



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at the Busby Street Community Center, 1735 Busby Street, Columbia, SC 29203. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and the following Council members were present: The Honorable Will Brennan, Mayor Pro-Tem, The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, The Honorable Peter M. Brown, and The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey, Jr. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. The minutes are numbered to reflect the order of the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Honorable Peter M. Brown offered the invocation

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda subject to the following amendments:

- Amend **Item 6** to read Economic Development Week Proclamation.
- Add National Police Week Proclamation as the first presentation.
- Approve **Consent Agenda Items 10 through 24**.
- Amend **Item 33** to read Council is asked to refer the consideration of the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee that will provide specific policy recommendations for the neighborhoods most impacted by gentrification, investor ownership, and student rentals, to promote smart and purposeful growth in order to enhance the quality of life within our communities to the Community Development Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey.
- Add the Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2) - DMH Surplus Property to Executive Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the April 16, 2024 Budget Workshop Minutes and City Council Meeting Minutes. – *Approved*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve the April 16, 2024 Budget Workshop Minutes and City Council Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Professional Municipal Clerk's Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 5 – 11, 2024 as Professional Municipal Clerk's Week in the City of Columbia.

3. National Police Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 10 - 16, 2024 as National Police Week in the City of Columbia.

4. National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 2024 as National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month; May 5, 2024 as National Ride a Bike Day; the week of May 13-19, 2024 as Bike to Work Week; and May 17, 2024 as Bike to Work Day in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Lucinda Statler, Planning Administrator/Planning and Development Services Department thanked the Mayor and City Council for their support of the cycling community in Columbia. As we continue to provide safe and connected facilities for vulnerable road users, we can grow the cycling community. She highlighted the installation of the Calhoun Street bike lanes, the grant agreement for Safe Streets and Roads For All, and the May 2024 Bike Month event calendar.

5. National Historic Preservation Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor and the 2024 Mabel Payne Historic Preservation Award - Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner / Planning and Development Services Department

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 2024 as National Preservation Month in the City of Columbia.



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Mayor Rickenmann said this is timely because we've been having discussions about the key role Columbia has played in history. From the beginning of our birth as a nation all the way through the Civil Rights Movement, Columbia has not seen a lot of the recognition that it should for its role in US history. We're going to be concentrating as a Council along with Dr. Donaldson and others, on preserving and showcasing our history.

Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner / Planning and Development Services Department shared the May 2024 event calendar. With the assistance of Historic Columbia, we are rolling out information on the recently completed Economic Impact Study, which explores the ways in which historic resources benefit our community. Each year, as a part of Preservation Month, we give out the Mabel Payne award. Mabel Payne was a city employee whose work in the 1950's documenting and preserving historic structures serves as the foundation for the preservation of so much what we enjoy today. Our award winners, their work and their example has had a significant impact on Columbia through their outstanding efforts in education, leadership, conservation, or stewardship of the city's resources. This year, we are proud to announce that our award recipient for conservation and stewardship is Todd Avant of Avant Holdings.

6. Economic Development Week Proclamation – The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 6-10, 2024 as Economic Development Week in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Felicia Maloney, Executive Director of the Columbia Empowerment Zone said thank you for recognizing Economic Development Week. I'd like to invite you to join us tomorrow for a press conference and another announcement about our Business Retrofit Incentives through Energy Savings (BRITES) Program at the Historic Hoffman House on North Main. We're having a re-grand opening and ribbon cutting for two small businesses.

Mayor Rickenmann recognized board members and staff of the Columbia Empowerment Zone. Our Empowerment Zone has done some incredible projects. If you look around the community, it continues to not be afraid to make the investment. Across the city, we're all working together on economic development but our professionals that we have from small business development, recruiters, and real estate are making sure that you have an opportunity to open your business. We've opened more small businesses in the last several years and it is fun to go to these openings because you're watching people's dreams.



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7. Drinking Water Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann said we are fortunate in Columbia that we have such incredible drinking water and that is because of the hard working people making sure that happens. Since 1835, we have been providing incredible water here. We're excited to designate this week as Drinking Water Week and know that our number one priority is that we protect our natural resources.

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 5-11, 2024 as Drinking Water Week in the City of Columbia.

Mr. Clint Shealy, Assistant City Manager of Columbia Water recognized his team and thanked them for their great work: Tiffany Latimer, Director of Customer Service; Cory Jarels, Lake Murray Water Plant Superintendent; Jeremy Yates, Field Operations Manager of Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection; Trey Varn, Drinking Water Operations Manager; Tyler Dillman, Superintendent of the Historic Canal Water Treatment Plant; Benjamin Wildt, Communications Manager; and Alejandra Beier, Drinking Water Compliance Manager.

8. Senior Resources Older Americans Month - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed May 2024 as Senior Resources Older Americans Month in the City of Columbia.

Mayor Rickenmann said Andrew, we can't thank you enough for what you all continue to do. Having had the privilege to go on Meals on Wheels and seeing that interaction was great but the excitement for me really was the revitalization of the Lourie Center. It has been one of the more positive things that I've seen happen. I'm hearing it from people when I walk in the street or at the grocery store. We really appreciate what you're doing in our community.

Mr. Andrew Boozer, Executive Director of Senior Resources said thank you Mayor and thank you Council. The support that you are giving to Senior Resources is being felt by seniors in each one of your districts when we're delivering meals every day, walking through the doors of the Lourie Center or the Tillis Center, or any other opportunities to impact lives. Our goal is to be the number one city in the state for retirement. We are thankful for this designation as we join cities and municipalities around the country in declaring May as Older Americans Month. We would also like to invite you to the Lourie Center, which is having its Summer Open House on May 16, 2024.



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9. March Madness Update - Mr. Bill Ellen, President & CEO / Experience Columbia SC and Mr. Scott Powers, Executive Director / Experience Columbia SC Sports

Mr. Bill Ellen, President & CEO / Experience Columbia SC said thank you for interest in bringing March Madness back to our city. March Madness is the NCAA's collegiate basketball national championship tournament. We were fortunate to host rounds one and two of the event back in 2019. It generated \$11.9 million in local economic impact for a four-day event. It was a great way to highlight our city. We didn't win the bid for 2023-2026. Now we're in the next bid period to host for 2027 or 2028. We submitted a bid in February and we're going to find out in October.

Mr. Scott Powers, Executive Director / Experience Columbia SC Sports said in years past the NCAA has had a four year bid cycle. This year, the new president moved that to a two year bid cycle. We are currently in the first round of Q&A's with the NCAA who sent a spreadsheet with questions that they had about our bid. We are in the process of answering those questions and sending it back. They want to make sure every community can put together the most concise bid. The NCAA wants the student athletes to have the best experience they possibly can. We will find out all 89 championships across the NCAA for 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 on October 2, 2024.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 10 THROUGH 24

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 10 through 24**.

10. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Cisco Security Licenses and Subscriptions, as requested by the Information Technology Department on March 4, 2024. Award to SHI International, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$73,287.24. This vendor is located in Piscataway, NJ. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Information Technology - Maintenance & Service Contract (1011120-632170). The original budget amount is \$73,287.24.

11. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Trend Micro Protection Complete Suite, as requested by the Information Technology Department on April 2, 2024. Award to SHI International, using the Omnia Partners Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$91,897.64. This vendor is located in Piscataway, NJ. - *Approved*

Funding Source: Information Technology - Maintenance & Service Contract (1011120-638200). The original budget amount is \$91,897.64.



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12. Council is asked to approve Reimbursement of the November 7, 2023 Municipal Election Expenses to Richland County Elections & Voter Registration in the amount of \$139,008.07. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Citizens Support Services - Election Expense (1011119-637100) - The original budget amount is \$160,000.00.

13. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Prefabricated External Restroom Facility for Owens Field Park, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department on April 3, 2024. Award to CXT Inc., using the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$231,574.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: General Capital Projects - Owens Field Park - Capital Project Cost (4039999-PK006705-658650). The original budget amount is \$231,574.00.

14. Council is asked to approve funding for Video Security Camera Services, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on March 8, 2024. Award to Motorola Solutions, Inc., in the amount of \$1,531,476.00 for year two (2) of the five (5) year initial term. This vendor is located in Lexington, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Police Administrative Services - Computer Elect/Equipment - Capital (1012402-658600). The original budget amount is \$1,531,476.00 for year 2.

15. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Two (2) 2024 Peterbilt Side Loaders for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by Fleet Services on April 11, 2024. Award to Hunter Truck Sales, using the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$733,212.70. This vendor is located in Smithfield, PA. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Capital Replacement; Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$733,212.70.

16. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #2 for Project SS7565; Lower Kinley Creek Sewer Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water on March 25, 2024. Award to Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$421,300.00. The current term of the contract ends on June 30, 2025 and this amendment extends the contract to June 30, 2026. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water & Sewer Capital Projects - Lower Kinley Creek Sewer Improvements - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS756501-658650). The current budget amount is \$821,580.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$421,300.00. The total revised budget amount is \$1,242,880.00.



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This is a Clean Water 2020 project and a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. is the mentor and will provide project management, engineering design, permitting, bidding and award services at 79.71% (\$335,800.00) of the amendment amount.

Carper Civil Consulting, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) located in Columbia, SC, is the protégé and will provide project administration, engineering design, and management of subsurface utility engineering, wetland delineation, and geotechnical investigation services at 20.29% (\$85,500.00) of the amendment amount.

17. Council is asked to approve a new Sole Source Contract for an Alfa Laval Centrifuge, as requested by Columbia Water on April 18, 2024. Award to Alfa Laval Inc., in the amount of \$998,000.00. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with the option to renew for one (1) additional one-year period. This vendor is located in Chesapeake, VA. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water & Sewer Capital Projects - Train 2 Aeration & Dewatering - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS764501-658650). The original budget amount is \$998,000.00.

18. Council is asked to approve a new Construction Contract for the Granby Park Canal Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water on February 2, 2024. Award to Williams Infrastructure, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$1,940,380.22, which includes contingency. The initial term of the contract will take effect upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed with an end date two hundred ten (210) days from commencement. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Stormwater Improvements Capital Project Control - Granby Park - Capital Project Costs (5549999-SD841801-658650). The original budget amount is \$1,940,380.22.

Williams Infrastructure, LLC, is the prime contractor and will provide grading services at 17.11% (\$276,623.52) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractor will provide the following services/supplies:

Hammerhead Utilities, located in Chapin, SC, will provide grading, storm drain, and concrete construction services at 82.89% (\$1,340,360.00) of the total contract amount.

19. Ordinance No.: 2024-032 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23 Utilities and Engineering, Article VII, Stormwater Management, 23-205, Stormwater service charge rates – *Approved on second reading.*

First reading approval was given on April 16, 2024.



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20. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 1101 Kinley Road; TMS #05000-04-07 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2024-030 - Annexing 1101 Kinley Road, Richland County TMS #05000-04-07 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: 1

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign land use classification of Community Activity Corridor (AC-2) and assign zoning of Community Activity Center/Corridor District (CAC) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density), in a Priority Investment Area, and zoned Residential Transition (RT) by Richland County.

Applicant: Kendra M. Rice and Melvin D. Rice, Jr. / KRC Services, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 3/14/2024; Approval (6-0)

First reading approval was given on April 16, 2024.

21. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 4543 Broad River Road; TMS# 06205-02-12 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2024-029 - Annexing 4543 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS #06205-02-12 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: 1

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign land use classification of Community Activity Corridor (AC-2) and Urban Edge Mixed Residential (UEMR), and the assign zoning of Employment Campus District (EC) and Residential Mixed District (RM-2), for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Mixed Use Corridor and Mixed Residential (High Density) and zoned Residential 6 (R6) by Richland County.

Applicant: Nell D. Bailey

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 3/14/2024; Approval (6-0)



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- First reading approval was given on April 16, 2024.*
22. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 500 Spears Creek Church Road; TMS# 25700-02-14 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2024-028 - Annexing 500 Spears Creek Church Road, Richland County TMS #25700-02-14 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: 4

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign land use classification of Urban Edge Community Activity Center (UEAC-1) and assign zoning of Institutional - General District (INS-GEN) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density) and zoned Light Industrial (M-1) by Richland County.

Applicant: Richland School District Two

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 3/14/2024; Approval (6-0)

First reading approval was given on April 16, 2024.

23. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 2.65 acres S/S Jacobs Mill Pond Road; TMS# 28900-03-11 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2024-027 - Annexing 2.65 acres S/S Jacobs Mill Pond Road, Richland County TMS #28900-03-11 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: 4

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign land use classification of Urban Edge Residential Large Lot (UER-2) and assign zoning of Planned Development District (PD) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density) and zoned Planned Development (PD) by Richland County.

Applicant: Woodcreek Development, LLC f/k/a Woodcreek Development Partnership

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 3/14/2024; Approval (6-0)

First reading approval was given on April 16, 2024.



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24. ANNEXATION, FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 507, 507A, 509, 505U, and 513U Piney Grove Road, 0.13 acre and 9.64 acres W/S Piney Grove Road, 4010, 4028, and 4032 Fernandina Road, 0.07 acre N/S Fernandina Road, and 0.01 acre E/S Fernandina Road; TMS# 04913-01-01, 04913-01-06, 04913-01-07, 04913-01-08, 04913-01-09, and 04914-01-01 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2024-013 - Annexing 507, 507A, 509, 505 U and 513 U Piney Grove Road, 0.13 acre and 9.64 acres W/S Piney Grove Road, 4010, 4028 and 4032 Fernandina Road, 0.07 acre N/S Fernandina Road and 0.01 acre E/S Fernandina Road, Richland County TMS #04913-01-01, TMS #04913-01-06, TMS #04913-01-07, TMS #04913-01-08, TMS #04913-01-09 and TMS #04914-01-01 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: 1

Proposal: Request to annex the property, assign the land use classification of Regional Activity Corridor (AC-3) and assign zoning of General Commercial District (GC) for a pending annexation. The property is currently classified as Mixed Residential (High Density) and zoned General Commercial (GC) by Richland County.

Applicant: Costco Wholesale Corporation

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 2/8/2024; Approval (5-0)

First reading approval was given on March 19, 2024.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

25. Ordinance No.: 2024-024 - Granting an encroachment to Silver Hills Development, Inc., for the use of the right of way areas of the 1200 block of Huger Street and the 400 block of Washington Street for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, on-street parking spaces, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 418 Washington Street, Richland County TMS# 08912-13-02 – *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.: 2024-024 - Granting an encroachment to Silver Hills Development, Inc., for the use of the right of way areas of the 1200 block of Huger Street and the 400 block of Washington Street for the installation and



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maintenance of sidewalks, on-street parking spaces, landscaping and irrigation adjacent to 418 Washington Street, Richland County TMS# 08912-13-02.

26. Ordinance No.: 2024-033 - Amending Ordinance 2024-006 granting an encroachment to State Capitol Hotel, LLC, for use of the right of way areas of the 1200 block of Main Street and the 1200 block of Gervais Street for the installation and maintenance of a ramp and stairs and the replacement of current railings adjacent to 1200 Main Street, TMS# 09013-07-08 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2024-033 - Amending Ordinance 2024-006 granting an encroachment to State Capitol Hotel, LLC, for use of the right of way areas of the 1200 block of Main Street and the 1200 block of Gervais Street for the installation and maintenance of a ramp and stairs and the replacement of current railings adjacent to 1200 Main Street, TMS# 09013-07-08.

EVENT RESOLUTIONS

27. Resolution No.: R-2024-028 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at Taste of Black Columbia in the 1100 block of Hampton Street between Assembly Street and Main Street on Friday, May 17, 2024 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2024-028 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at Taste of Black Columbia in the 1100 block of Hampton Street between Assembly Street and Main Street on Friday, May 17, 2024.

APPOINTMENTS

28. Climate Protection Action Committee

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Julie Seel, Lesley Cline, Joyce Rose-Harris and Benjamin Marosites to the Climate Protection Action Committee for a three year term.

29. Columbia Town and Gown Council

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Andrew Thompson as a hospitality representative; Michael



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Anzelmo, Robby Thomas, Dr. Bambi Gaddist, and Chris Harris as residential representatives; and Kyle Brantley as the USC representative to the Columbia Town and Gown Council.

30. Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Amy Beth Franks as a restaurateur to the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee for a three year term.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS, REFERRALS, AND NEW BUSINESS

31. Council is asked to refer the Fighting Hate on Main Street Municipal Toolkit to the Public Safety Committee for review, as requested by The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor.

Mayor Rickenmann said the Municipal Toolkit enhances some existing ordinances that we have but also addresses things like flyers that are being used to intimidate and to create hate. A lot of communities are adopting this. In today's time, we want to make sure we have every toolkit in our pocket to combat fighting any hate crime that is in our community.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the referral of the Fighting Hate on Main Street Municipal Toolkit to the Public Safety Committee.

32. Council is asked to refer the Joe Azar Memorial Garden proposal to the Administrative Policy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr.

Councilor McDowell reminded the Council of the following pending referrals: naming of the Leroy Moss Community Center; Sara Nance Resource Center; Virginia Bedford Center; and a policy for proclamations and keys to the city.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve the referral of the Joe Azar Memorial Garden proposal to the Administrative Policy Committee.

33. Council is asked to refer the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee that will provide specific policy recommendations for the neighborhoods most impacted by gentrification, investor ownership, and student rentals to the Community Development Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey.



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Councilor Bailey said this is the continued effort to promote growth and to make sure we're taking a look at issues that are affecting the market.

Councilor Brown said the Missing Middle Market Housing Study, which was presented to the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee is going to be an amazing road map for growth in Columbia. We have to be able to follow a process to look at all the areas in Columbia: parking lots, empty lots, and neighborhoods that have been traditionally left behind without any development.

Councilor McDowell said that's what the Mayor and I have vehemently discussed. We've got more land than we've got houses. It is extremely important that bring folks in and find those lots and pieces of property that are available for houses.

Councilor Herbert said we've been looking at the proper restrictive covenants dealing with any residential properties that we own. There are different avenues that we can use to make sure that we protect communities from gentrification. She announced that the next meeting with the churches is scheduled for June 26, 2024 at Busby Street Community Center.

Mayor Rickenmann said creating an ad hoc committee is a good step forward. We also want to make sure that people understand that we're not going backwards. Some people thought we were stepping back into redlining. It's important because we have an aging population and we have different housing needs than we did 20 years ago. Understanding how many empty lots we have, who owns those, and working with them to put families, individuals and seniors back in neighborhoods. We have opportunities to solve our housing crisis.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mayor Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to refer the consideration of the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee that will provide specific policy recommendations for the neighborhoods most impacted by gentrification, investor ownership, and student rentals, to promote smart and purposeful growth in order to enhance the quality of life within our communities to the Community Development Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey.

34. Council is asked to refer the use of technology as an alternative to high speed pursuits to the Public Safety Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tyler D. Bailey.

Councilor Bailey highlighted a recent tragedy that has drawn attention to police pursuits, emphasizing the need for alternative methods to apprehend suspects while ensuring public and officer safety. He proposed exploring technologies like Star Chase Technology, a GPS-mounted device launched from police vehicles during pursuits, and the Grappler. He asked the Public



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Safety Committee to investigate these technologies, conduct tests, evaluate associated costs for updating the fleet, and potentially implement a pilot program.

Mayor Rickenmann requested to amend the referral to include the city's continued pursuit of red light and speed cameras. He said there are some efforts for governments to come together push a legislative effort at the state level. Communities are doing this to prevent a lot of accidents and to slow down school zones and high speeds in neighborhoods.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to refer the use of technology as an alternative to high speed pursuits to the Public Safety Committee, as amended to include the city's pursuit of red light and speed cameras.

Councilor Herbert requested data that shows how Columbia performed with high speed pursuits.

Councilor Brennan said the next Public Safety Committee Meeting is tentatively rescheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Mayor Rickenmann announced that the Columbia Police Department and the Columbia Parks Foundation will be having their third annual Police, Parks, and Pedals event on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Rosewood Park.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. John Crangle expressed concerns about those injured or lives lost in law enforcement related pursuits. We have made a lot of progress a in the 61 years I have been in Columbia. It's very different and a much better city than when I came here. We still have the opportunity to do better.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:24 p.m. for the discussion of item and the discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2) - DMH Surplus Property, as amended.

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

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)



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

Brittanny Ruffin v. Kevin Davis and the City of Columbia

Sherman Green v. City of Columbia and George Simpson

Ameer Bagley v. City of Columbia

Kathryn Smith vs USC, Planning Commission and City of Columbia

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk