



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

The Columbia City Council conducted a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and the following councilmembers were present: The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, and The Honorable Peter M. Brown. The Honorable William Brennan was absent. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda subject to adding discussion of the meal sharing ordinance to Executive Session for the receipt of legal advice related to matters covered by attorney-client privilege and referral of a proposed policy on tenant's rights.

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Amie Clifford said the preamble to the short-term rental ordinance can result in undue commercialization and cause disruption to the primary and overreaching purpose of the neighborhood being a residential community. I would encourage this Council to restrict the number of short-term rentals in residential areas, consider operating a lottery system, include minimum stay requirements, limit the number of nights a unit can be rented out, and define bedrooms. H3253 [Short-Term Rentals] has not gotten out of the 3-M Committee [House Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee] and no action will be taken.

Ms. Pamela Zeljak said I am the new public art administrator for One Columbia. We offer ourselves as a resource for the upcoming public art projects. We are a public art agency and artist support agency. We moved our offices to Duke Avenue. We look forward to more of what is going on.



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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the February 21 and March 7, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the February 21 and March 7, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. Brown abstained from voting because he was not a member of City Council prior to April 3, 2023.

PRESENTATIONS

2. National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann said we don't get enough opportunity to thank each of you for what you do. You are the glue that keeps our Public Safety Department together. On behalf of the Columbia City Council, I want to thank you for what you do for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Leon Lott, Richland County Sheriff; Mr. William H. "Skip" Holbrook, Columbia Police Chief; and Mr. Aubrey D. Jenkins, Columbia Fire Chief thanked the Columbia Public Safety Telecommunicators for being the first line of public safety; the first to receive the call; and for being a lifeline for the community.

Mr. Henry Simons, MHA, Assistant City Manager for Operations said telecommunicators are the direct link to law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. In 2022, we handled almost 1.4 million calls for service. We would like to introduce Ms. Wendy Royal as the new interim director of the Columbia-Richland 911 Communications Center. She has served the 911 Communications Center since 2008.

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the week of April 9, 2023 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week in the City of Columbia.



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3. Community Development Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the week of April 10-14, 2023 as National Community Development Week in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Charmaine Clark, Community Liaison / Community Development Department presented the calendar of events for April 2023 in recognition of National Community Development Week and Financial Literacy and Fair Housing Month. These events are being hosted in collaboration with the Richland County Community Development Department.

Councilor Herbert said I want to commend staff for going outside of our normal marketing efforts. I heard a commercial on the Big DM for the Neighborhood Clean Sweep event.

Councilor Duvall thanked Ms. Clark for doing an excellent job with all of our communities. Thank you for your energy and vision for this city.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager thanked the staff for holding it down during the search for a new director.

4. National Fair Housing & Financial Literacy Month Proclamations - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed April 2023 as National Fair Housing and Financial Literacy Month.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recognized Benedict College students who are attending today's meeting along with Professor Cynthia Joseph.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 14

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

5. Council is asked to approve the purchase of Cisco Secure Firewall, as requested by the Information Technology Department on March 2, 2023. Award to SHI International using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$116,473.60. The vendor is located in Piscataway, NJ. - *Approved*
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Funding Source: Technology Replacement - Computer/Elect Equipment-Capital (6218954-658600), \$99,224.40; Technology Replacement - Computer Equipment/Hardware (6218954-627500) \$17,249.20. The original budget amount is \$116,473.60

6. Council is asked to approve the purchase of Cisco Security Licenses and Subscriptions, as requested by the Information Technology Department on March 2, 2023. Award to SHI International using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$133,773.72. The vendor is located in Piscataway, NJ. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Geographic Information System-Maintenance and Service Contract (5511121-638200), \$99,476.54; Information Technology- Maintenance and Service Contract (1011120-638200), \$34,297.18. The original budget amount is \$133,773.72.

7. Council is asked to approve the purchase of four (4) Trailer Attenuators with Arrowboard, as requested by Columbia Water on January 9, 2023. Award to Street Smart Rental in the amount of \$126,848.00. The vendor is located in Columbus, MN. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution & Maintenance - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment & Capital (5516203-658500) \$63,424.00; Utilities Wastewater Maintenance - Machinery & Equipment Capital (5516205-658300) \$63,424.00.

8. Ordinance No.: 2023-038 - Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (Project Siquino RC, LLC, Richland County TMS # 16503-05-04) – *Approved on second reading.*

Economic and Community Development Committee Recommendation: 12/13/22; Approval (3-0)

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.

9. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 7106 Broad River Road; TMS# 05007-02-38 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2023-003 - Annexing 7106 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS# 05007-02-38 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on second reading.



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Council District: 1

Proposal: Request to annex the property and assign a land use classification of Community Activity corridor (AC-2) and assign zoning of Office and Institutional District (OI) at the time of annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density), in a Priority Investment Area and zoned NC by Richland County.

Applicant: Art Smart Academy After-School, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 11/10/2022; Approval (7-0)

First reading approval was given on February 7, 2023.

10. **ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 5900 Indian Mound Road; TMS#13715-02-02 – Approved on second reading.**

Ordinance No.: 2023-033 - Annexing 5900 Indian Mound Road, Richland County TMS# 13715-02-02 into the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Incorporating said property into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 and the Official Zoning Map – Approved on second reading.

Council District: 3

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign land use classification of Urban Edge Residential Large Lot (UER-2) and assign zoning of Residential Single Family Large Lot District (RSF-1) at the time of annexation. The property is currently classified as Mixed Residential (High Density) and zoned RS-LD by Richland County.

Applicant: Diane Stanford Harrill, Trustee

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 02/09/2023; Approval (9-0)

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.



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11. FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT CONFIRMATION for 1008 S. Ott Road; TMS#13703-04-04 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2023-031 - Amending the Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 Map to confirm the future land use classification for 1008 S. Ott Road; Richland County TMS# 13703-04-04; annexed by Ordinance No 2022-127 enacted January 17, 2023 – Approved on second reading.

Council District: 3

Proposal: Request to confirm the future land use classification of Urban Core Residential Small Lot (UCR-1). The property is currently assigned interim future land use classification of Urban Core Residential Small Lot (UCR-1).

Applicant: Rosewood Church

Staff Recommendation: Approval

Annexation

PC Recommendation: 12/08/2022; Approval

First Reading: 12/20/2022; Approved and Second Reading 01/17/2023; Approved

FLU, ZMA Confirmation

PC Recommendation: 02/09/2023; Approval (9-0)

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.

12. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT CONFIRMATION for 1008 S. Ott Road; TMS#13703-04-04 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2023-034 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to confirm the zoning for 1008 S. Ott Road, Richland County TMS# 13703-04-04; annexed by Ordinance No.: 2022-127 enacted January 17, 2023 – Approved on second reading.

Council District: 3

Proposal: Request to confirm the zoning of Residential Mixed District (RM-1), a portion within the Floodplain Overlay District (OV-FP). The property currently has interim zoning of Residential Mixed District (RM-1), a portion within the Floodplain Overlay District (OV-FP).

Applicant: Rosewood Church

Staff Recommendation: Approval



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Annexation

PC Recommendation: 12/08/2022; Approval

First Reading: 12/20/2022; Approved and Second Reading: 01/17/2023; Approved

FLU, ZMA Confirmation

PC Recommendation: 02/09/2023; Approval (9-0)

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.

13. **AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE** for Design Development Review Commission – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2022-032 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, (Unified Development Ordinance), Article 2, Administration, Section 17-2.3(e)(2)(a)(3), Design Development Review Commission, Membership and Terms – Approved on second reading.

Proposal: Request to amend Chapter 17 Article 2 of the Columbia Code of Ordinance concerning membership qualifications

Applicant: Council member Howard Duvall

Staff Recommendation: City Council Sponsored

PC Recommendation: 02/09/2023; Approval (9-0)

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.

14. **Resolution No.: R-2023-027 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Newman Street between River Drive and North Main Street, Drayton Street between Newman Street and Anthony Avenue and Anthony Avenue between Drayton Street and River Drive for the South Carolina Cornbread Festival on Sunday, April 30, 2023 - Approved**

ORDINANCE - SECOND READING

15. **Ordinance No.: 2023-037 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 5, Buildings and Buildings Regulations, to add Article IX, Short Term Rentals – Approved on second reading.**

First reading approval was given on March 21, 2023.



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Councilor Duvall said I would like to thank David Bergmann for representing the short-term rental industry, Kit Smith for representing the neighborhoods, David Hatcher for giving us expert advice from the code enforcement side, and Attorney James Knox for drafting most of the ordinance. I agree that there are things wanting in this ordinance but it is a great first step. It gives us a procedure for registering and permitting short-term rentals, safety, requirements, enforcement, and rules and regulations for short-term rentals in neighborhoods.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2023-037 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 5, Buildings and Buildings Regulations, to add Article IX, Short Term Rentals.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

16. Ordinance No.: 2023-028 - Authorizing land swap with University of South Carolina of the unopened right-of-way of College Street between Gadsden Street and Wayne Street, Richland County TMS #08915-02-01 and TMS #08915-04-01 in exchange for 0.08 acre of the Gadsden Street right-of-way south of College Street, adjacent to the eastern boundary of Richland County TMS #08915-04-01 and TMS #08915-04-02 and 0.12 acre of the Gadsden Street right-of-way north of College Street, adjacent to the eastern boundary of Richland County TMS #08915-02-01; and authorizing the City Manager to execute a Maintenance Agreement between University of South Carolina and the City of Columbia for the ongoing maintenance of this Project – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Bussells said I want to confirm that the maintenance agreement includes the University of South Carolina doing some maintenance as well.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said yes.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2023-028 - Authorizing land swap with University of South Carolina of the unopened right-of-way of College Street between Gadsden Street and Wayne Street, Richland County TMS #08915-02-01 and TMS #08915-04-01 in exchange for 0.08 acre of the Gadsden Street right-of-way south of College Street, adjacent to the eastern boundary of Richland County TMS #08915-04-01 and TMS #08915-04-02 and 0.12 acre of the Gadsden Street right-of-way north of College Street, adjacent to the eastern boundary of Richland County TMS #08915-02-01; and authorizing the City Manager to execute a Maintenance Agreement between University of South Carolina and the City of Columbia for the ongoing maintenance of this Project.



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17. Ordinance No.: 2023-029 - Granting an encroachment to the University of South Carolina for the use of the right of way areas of the 700 block of College Street, 700 block of Greene Street, 700 block of Pendleton Street and the 900 block of Gadsden Street for the installation of various improvements adjacent to 720 College Street, 743 Greene Street, 706 Pendleton Street and 925 Gadsden Street, Richland County TMS# 08915-02-01, 08915-04-01 and 08915-04-02 – *Approved on first reading.*

Mayor Rickenmann said this too will be maintained by the University of South Carolina.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2023-029 - Granting an encroachment to the University of South Carolina for the use of the right of way areas of the 700 block of College Street, 700 block of Greene Street, 700 block of Pendleton Street and the 900 block of Gadsden Street for the installation of various improvements adjacent to 720 College Street, 743 Greene Street, 706 Pendleton Street and 925 Gadsden Street, Richland County TMS# 08915-02-01, 08915-04-01 and 08915-04-02.

18. Ordinance No.: 2023-039 - Granting an encroachment to Chick Fil A, Inc., and WM Columbia Trust for the use of the right of way area of the 5400 block of Ring Road for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 5440 Forest Drive, Richland County TMS#16706-04-05 and 16706-04-06 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2023-039 - Granting an encroachment to Chick Fil A, Inc., and WM Columbia Trust for the use of the right of way area of the 5400 block of Ring Road for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 5440 Forest Drive, Richland County TMS#16706-04-05 and 16706-04-06.

19. Ordinance No.: 2023-040 - Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (Huger Flats, LLC, formerly referred to as Project Stratus, Richland County TMS #09009-13-01 and TMS #08912-13-01) – *Approved on first reading.*

Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee Recommendation: 01/10/23; Approval (3-0)



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval Ordinance No.: 2023-040 - Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (Huger Flats, LLC, formerly referred to as Project Stratus, Richland County TMS #09009-13-01 and TMS #08912-13-01).

20. Ordinance No.: 2023-044 - Amending Section 10 of the Franchise Agreement between Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. ("Dominion"), f/k/a South Carolina Electric & Gas Company and the City of Columbia, to Grant a Franchise Extension for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Electric and Gas Systems in the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding Setting Forth the Property Transactions Required By that Extension – *Approved on first reading.*

Mayor Rickenmann explained that we will have an updated agreement. The terms will have to be changed from 15 years to 12 years before second reading.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2023-044 - Amending Section 10 of the Franchise Agreement between Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. ("Dominion"), f/k/a South Carolina Electric & Gas Company and the City of Columbia, to Grant a Franchise Extension for the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Electric and Gas Systems in the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding Setting Forth the Property Transactions Required By that Extension.

RESOLUTIONS

21. Resolution No.: R-2023-024 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Richland County and the City of Columbia for Animal Care Facilities - *Approved*

Councilor Bussells said thank you ACM Shealy and your team for continuing to answer our questions and for working with the community. We receive 62% of our animals from the county and we are working towards that no-kill status. That is a hurdle that we are trying to address.

Mayor Rickenmann said we continue to look for a new opportunity for the shelter. It needs upgrades and a new facility. We need more of a presence in a retail area to foster the programs that help keep animals alive as long as possible.



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Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2023-024 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Richland County and the City of Columbia for Animal Care Facilities.

22. Resolution No.: R-2023-031 - Authorizing the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee to act as designee for City Council to hold business license revocation hearings pursuant to any City Code sections allowing such designee, including Section 11-45 - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2023-031 - Authorizing the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee to act as designee for City Council to hold business license revocation hearings pursuant to any City Code sections allowing such designee, including Section 11-45.

OTHER MATTERS

23. Council is asked to approve a \$200,000 allocation to the Columbia Parks and Recreation Foundation for the Columbia Public Art Program: Columbia Streams Art, as requested by The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Hospitality Tax Budget

Mayor Rickenmann explained that this program is a three-phase public art program. The first one creates a parade of fish similar to what has been done in other cities. It will engage students. Local artists will be used to create art that will be displayed and auctioned off. The funds will be used to replenish public art and to grow the program. The mobile canvas art program is a traveling art program. We will have multiple pieces in each district and rotate them around so that people can celebrate local artists while visiting different neighborhoods. The third piece is to support the Ernest A. Finney Cultural Arts Center art program on Laurens Street in a neighborhood where we continue to highlight African American artists. Skot Garrick in Parks and Recreation will help administer this process until we determine roles with the art community. Mr. Brennan is not here to talk about his plan that we designated certain funding for. The Hobbs Group will handle financing and disbursement of checks. We will buy 50 fish and provide funding for artists. We will work with school districts and universities. Funding will also pay for the canvas to be produced, framed, and mobilized.



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Councilor Duvall said I want to refer this to committee because One Columbia has been in this business for a number of years and they volunteered their support for this. I would like to see the details as we go forward.

Councilor McDowell asked Mr. Duvall how different this will be in terms of referring the matter to a committee and doing it through Parks and Recreation.

Councilor Duvall said I don't think the Parks and Recreation Foundation has staff that can do this.

Councilor Brown said you all remember when we did the Palmetto Tree Program 20 years ago. I would like to keep this going. It is important for our community to invest in our local artists and to build consensus around art in our community. I am supportive of this effort.

Councilor Herbert asked if students will be part of the art process. Can they do the art?

Mayor Rickenmann said the eight high schools in city limits, the eight higher education institutions, and local artists will participate.

Councilor Herbert asked if we will pay the students.

Mayor Rickenmann said no; we will provide art supplies. The funds will go through the Parks and Recreation Foundation. Today was the first day that I knew there was a new director at One Columbia. We have to sort this out but I don't want to miss the opportunity to get this program going. The fish have to be produced and shipped. If there is an opportunity to have a conversation with the new director and other folks to see if we can collaborate, I am all for that.

Councilor McDowell said I support all three. The emphasis of the Ernest A. Finney Cultural Arts Center tremendously effects district two. I support the arts in general.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve a \$200,000 allocation to the Columbia Parks and Recreation Foundation for the Columbia Public Art Program: Columbia Streams Art from the Hospitality Tax Fund as amended to ask City of Columbia and One Columbia staff to meet collectively to see how we can work together.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS

24. Council is asked to refer the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council's Proposal for the Columbia Race and Equity Assessment Project to the Administrative Policy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to refer the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council's Proposal for the Columbia Race and Equity Assessment Project to the Administrative Policy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr.

25. Council is asked to refer a proposed policy related to the placement of art within a city-owned facility or right-of-way to the Arts, Historic Preservation and Philanthropy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor.

Mayor Rickenmann said an extreme amount of folks have reached out to us to donate [public art]. We need a set policy on maintenance.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to refer a proposed policy related to the placement of art within a city-owned facility or right-of-way to the Arts, Historic Preservation and Philanthropy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor.

26. Council is asked to refer a proposed policy on Tenant's Rights to the Administrative Policy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor.

Mayor Rickenmann said we had a lot of instances where residents are put into a bad position because landlords aren't taking care of the property but still collecting rent. Reverend McDowell and I have been working with staff to come up with a Tenant's Rights bill. We would like to refer it to committee, have it put into ordinance form, and made effective on July 1.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to refer a proposed policy on Tenant's Rights to the Administrative Policy Committee.



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27. Council is asked to submit an application to become a member of the Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina, as requested by The Honorable Aditi Bussells.

Councilor Bussells said the Health, Social and Environmental Affairs Committee received a great presentation from Mr. Monty Robertson with the Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina. This is a well-established coalition of groups addressing public health for the state. The committee unanimously agreed that we would like to engage the Alliance to help us in developing local efforts around public health. I would like to move that forward and ask the staff to help us with formally becoming a part of that alliance.

Mayor Rickenmann asked how this would coordinate with the Blue Zone we are working on with Prisma Health.

Councilor Bussells said we would like to use our membership with the Alliance to give us resources to help with grant opportunities and ways in which we can build local support for things we are doing.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council approved the request to become a member of the Alliance for a Healthier South Carolina.

Councilor Herbert said we really want to work on the image of affordable housing. A lot of people have a negative stigma. I think it is because they don't understand. The Affordable Housing Task Force will be working on the launch throughout the month. We will have a website and testimonials. We are doing this as part of Fair Housing Month. With respect to tenant's rights, I am interested in us having a nice piece of material, that is easy to read and easily understood.

Mayor Rickenmann said once it gets through the Administrative Policy Committee, we will send it to your committee for review and feedback on the best way to condense it.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said that Jo Pauling-Jones, director of Healthy Learners reached out about wanting to collaborate with the city on tenant's rights. There may be others.



We Are Columbia

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PUBLIC INPUT

Reverend Jackie Utley said I am representing Ascension Lutheran Church and our work with More Justice. There are more than 65,000 Richland County residents who do not know where their next meal is coming from. Our food system is not working for us. Volunteers spend over 280 hours working to address the gaps. It is time for us to do something. We appreciate your efforts to address this issue. The community gardens, funding of the mobile market and the free delivery program are all great first steps to address food insecurity. I am here to charge you to listen and to act. You will receive an email from More Justice on tomorrow requesting a meeting to discuss these ideas in more depth. Please respond with the urgency that this problem demands.

Councilor McDowell asked if there has been coordination with the Food Policy Committee.

Reverend Jackie Utley said our research committee met with the Food Policy Committee. That is how we became aware of the initiatives that the city is supporting at this time.

Councilor McDowell asked if More Justice wants to become part of the Food Policy Committee.

Reverend Jackie Utley said we want to be in discussion with City Council because we are pushing for an extension on the mobile market initiative.

Councilor Herbert said I have not attended a Food Policy Committee meeting since 2017. They came to the Economic and Community Development Committee meeting. In that structure, you are more likely to get a positive answer and full involvement of the committee.

Mayor Rickenmann said it would be helpful to send us the research from your research committee prior to having a meeting.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS

28. Council is asked to refer More Justice's input and discussion regarding Mobile Markets to the Community Development Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tina N. Herbert.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mayor Rickenmann Council voted unanimously to refer More Justice's input and discussion regarding the mobile food market to the next Community Development Committee meeting.



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PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. John Black, Columbia Council of Neighborhoods said we want to welcome Councilman Brown. The Columbia Council of Neighborhoods will be giving out 14-\$100 neighborhood grants for participating in the Columbia Clean-up Program thanks to additional funding from Keep the Midlands Beautiful and Salvation Army of the Midlands. On Tuesday, May 2, 2023, councilmembers will randomly select winners per district. Award announcements will be made during the public portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 29** and **30** as amended.

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

Eddie Duncan v. The Waters at Berryhill and The City of Columbia

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

*Colony Apartments
Meal Sharing Ordinance*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk