



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

The Columbia City Council conducted a virtual meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 using video conferencing technology. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, and The Honorable William Brennan. 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 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. Davis, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda, subject to adding **Item 20** under Executive Session for the Receipt of legal advice related to a pending, threatened or potential claim pursuant to §30-4-070(a)(2) - Constan Carwash.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the February 16, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the February 16, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

2. COVID-19 Update - The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin said we are very encouraged with the data we are seeing as it relates to the deceleration of cases. We want to make sure we are doing all we can to continue to communicate well with all of our partners and encourage vaccination. Yesterday, the governor amended the executive order to remove the “last call” language. We hope that can be handled responsibly by all parties involved.



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

Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director said worldwide we stand at over 114 million cases with over 2.5 million deaths due to COVID-19. As of March 1st, the CDC reported over 28 million confirmed cases in the U.S. with 511,839 deaths. In South Carolina, the case count as of today stands at 445,523 with almost 6 million tests administered to date. Today, we had 496 cases reported in the state with a positivity rate of 4.6%. There were 13 newly confirmed deaths, bringing the state total to 7,606 deaths. In Richland County, the case count stands at 35,830. Over the last 14-day report, Richland County had 1,530 new cases. We continue to trend down as do other counties in the state. We are averaging just over 100 cases per day. The death count due to COVID-19 in the county stands at 452. For the 14-day report, the zip code with the highest case count was 29210 with 182 cases. The Richland County recent disease activity rate remains at medium, although it is continuing to trend down. The state recovery rate is up slightly at 90.4% and the state fatality rate is estimated at 1.70%. Hospitalizations continue to trend down. The bed utilization rate as of today's report is just over 75% and the ICU bed utilization rate is over 70%. There are currently 706 patients hospitalized due to COVID-19, down from the 1,200 from the last meeting. DHEC continues to receive and distribute vaccines. The total doses received to date is 1,169,300. The number of individuals in the state who have received either the first or second dose of the vaccine is 952,860. In Richland County, 85,537 individuals have been vaccinated. DHEC will begin phase 1B on March 8, 2021. This includes individuals age 55 and older, people 16 to 64 with high risk medical conditions, and frontline essential workers. It is anticipated that phase 1C will begin on April 12, 2021 and phase 2 will begin on May 3, 2021.

Councilor Brennan said in the past we discussed having mobile units distributing vaccines. Have you heard anything else from the county and Prisma about the possibility of that happening?

Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director said we are continuing to work on that process. We had a phone call last week to discuss this with Prisma. We will be working on the logistics of planning, allocation of the vaccines, and supplies. I anticipate that we will get that finalized in short order.

Councilor McDowell said we have partnered with the CEO of Providence Hospital. We surveyed and assessed three communities within the 29203 and 29204 zip codes. We are giving folks a lending hand in securing their vaccinations from Providence. We have canvassed the Lyon Street Community and MLK Community. We recognize there are a number of senior citizens who do not have transportation. We have provided transportation to them when needed. Providence gives us a number of spots for persons to come in and get vaccinated every week. This program continues to work well and it has been very positive.



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3. Columbia Water Resiliency Update - Mr. Clint E. Shealy, P.E., Assistant City Manager for Columbia Water

Mr. Clint E. Shealy, P.E., Assistant City Manager for Columbia Water said infrastructure has recently been in the news, whether its power resiliency, water supply resiliency, or cyber security and protection from attacks. Recent extreme cold weather in the Midwest had a tremendous impact on infrastructure such as electricity and water supplies. We want to make sure we are prepared for anything that might happen and also discuss cyber security attacks. On February 5th, hackers gained access to a Florida water treatment facility by using a dormant remote access software and tried to poison the water supply. The compromised computer was running an outdated version of Windows without security updates and was connected directly to the internet without a firewall. Columbia Water uses a newer version of Windows that fully supports software and security updates. Both Columbia Water plants have firewalls that are monitored by the City's IT Department. All Columbia Water plant staff are also required to have their own logins and passwords for SCADA access. If we were to have a similar attack, our operators are there doing routine manual checks of our water quality before it ever leaves the gate of the treatment plant. Also our laboratory staff will catch any anomaly that is happening before compromised water leaves the facility. Columbia's two water plants and wastewater plant receives their electric power from Dominion Energy. Because of our interconnectivity in being in the eastern grid, Dominion has the opportunity to pull power from other parts of the grid in emergency situations. We also have multiple feeds coming to our treatment facilities that gives us a lot more reliable power and redundancy. As part of the 2018 America's Infrastructure Act, each water utility in the United States was required to conduct a risk and resiliency assessment which we completed last year. It analyzed our threats and vulnerabilities. Our emergency plan is update it every year, but this was a more formalized process than a submittal to EPA. Our assessment recommended that we continue to improve our physical security, strengthen cybersecurity and the SCADA system, and improve source water resilience. We have backup diesel generators and fuel storage in place at both drinking water plants to keep critical systems running in the event of a power outage. Generators are stationed at major pump stations and water storage sites to maintain continuous flow of water through the system. Columbia Water came to an agreement with FEMA in September 2020 on the canal water supply recovery efforts, which signals the beginning of the repair process. The scope of work includes repairing the breach, fixing damaged sections of the canal embankment, and repairing the hydroelectric plant. The City is proposing a project to develop a new raw water intake facility that will allow the canal plant to draw water directly from the Congaree River and would decrease our reliance upon the Columbia canal moving forward. We have a FEMA flood recovery protection plan for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant that will add two new generators. In our wastewater collection system, all major lift stations have installed generator capacity and the majority of



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minor lift stations have emergency generators or have plans for generators to be added to improve the strength of our sanitary sewer collection system.

4. Public Art Presentation – Mr. Henry Simons, MHA, Assistant City Manager

Mr. Henry Simons, MHA, Assistant City Manager said we started this process about six months ago. Our focus was to create artistic murals that depict African American history, heritage, and culture. The desire was to identify specific locations within each council district for this work to be accomplished. We have narrowed those locations down to four city owned facilities. Our goal is to tell a story about specific African American individuals that were connected historically to those communities. This is an extension of Black History Month in an effort to celebrate African American lives and history. This project is being facilitated and funded through the Parks and Recreation Foundation. We have partnered with Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Director for the Center of Civil Rights History and Research for the University of South Carolina. He also serves as the lead scholar for Columbia SC63: Our Story Matters, a history initiative that chronicles the struggles for civil rights and social justice in Columbia. We also partnered with Mr. Lee Snelgrove, Executive Director of One Columbia for Arts and Culture. Over 75% of the work for the project will be accomplished by local artists.

Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Director for the Center of Civil Rights History and Research for the University of South Carolina said we hope to underscore critical moments and individuals who are part of the transition of what is called the reconstruction of the city and communities. When we were presented a series of sites for consideration by the city, I was particularly excited about 1401 Main Street. We know it as an office building but other people know this corner of Main Street and Washington Street as the beginnings of the African American business district. The footprint of 1401 Main is the beginnings of what was called the black downtown district.

For Hyatt Park, we thought the location might be a place to discuss the pursuit of citizenship in Columbia and in South Carolina. Septima Poinsette Clark is among the individuals who will be highlighted in this public art installation. For nearly 20 years, she taught at the Old Saxon School, Howard School, and Booker T. Washington High School. After she was dismissed as a teacher, she assumed greater civil rights work and developed what was called citizenship schools. She trained people on how to prepare to exercise their right to vote. She is joined in that effort by a gentleman named Deacon Benjamin J. Mack. He was a resident of the Ridgewood Community in the Hyatt Park area and an active leader under Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Another individual for consideration is a man named Listervelt Middleton, an ETV pioneer journalist who also had a series of public television programs called *For The People*. He championed the connection between citizenship and understanding a history largely removed from textbooks.



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For Woodland Park, I thought about the location as a path between lower Richland and Columbia. I thought it would be an appropriate venue to bring attention to a young woman named Sarah Mae Flemming Brown from Eastover. Only weeks after the famous Brown v. Board of Education case, Ms. Flemming took a seat on the first available seat on a city bus in Columbia. She knew the seat was reserved for white citizens and that she was violating the segregation laws of the city. In sitting down, she was attacked by the bus driver and ultimately filed a law suit against the owners of the bus company. The case of Flemming v. SCE&G became a breaking case that set the stage for the legal ruling related to Rosa Parks in Alabama 17-months later. Ms. Flemming once worked in a household in the Woodland Park area, so we thought it would be an appropriate venue to pay tribute to this pioneering civil rights hero.

For the Valencia Park location in the Rosewood District, we were inspired by another iconic photograph that appeared in the *New York Times* in September of 1964. The photograph marked the legal integration of public schools in Columbia. Several schools were part of the first wave of integration, including Rosewood Elementary. We thought an appropriate theme for the Valencia Park site would be the pursuit of education. We are excited about this initiative because we know that our youngest citizens may not be getting this history in their textbooks or classrooms; therefore, the public art initiative provides a unique opportunity to turn nearly every corner of our city into a classroom.

Mr. Lee Snelgrove, Executive Director for One Columbia said we have worked with Mr. Simons and Dr. Donaldson on the process of artist selection and identifying strong proposals for the concepts for each location. We have identified a short-list of artist and pinpointed ones that had certain expertise or we felt would be able to accomplish projects in each of these areas. We had them submit a proposal to us with their concept. Those proposals were received by Council and other stakeholders and four were selected. For 1401 Main Street, a photograph of the old building was given to the artist for inspiration and we selected the image from artist Aisha Charles. Ms. Charles has taken the storefront photo and highlighted those individual business names and given a sense of life and vibrancy to what would have been a façade along the black business district. For the Hyatt Park location, we had three images of three important individuals representing the area. We received a proposal from artist Charmaine Mayfield, a resident of Atlanta who is currently on a residency in Gambia. She has a team of artists that she works with, one of which is a resident of Columbia. Ms. Mayfield has previously done work for us. In the proposed concept, she showcases African cloth patterns in the background with black and white portraits recognizing the three figures of the Hyatt Park community. In Woodland Park, we had the Sarah Mae Flemming photo as inspiration. We received a proposal from a couple that travels around the Southeast called Hand-and-Hand Creative. They provided a rendering of the photo showing Ms. Flemming in front of the bus. The concept for the last location at Valencia Park was done by an artist named McClellan Douglas. A Rosewood resident who works throughout



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the country installing murals. He is giving us an expressionistic take of the photograph, lending itself to showcase the hope that came out of the challenges of that day for those students. All of the artists will be using high quality materials. They are all experienced public artists and are aware of the conditions their pieces will be in. They will ensure that these pieces are installed in a quality manner and will need minimal maintenance. We can expect at least a ten-year lifespan on all of these projects based on our experience with similar murals.

Councilor McDowell asked if there will be a plaque associated with the murals.

Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Director for the Center of Civil Rights History and Research for the University of South Carolina said each site will be accompanied by what we describe as a wayside sign. Those wayside signs will give some historical context to what the viewer is seeing. It can also point to resources such as websites, oral interviews, video footage, and any information that will explain what you are seeing and provide you with other pathways to learn more.

Councilor Devine asked what is the timeframe for this project.

Mr. Henry Simons, MHA, Assistant City Manager said with the suggestion of Ms. Devine, I have engaged our PR department and they are going to help us capture the progress of the project as it happens. We are looking at it being a six to eight-week process from start to finish.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 13

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 5 through 13**.

5. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Ford E450 Cutaway Van for the Fire Department, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Dick Smith Ford Inc. using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$61,591.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Autos, Trucks Heavy Equipment - Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$61,591.00.



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6. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Tri Axle Dump Truck for the Street Division, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Shealy Western Star, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$163,221.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Streets - Water & Sewer Repair - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (5513202-658500). The original budget amount is \$163,221.00.

7. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Replacement Parts, Inspections, Repair/Field Services, and Maintenance for Envirex, Jet-Tech and Aqua-Lator Systems for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Evoqua Water Technologies, as a Sole Source in the amount of \$100,000.00. This vendor is located in Waukesha, WI. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Equipment Repair Service Supply (5516208-631800). The original budget amount is \$100,000.00.

8. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #11 for Project SS6854; Modeling and Evaluating the City's Sanitary Sewer System Piping and Pumping Stations to Support a Capacity Assurance Program (CAP), as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. in the amount of \$132,631.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering Wastewater System Improvements; Special Contracts - Water/Sewer, Stormwater (5516221-SS685401-638305). The original budget amount was \$3,248,875.40. The budget amount for this amendment is \$132,631.00. The total revised budget amount is \$3,381,506.40.

This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project.

9. Council is asked to approve the Gills Creek Watershed 319 Grant Match Agreement for the Lower Gills Creek Watershed, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to the Gills Creek Watershed Association in the amount of \$250,000. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Stormwater Capital Projects; Capital Project Costs (5549999--658650) SD848901. The original budget amount is \$250,000.00.

10. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Project SS7562; Gills Creek Relief Sewer Phase I for an initial term of two years with the option to renew for one additional one-year term, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Michael Baker International in the amount of \$592,330.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. - *Approved*



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Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS756201-658650). The original budget amount is \$592,330.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Michael Baker International is the mentor and will provide overall project administration, field reconnaissance, survey and mapping, final design, and bidding and permitting services at 68.76% (\$407,280.00) of the total contract amount. Highfill Infrastructure Engineering, P.C. of Columbia, SC, is the protégé and will provide engineering, regulatory review, and utility coordination services at 20.82% (\$123,300.00) of the total contract amount.

The following subconsultant will provide additional services:

F&ME Consultants Inc. of Columbia, SC will provide geotechnical services at 10.42% (\$61,750.00) of the total contract amount.

11. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7447; Garden Springs Sanitary Sewer Extension, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to LAD Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$2,677,972.00, which includes contingency. This firm is located in Swansea, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water & Sewer Improvements (5529999-SS744701-658650). The original budget amount is \$2,677,972.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program project. LAD Construction, LLC, a Local Business Enterprise of Swansea, SC, is the mentor and will be providing general project management and other services at 68.33% (\$1,663,616.00) of the total contract amount. J.A. Mabus & Associates, Inc., of Batesburg, SC, is the protégé and will be providing equipment and personnel services at 20.00% (\$486,904.00) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractors/suppliers will provide additional services/supplies:

Ferguson Waterworks of Elgin, SC will provide sewer line materials at 8.94% (\$217,500.00) of the total contract amount.

Tindall Corporation of Spartanburg, SC will provide sewer structure materials at 2.73% (\$66,500.00) of the total contract amount.

12. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7428; Lower Saluda River Relief Sewer and Pipe Rehabilitation, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to McClam & Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$16,694,600.78, which includes contingency. The firm is located in Little Mountain, SC. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water & Sewer Improvements (5529999-SS742801-658650). The original budget amount is \$19,994,080.70.



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This is a Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) program project with a 10% CDBE goal. McClam & Associates, Inc. of Little Mountain, SC is the prime contractor and will provide pipeline rehabilitation services at 56.09% (\$8,513,248.89) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractors/suppliers will provide additional services/supplies:

L.A. Barrier, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) and a CDBE of Lexington, SC will provide stone and hauling services at 6.46% (\$980,146.00) of the total contract amount.

Synergy Blasting, Inc. of Lawrenceville, GA will provide blasting services at 1.19% (\$180,000.00) of the total contract amount.

IPR Southeast of Stone Mountain, GA will provide pipe bursting services at 5.12% (\$777,055.00) of the total contract amount.

ACIPCO of Irmo, SC will provide DIP services at 2.41% (\$365,514.15) of the total contract value.

Horizontal Unlimited of Westminster, SC will provide jack & bore services at 8.34% (\$1,265,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Hobas Pipe USA of Houston, TX will provide pipe materials at 12.33% (\$1,871,602.00) of the total contract amount.

Matt Lane Construction, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise (W) of Leesville, SC will provide concrete sidewalk services at 2.37% (\$360,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Tindall PreCast of Spartanburg, SC will provide precast concrete materials at 2.84% (\$430,781.76) of the total contract amount.

Herndon Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise and a CDBE of Lugoff, SC will provide erosion control services at 0.44% (\$66,832.00) of the total contract amount.

Dennis Corporation of Columbia, SC will provide survey services at 0.24% (\$36,900.00) of the total contract amount.

HydroStructures of Cayce, SC will provide pipe cleaning and video services at 0.16% (\$24,625.00) of the total contract amount.

Fortiline Waterworks of Columbia, SC will provide waterworks materials at 2.01% (\$305,205.00) of the total contract amount.



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13. Ordinance No.: 2021-009 Granting an encroachment to Gadsden Place, LLC for use of the right of way areas of the 1200 block of Gadsden Street for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, driveways, parking, curbing, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to its building at 1209 Gadsden Street and 1211 Gadsden Street, Richland County TMS#08912-07-06 and 08912-07-14 - *First reading approval was given on February 16, 2021 – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

14. Ordinance No.: 2021-013 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a License Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for use of property at Lower Richland Tank Site – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2021-013 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a License Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC for use of property at Lower Richland Tank Site.

RESOLUTIONS

15. Resolution No.: 2021-011 Adopting the By-Laws of the Climate Protection Action Committee (Last Revised February 16, 2021) – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: 2021-011 Adopting the By-Laws of the Climate Protection Action Committee (Last Revised February 16, 2021).

16. Resolution No.: R-2021-014 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Sublease Agreement between the City of Columbia and K W Associates, LLC d/b/a KW Beverage for 920 A and B Hemlock Road (*Columbia Police Department*) – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-014 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Sublease Agreement between the City of Columbia and K W Associates, LLC d/b/a KW Beverage for 920 A and B Hemlock Road (*Columbia Police Department*).



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OTHER MATTERS

17. Council is asked to approve the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application for Equipment Enhancements in the Special Services Bureau, as requested by the Columbia Police Department in the amount of \$72,941. – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application for Equipment Enhancements in the Special Services Bureau, as requested by the Columbia Police Department in the amount of \$72,941.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS/REFERRALS

Councilor Rickenmann said I would like to establish a committee on the tax study. We have committed to pull partners from the school district, county, city, and chamber to work together and dig into the data to formulate a plan that benefits the community by reducing our tax structure for competitiveness. I would like for us to establish the committee and start working with our sister agencies in Columbia on the fact finding side and to come up with recommendations to present back.

Councilor Davis said the end product needs to be something the public can understand. We need at least one citizen to join the committee to articulate and help convey the information to the public at large.

Councilor Duvall said the issues that were pointed out in the tax study are very complicated. Many of those issues cannot be settled by a group sitting around, they have to be settled at a legislative level. We are starting up an election season that is going to elect four new members of this council and it might be the wrong time to get into this type of study. If we want to do something positive, we can get a small working group of people that are experts in municipal, county, and school government and lay out where the problems are before you have a public facing committee diving into these sensitive subjects during a political campaign.

Councilor Devine said I think a working group probably will be best. I suggest doing a working group among ourselves and come up with ideas on how to tackle the issues that we think need further study and with staff pull together more information. A lot of the concerns from the other bodies are more on a state level, especially as it relates to the value of our millage versus other areas in the state.



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Mayor Benjamin said we are going to move forward with establishing this commission but it is important that we lay out to people who want to work on the committee that we must be truly solutions oriented. We have to make sure we have clear, targeted, measurable, time bound results that help us get to where we need to. We need to make sure that we include city staff, citizens who support public education, regular working citizens, small business representatives, and state legislators willing to serve and take ideas back to the State House and put them into action. I recommend coming back with how the committee should proceed and how the committee will look. With the main focus of addressing the challenges outlined in the tax study report and come back with specific resolutions the city, school district, county, and state can act on.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to establish a committee to focus on the challenges identified in the tax study. Mr. Rickenmann, Ms. Devine, and Mr. Duvall will come back with recommendations on the set-up of the committee and the main goals to be accomplished. – *Approved*

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Michael Bailey, City of Columbia Citizen said I don't know why you used an executive session to discuss extending the mask ordinance earlier in the month. The public has an opinion; you keep doing everything in secret. The public doesn't want this and like you all said reelections are coming up and you all might want to remember that.

Mr. Emeril Utsey, Citizen of the Meadowfield Hampton Hill Community said we have been discussing the African American mural project and I have received some input from the community. There are several concerns that have been raised about the art project. Number one, is the concern that a mural specifically at the Woodland Community Center would be viewed as urban art in a residential neighborhood. Number two, is that the mural and its message is largely lost on this community. I know that there is the purpose of educating the community, but the opinion from some is that if you put this mural up without any adequate explanation people are just going to ignore it. Number three, the murals would be more appropriate inside the community centers or as part of a touring art show throughout the city. The concerns are weathering, vandalism, and graffiti. This leads to the concern of the upkeep of each mural over time. Will the mural be regularly kept up, who will pay for the upkeep, and who is going to prevent vandalism and graffiti? If it's put inside the community centers, there will be adequate supervision and explanation. Another concern is that City Council has largely railroaded this project through without adequate input from the community. There's collective wisdom when City Council taps into community input.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:16 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 18** through **20** as amended.

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

*COVID-19
2021 Legislative Overview*

19. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)

One Columbia

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

Constan Carwash

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk