Tour	$5,620

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS / REFERRALS

24. Council is asked to refer a presentation from the SC Progressive Network regarding the Modjeska Simkins School for Human Rights to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to refer a presentation from the SC Progressive Network regarding the Modjeska Simkins School for Human Rights to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

No one appeared at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore, CMC
City Clerk