



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 5:00 P.M.

The Columbia City Council met in Executive Session on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: the Honorable Sam Davis, the Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., the Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., and the Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine and the Honorable Moe Baddourah were absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the discussion of **Item 1**, subject to withdrawing the discussion of the Columbia Canal and adding the discussion of matters relating to the proposed location or expansion of services to encourage location or expansion of industries or other businesses - Multi County Industrial Parks.

1. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S. C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2)
 - *Health Care*
 - *Columbia Canal*

Council adjourned the Executive Session at 6:18 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING - 6:00 P.M.

The Columbia City Council conducted a Council Meeting and Public Hearings on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: the Honorable Sam Davis, the Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., the Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., and the Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine and the Honorable Moe Baddourah were absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Little Miss Chloe' and Kelly Thompson accompanied by other youth led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

INVOCATION

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Council is asked to approve the May 15, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes. - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the May 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Councilor Rickenmann asked to hold **Items 3 and 4.**

Councilor Davis said he is looking for more local participation in high dollar contracts. We want small, minority, and woman owned businesses to get experience by participating as a protégé.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said I spend a good bit of time asking those questions. We can't use our programs on flood related projects. We still have the Local Business Preference Program.

Councilor Rickenmann asked the City Manager to have staff pull together all of the information on Crane Creek. I would like to know how much we've spent, how much we've completed, and what's forecasted.

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 5 through 32.**



We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

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3. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement for State Lobbying Services, as requested by the Office of Governmental Affairs. Award to the Kyle Michel Law Firm, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$72,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 1011103-638300 - The original budgeted amount is \$72,000.00. – Consideration of this item was deferred.*
 4. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement for Federal Lobbying Services, as requested by the Office of Governmental Affairs. Award to the CapitalEdge Strategies, Inc. in the amount of \$78,750.00 plus reimbursable expenses up to \$5,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$83,750.00. This firm is located in Washington, DC. *Funding Source: 1011103-638300 - The original budgeted amount is \$83,750.00. – Consideration of this item was deferred.*
 5. Council is asked to approve a Memorandum of Understanding for Indigent Defense in Municipal Court, as requested by the Legal Department. Award to the Richland County Fifth Circuit Public Defender's Office in the amount of \$100,000.00. *Funding Source: 1018404 638522 - The original budgeted amount is \$100,000.00. – Approved*
 6. Council is asked to approve a Municipal Pole Use Agreement between the City of Columbia and ExteNet Systems, Inc. for the location, placement, attachment, installation, operation, control, and maintenance of equipment in or on municipal facilities for the purposes of operating the network and providing services. - *Approved*
 7. Council is asked to approve a Contract Renewal for SmartNet Software Services, as requested by the Information Technology Services Department. Award to NWN Corporation, using SC State Contract in the amount of \$68,506.21. This firm is located in Charlotte, NC. *Funding Source: 1011120-638200 Information Technology - Maintenance and Service Contracts - The original budgeted amount is \$90,000.00. Approved*
 8. Council is asked to approve a Contract Renewal for Oracle Support Services for Fiscal Year 2018/2019, as requested by the Information Technology Services Department. Award to Mythics, Inc., using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$161,848.58. This firm is located in Virginia Beach, VA. *Funding Source: 1011120- 638200 Information Technology - Maintenance and Service Contract. The original budgeted amount is \$162,000.00. - Approved*
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We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

-
9. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Workers' Compensation Excess Loss Insurance Coverage, as requested by the Risk Management Division. Award to NY Marine & General Insurance Company in the amount of \$152,348.00. This vendor is located in New York, NY. *Funding Source: Workers' Comp. Administration - Insurance and Bonding 6098939-636200 - Approved*
- The policy renews July 1, 2018 and runs until June 30, 2019. Workers' Compensation Excess Loss coverage is statutorily required of all self-insured Workers Compensation carriers. The premium cost is \$152,348 for \$1,250,000 in retention. This means that the City is responsible for the first \$1,250,000 in any single claim. Once a claim reaches \$1,250,000, the insurance policy takes over and any further costs are borne by the insurer. NY Marine & General Insurance Company is the incumbent carrier. I recommend purchasing coverage through NY Marine for the amount quoted at the \$1,250,000 retention level.*
10. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Insurance Policies for Commercial Property, Computer, Crime, Auto-Parks & Recreation Buses, and Auto-City Manager and Assistant City Managers' vehicles, as requested by the Risk Management Division. Award to Willis of North Carolina in the amount of \$311,724.00. - *Funding Source: Premiums and Policies; 6058935 - Approved*
11. Council is asked to approve the second installment of the three-year Microsoft Enterprise Software Services Agreement for August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019, as requested by the Information Technology Services Department. Award to SHI International, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$634,742.39. This firm is located in Piscataway, VA. *Funding Source: Information Technology-Maintenance and Service Contracts; 1011120-638200. The original budgeted amount is \$637,000.00. – Approved*
12. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Fixed Turning Targets, as requested by the Police Department. Award to Action Target, Inc., using the General Services Administration Contract in the amount of \$136,317.60. This firm is located in Provo, UT. *Funding Source: General Capital Projects-Police Gun Range-Machinery and Equipment; 4039999-CP009200-658300. The original budgeted amount is \$186,220.00. Approved*
13. Council is asked to approve a Satellite Sewer System Agreement for the Friarsgate Subdivision area, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Carolina Water Service, Inc. The SSSA allows for CWS to continue to operate and maintain their sewer system and discharge to the City's system for treatment thus allowing them to eliminate their discharge to the Saluda River. - *Approved*
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We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

14. Council is asked to approve Water Quality Consulting Services for the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant and the Lake Murray Water Treatment Plant for Fiscal Year 2018 / 2019, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Lake Murray Water Treatment Plant; 5516207-636700 (\$25,000.00) and the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant; 5516205-636700 (\$25,000.00). The original budgeted amount is \$50,000.00. - Approved*

Sub-consultant Aquarius Engineering, L.L.C., a Woman Owned Business Enterprise of Pownal, ME will provide water treatment staff training at \$5,320.00 (10.6%) of the total contract value.

15. Council is asked to approve Environmental Testing Services for Pre-treatment/Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Aqueous Sample Matrix for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Rogers and Callcott in the amount of \$117,105.11 with two (2) year extension as provided for in annual operating budget funding. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5516208-638300 Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Special Contracts - The original budgeted amount is \$213,000.00. – Approved*
16. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7335-B; Mark and Record Locations of Easement Boundary over Sanitary Sewer Force Main, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Davis & Floyd Inc. in the amount of \$243,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance- SPC Contracts– 5516205-SS7335-638305. The original budgeted amount is \$243,000.00. - Approved*
17. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Annual Repair Materials for Wastewater Management, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to the lowest responsible bidders of each lot in the total amount of \$222,449.21. *Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance-Pipes, Fittings, Hydrants, ETC. 5516205-625700 - The original budgeted amount is \$325,000.00. – Approved*

Lots	Vendors / Locations	Amounts
1 and 3	Ferguson Waters (Elgin, SC)	\$45,958.94
7	Fortiline, Inc. (Columbia, SC)	\$7,485.00
6	Hayes Pipe Supply Inc. (Columbia, SC)	\$2,468.80
2,4,5,8 and 9	Core & Main (West Columbia, SC)	\$150,058.75
	SC Sales Tax	\$16,477.72
	Total	\$222,449.21



We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

18. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Annual Repair Materials for Water Distribution, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to the lowest responsible bidders of each lot in the total amount of \$735,476.27. *Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution and Maintenance 5516203-625700 - The original budget is \$1,125,000.00.*
- *Approved*

Lots	Vendors / Locations	Amounts
3, 16, 19, 25	Ferguson Waters (Elgin, SC)	\$29,427.90
11	Fortiline, Inc. (Columbia, SC)	\$5,263.50
7, 9, 13, 14, 17, 21, 23	Hayes Pipe Supply Inc. (Columbia, SC)	\$164,355.75
1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22, 24	Core & Main (West Columbia, SC)	\$481,949.40
	SC Sales Tax	\$54,479.72
	Total	\$735,476.27

19. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Project SS7454; Broad River Force Main and Gravity Sewer Capacity Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$254,000.00. This firm is headquartered in Alberta, Canada and this project will be handled by the office located in Charlotte, NC. - *Funding Source: Water & Sewer capital Projects-Broad River Force Main-Capital Project Costs 5529999-SS745401-658650 - The original budgeted amount is \$254,000.00.* - *Approved*

This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project and a Mentor Protégé Program Project.

The mentor for this project will provide technical consulting support for the preliminary engineering of the force main replacement and gravity sewer capacity enhancement at 79.57% (\$202,100) of the contract value.

Chao and Associates, a Minority Business Enterprise of Columbia, SC is the Protégé and will provide CADD and preliminary engineering services at 20.43% (\$51,900.00) of the contract value.

20. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Crane Creek 01 Sewer System Evaluation Study and Sewer Rehabilitation Implementation, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$1,295,065.00. This firm is headquartered in Alberta, Canada with a local office in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5529999-SS746301-658650. Water & Sewer Capital Projects-Crane Creek 01 SSES-Capital Project Costs. The original budgeted amount is \$860,000.00 and \$435,065.00 was transferred from 5529999-SS733801-658650.* - *Approved*



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project and a Mentor Protégé Program Project.

The mentor for this project will provide assessment, design, and construction services for the investigation and rehabilitation of the Crane Creek 01 Sub-Basin at 39% (\$504,384) of the contract value.

Chao and Associates, a Minority Business Enterprise of Columbia, SC is the Protégé and will provide GIS, CAD, survey, and construction administration services at 31% (\$401,475.00) of the contract value.

Sub-consultant Hydrostructures of Cayce, SC will provide sanitary sewer evaluation services at 30% (\$389,206.00) of the contract value.

21. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7389; Crane Creek and Smith Branch Manhole Repair and Mitigation Services, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Prism Contractors & Engineers, Inc., in the amount of \$2,142,363.74. This firm is located in Williamsburg, VA. *Funding Source: CIP Water & Sewer / A 2015 Oct. Flood Recovery Project; 5529999-638400. The original budgeted amount is \$2,727,698.00. - Approved*

The following sub-consultants will provide additional services:

Vulcan Materials Company of Piedmont, SC will provide surge stone and rip rap at 1.09% (\$21,148.40) of the contract value.

Tindall Precast Concrete of Spartanburg, SC will provide pre-cast materials at 6.70% (\$130,572.00) of the contract value.

Madewell Products Corporation of Alpharetta, GA will provide cementitious and epoxy materials at 4.38% (\$85,209.20) of the contract value.

Halliday Products Inc. of Orlando, FL will provide watertight hatches at 3.59% (\$70,000.00) of the contract value.

22. Ordinance No.: 2018-010 - To ExteNet Systems Inc., its Successors and Assigns the Right, Power and Authority to Construct, Install, Maintain and Operate In, Over, Upon and Under the Streets and Public Places of the City of Columbia, its Lines, Poles, Wires, Cables and other Telecommunications Facilities to Render Telecommunications Service to Its Customers in the Limits of the City of Columbia for Such Period as Provided Herein; and to Provide for the Payment of Compensation for the Use of the Streets and Public Places - *First reading approval was given on June 19, 2018. - Approved on second reading.*



We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

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23. Ordinance No.: 2018-029 - Amending Ordinance 2015-034 Granting an encroachment to the University of South Carolina for the use of the right of way areas of the 1100 blocks of Bull Street and Pickens Street and the 1500 blocks of Senate Street and Gervais Street adjacent to the University of South Carolina School of Law, Richland County TMS Nos. 11401-10-01, for installation and maintenance of a driveway along each block, brick pavers, landscaping and irrigation and authorizing removal and construction of new sidewalks along Bull Street and Pickens Street to include revised plans for the addition of a turn lane and changes to landscaping and curbing along Gervais Street - *First reading approval was given on June 19, 2018. - Approved on second reading.*
24. Ordinance No.: 2018-031 - To MCImetro Access Transmission Services Corp., its Successors and Assigns the Right, Power and authority to Construct, Install, Maintain and Operate In, Over, Upon and Under the Streets and Public Places of the City of Columbia, its Lines, Poles, Wires, Cables and other Telecommunications Facilities to Render Telecommunications Service to Its Customers in the Limits of the City of Columbia for Such Period as Provided Herein; and to Provide for the Payment of Compensation for the Use of the Streets and Public Places - *First reading approval was given on June 19, 2018. - Approved on second reading.*
25. Ordinance No.: 2018-033 - Granting an encroachment to Jeremy Long for installation and maintenance of a landscaping and a concrete walkway within the right of way area of the 2700 Block of Wilmot Avenue adjacent to 2721 Wilmot Avenue Richland County TMS# 11315-11-19 - *First reading approval was given on June 19, 2018. - Approved on second reading.*
26. Resolution No.: R-2018-036 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Palmetto Place Palooza Charity Fundraiser on Saturday, September 29, 2018 in the 1600 block of Blanding Street adjacent to the Robert Mills House and Hampton Preston Mansion - *Approved*
27. Resolution No.: R-2018-047 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Tunnel to Towers 5K Walk/Run for Injured Military and First Responders in the 1000 block of Lincoln Street between Senate Street and Pendleton Street on Friday, September 14, 2018 - *Approved*
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**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

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28. Resolution No.: R-2018-048 - Amending Resolution No.: R-2016-025 Authorizing tastings only of locally produced wine and beer only provided by market vendors and operation of Soda City for relocation from the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Main Street to the 1500, 1600 and 1700 blocks of Main Street during the Latin, SC Pride and Jam Room Music festivals and The Hub move-in dates only – *Approved*
29. Resolution No.: R-2018-050 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only within the Amphitheater Area of Finlay Park for the Cola City Music Festival on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 – *Approved*
30. Resolution No.: R-2018-051 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the South Carolina Oyster Festival in the 1600 block of Blanding Street adjacent to the Robert Mills House and Hampton Preston Mansion on Sunday, November 18, 2018 with a rain contingency of November 25, 2018 – *Approved*
31. Resolution No.: R-2018-067 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at the Chili Cook Off in Five Points in the 700 and 800 blocks of Pavilion Avenue and 2100 and 2200 blocks of Greene Street on Saturday, November 3, 2018 – *Approved*
32. Resolution No.: R-2018-080 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Palmetto Peanut Boil Fundraiser on September 29, 2018 with a rain contingency date of October 6, 2018 – *Approved*

PRESENTATIONS

33. Recognition of Ms. Mary Roe for Outstanding Service and Encouraging Walking and Biking in the City of Columbia - Ms. Dana Higgins, PE, LEED AP, Director of Engineering

Ms. Dana Higgins, PE, LEED AP, Director of Engineering recognized Ms. Mary Roe for outstanding service and encouraging walking and biking in the City of Columbia. In 2012, Natalie Britt and Mary Roe worked with Mayor Benjamin to form the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) and since then Mary has been getting things done and bringing encouragement to the walking and biking community. They were instrumental in organizing the Walk Bike Master Plan. Mary serves as the Director of Programs and Development for the Palmetto Conservation Foundation and they've implemented the monthly Handlebar Happy



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Hour. She's done a lot with the Bike Month activities in May. She was also a big part of Open Streets. I just want to recognize her for all that she has done.

Ms. Mary Roe, Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee Member and Director of Programs and Development for the Palmetto Conservation Foundation thanked everyone in the City of Columbia for their support. It was through Dana's and John Fellow's passion and belief in what BPAC could achieve; it is the City's vision and we cannot do that without partnering together.

Mayor Benjamin said thank you Mary. You've been incredible and it has made a tangible difference to the quality of life here in the Midlands. We will continue making significant investments in connecting the entire community through healthy and safe infrastructure.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

34. Ordinance No.: 2018-039 - Granting an encroachment to Jason Chastain and Ximena Chastain for installation and maintenance of landscaping and irrigation within the right of way area of the 1700 block of Bannockburn Drive adjacent to 1707 Bannockburn Drive Richland County TMS #13911-08-10 - *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.: 2018-039 - Granting an encroachment to Jason Chastain and Ximena Chastain for installation and maintenance of landscaping and irrigation within the right of way area of the 1700 block of Bannockburn Drive adjacent to 1707 Bannockburn Drive Richland County TMS #13911-08-10.

35. Ordinance No.: 2018-041 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Lease Renewal Agreement with Branch Banking and Trust Company (BB&T) for use of 3905 Ensor Avenue (Lutheran Survey Building) - *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2018-041 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Lease Renewal Agreement with Branch Banking and Trust Company (BB&T) for use of 3905 Ensor Avenue (Lutheran Survey Building).



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

RESOLUTIONS

36. Resolution No.: R-2018-064 - Authorizing Acceptance and Dedication of street known as Arsenal Hill Court, located in The Courtyard at Arsenal Hill Subdivision to the City of Columbia; Richland County TMS#09010-12-20 (p); CF# 280-25 - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2018-064 - Authorizing Acceptance and Dedication of street known as Arsenal Hill Court, located in The Courtyard at Arsenal Hill Subdivision to the City of Columbia; Richland County TMS#09010-12-20 (p); CF# 280-25.

37. Resolution No.: R-2018-071 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute any documents necessary to purchase certain properties affected by the 2015 flood through the Property Acquisition Program - *Approved*

Councilor Duvall asked if these properties have been demolished.

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget and Program Management Director said 18 were approved in April, this is two more, and four are pending. Once the closings occur, the properties will be demolished and turned to greenspace.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2018-071 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute any documents necessary to purchase certain properties affected by the 2015 flood through the Property Acquisition Program.

OTHER MATTERS

38. Council is asked to approve the Installation of four (4) Speed Humps on Waccamaw Avenue, as requested by the Public Works Department. *The Fire Department and Police Department have reviewed and approved the proposed locations. - Approved*

Councilor Duvall said Ms. Devine and I attended the meeting and after discussion, it was almost unanimous to approve the compromise on the location of speed humps.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of four (4) speed humps on Waccamaw Avenue.



We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

39. Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Hospitality Tax and Accommodations Tax Funding Recommendations - Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Coordinator/Community Projects Liaison – *Approved as outlined below.*

Mayor Benjamin said we expect there'll be surplus funding that we can appropriate at a later date. My recommendation would be to approve both the Hospitality Tax and Accommodations Tax Advisory Committees' recommendations, look at the surplus, and determine the disposition at a later meeting.

Councilor Duvall said historically, the accommodations tax has been split between Experience Columbia and Lake Murray Country 85/15. The committee did not do that this time, because the request from Lake Murray Country did not reach 15%. I move that we approve the 85/15 split in the amount of \$2,075,700 to Experience Columbia and \$366,300 to Lake Murray Country.

Mr. Hal Stevenson, Chair of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee said Lake Murray Country's request was \$325,000. We would've done exactly what Councilman Duvall just said. We have no objection to Howard's motion.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee recommendations, subject to reinstating the 85/15 split by allocating \$2,075,700 to the Columbia Metropolitan Conventions and Visitors Bureau and \$366,300 to the Capital City Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board.

Councilor Duvall said the hospitality tax is more complicated. We have a list of the line item agencies that weren't specified in this year's budget; it was just one figure in the budget. Ginger wants us to approve the memo that was sent with one exception: One Columbia is requesting that the \$155,000 be reduced to \$135,000 and that the \$551,500 be increased to \$601,500 for eligible hospitality tax expenditures.

Mayor Benjamin explained that the memo outlines the line item requests. One of the changes for the Historic Columbia Foundation recognizes that ColumbiaSC 63 has been completed. The additional \$50,000 is for the maintenance of city owned buildings. Where's the other \$30,000 coming from?

Councilor Duvall said it would add to the total.



We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Ms. Ginger “Dee Dee” Fanning, Grants Coordinator/Community Projects Liaison said the committee’s recommendations and Council line items were all included on the main spreadsheet.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to approve the Hospitality Tax funding allocations for line item requests, subject to reducing the allocation to the Historic Columbia Foundation from \$155,000 to \$135,000 recognizing completion of the African American Heritage Project and increasing the allocation to the Historic Columbia Foundation for Heritage Tours and Programs from \$551,500 to \$601,500 with the additional \$50,000 being appropriated for the maintenance of city-owned buildings that they manage. All Hospitality Tax funding is for eligible expenditures within the State and City grant guidelines.

Councilor Duvall moved to approve the recommendations of the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee subject to holding allocations for the City Center Partnership, Regional Sports Marketing, USC Gamecock Club, and the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society at the State Fair until Ms. Devine returns next month.

Mayor Benjamin said I support the allocation of additional surplus funds as Council sees fit. I’d rather approve the committee’s recommendations and then address the excess. I am going to vote against that motion. I think it would be a huge mistake to defund those organizations. I’m fine with holding USC and the State Fair for another discussion. As we prepare for March Madness coming to Columbia for the first time, I don’t want to slow down regional marketing or what we are doing in the City Center. Why don’t you hold those two and leave the others alone?

Councilor Duvall recommended funding the City Center Partnership at \$100,000, instead of \$260,000. The City Center Partnership is participating in a Business Improvement District, which generates \$1 million per year in revenue for the CCP. They should not be getting extra funding from the hospitality tax when they are funded by a tax approved by City Council.

Mayor Benjamin said I served on the founding board of the City Center Partnership. It is a self-imposed fee on people who have business interests in the City Center to help do the things that have turned Main Street into what it is.

A motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann to fund the City Center Partnership at \$100,000 from the hospitality tax fund instead of \$260,000, failed by a vote of two (2) to three (3). Voting aye were Mr. Rickenmann and Mr. Duvall. Voting nay were Mr. McDowell, Mr. Davis, and Mayor Benjamin.



We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Councilor Rickenmann said we need to have a discussion about some fundamental things.

Councilor Duvall moved to reduce funding for the Regional Sports Marketing to zero. They were in the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee's recommendations for \$80,000. That is an arm of Experience Columbia and they are receiving a \$276,700 increase in the accommodations tax fund. That is the largest increase of any funded agency in the City. Regional Sports Marketing has plenty of room to use that increase for marketing.

Mayor Benjamin said post-Confederate Battle Flag this is our first opportunity to host a NCAA tournament. We'll have more eyes on this City than any event short of a super bowl. We need to make sure we are prepared to do it right. I will be voting against this as well.

A motion made by Mr. Duvall to reduce the hospitality tax funding allocation to the Greater Columbia Conventions and Visitors Bureau for the Midlands Regional Sports Council marketing campaign to zero, failed for the lack of a second.

Councilor Duvall moved to reduce funding for the USC Gamecock Club to zero. They are in the hospitality tax for \$40,000 for security during football games. Their games at Williams Brice Stadium are money making events. We should not be funding the Alumni Association for security at football games.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager explained that CPD officers are working out there and those funds are used to offset that effort.

Mayor Benjamin asked Mr. Duvall to hold the last two recommendations for the larger hospitality tax discussion.

Mr. John Whitehead, Chair of the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee thanked the members of Council for acting quickly, because so many people are counting on this.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to approve the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee recommendations with the exception of funding for the USC Gamecock Club and the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society of SC.

There was a consensus of Council to schedule a work session during August or on September 4, 2018 to discuss hospitality tax policies and surplus funding.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Councilor Rickenmann said I don't know how one entertainment district gets less than an entertainment district that doesn't produce the same amount of hospitality taxes. We are paying for services and goods that aren't eligible. We are going to do some fundamental housecleaning. We need to set clear rules and designations going forward. We need to look at inclusion. This is becoming a lifeline for groups and we can't continue that.

Councilor Davis said I'd like to see us provide opportunities for the smaller and disadvantaged groups to get their feet in the door and to grow like others who are using these funds. When we started this, the expectation was that an organization would not make us their lifeline; they would become sustainable or look for other resources. Funds do come from all parts of this city.

Councilor McDowell thanked John Whitehead and the committee members for their work. He said it is to our advantage to have folks look at what we are doing and to make recommendations. It's about educating and preparing folks. As we fund organizations we must sensitize ourselves to those organizations that are small and have the ability to expand themselves and this city.

40. Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Hospitality Tax Carry Forward Requests - Ms. Dee Dee Fanning, Grants Coordinator/Community Projects Liaison - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Hospitality Tax Carry Forward Requests.

APPOINTMENTS

41. Council is asked to approve the re-appointment / appointment of two (2) individuals to the Columbia Housing Authority Board. – *Consideration of this matter was deferred.*

Councilor Rickenmann noted that representation is needed from District Four on the Columbia Housing Authority Board.

42. Council is asked to approve the re-appointment / appointment of five (5) individuals to the Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission. - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Ms. Pressley Hogue for a second two-year term and the appointment of Mr. Chris Goodman, Mr. Bryan Allen, Mr. Charles Pippin, and Ms. Carolyn Duggan to the Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission for two-year terms.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS / REFERRALS

No City Council Committee reports or referrals were made at this time.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Mayor Benjamin said we had the opportunity to spend some time with Ms. Joy Holman this weekend as she was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor McMaster. It was a moving experience. Double Dutch Forces are still going strong.

Little Miss Chloe' Thompson appeared before City Council to ask that Martin Luther King, Jr. Park remain open on Sundays. Closing it would be a bad idea, because the world champion Double Dutch Forces Jump Rope Team practice at King Park every Sunday during the school year. Most of the team can't attend practice during the weekdays so we rely on Saturdays and Sundays during the school year to practice. Also, a lot of kids go there to play basketball, enjoy the company of others, to get a snack, or play inside when the weather is cold or stormy. If you close the park on Sundays, we would lose a Double Dutch practice day and children would have no safe place to play due to the construction on the field. I hope you will take this into consideration and make the decision to keep King Park open on Sundays.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager told Chloe' that engagement and voicing your opinion really does matter. We are not closing the park on Sundays all through the year. We looked at our numbers during the summer months and attendance was low. We will make sure we have staff there to work with you even on Sundays during the summer. Mr. Randy Davis will work with them on a specific time for Sundays.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to open Martin Luther King, Jr. Park on Sundays for Chloe' and all these other beautiful babies and everyone else who signed up to speak.

Dr. Bambi Gaddist sought clarification on the decision in the future. The decision to close the park was vital especially for young people who don't have finances to go elsewhere or they don't have other options for recreation. We hope there would be consideration not to close the park on Sundays during next summer.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager committed to looking at the attendance again.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Mr. Femi Olulenu said people work in places where they don't get Sunday off. I've lived in that community for 45 years. Keep the place open.

Mayor Benjamin said we share the same experiences and priorities. Ms. Wilson's responsibility is also to make sure our employees are healthy and happy.

Dr. Germon Miller, RICH Program Director said in concert with the Department of Juvenile Justice, this is the new and upcoming RICH Program team. We also have media specialists who recently won national awards. They will introduce themselves to you. All of these young adults are volunteers. On a personal note, I am 65 now.

Mr. Gerard Wright, RICH Program Team said I am moving, but I will still be a part of RICH. I still paint and draw for the program.

Mr. Patrick Rutledge, RICH Program Team said I am a music artist and filmmaker. I earned my bachelor's degree in media arts from the University of South Carolina with an associate's degree in business administration. I am seeking a master's degree in cinematography. My goal is to create a platform for myself and my colleagues to expand, produce, and sustain themselves.

Mr. Terrance Duren, RICH Program Teams said I am an upcoming filmmaker and entrepreneur. I studied digital film and video production at the Art Institute of Charlotte. My personal goal is to create a media hub for Columbia to get u ahead in the media space.

Ms. Nathalie Watson, RICH Program Team said I received my bachelor's degree in media arts from the University of South Carolina. I have an associate's degree in graphic design and I aspire to obtain my master's degree in filming at Howard University. My goal is to develop a platform for young females who are interested in cinematography even though it is a male dominated field.

Mr. Andrew Gajadhar and Ms. Faith Creech, RICH Program Team said we are co-founders of the Carolina Film Network, which is a non-profit organization in Columbia. We are founders of the Picture Media Group Production Company and we recently received accreditation with the Producers Guild of America. Last month, we received several awards at the Rising Star Academy Awards in Philadelphia. We will be filming a documentary on Mama G.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

Mayor Benjamin said these young men and women are mentoring other young men and women all across this community; some that others have given up on a long time ago and are helping them reach heights that many of them believed they would've never achieved. Your commitment to community is incredible. The creative class is alive and well.

Ms. Lee Lumpkin, Columbia Classical Ballet Executive Board Chair said we were demolished by the 2015 flood and we were \$91,000 in debt. I cannot tell you the difference the funding you provided from surplus made to us. We are so close to being out of debt. Radenko swept the World Ballet Competition in Orlando. We have amazing dancers who are winners in the world and we want to keep them here in Columbia as long as we can. Today, I am asking you to keep us in mind when you look at the surplus. Just know how grateful, appreciative, and proud we are.

Mr. Radenko Pavlovich, Columbia Classical Ballet's Artistic Director said I am proud, because the Columbia Classical Ballet has five gold and silver medals. This makes us one of the few companies in the southeast that has this many medals. Thank you for your help.

Ms. Katie Bolden, Booker Washington Heights resident asked if there are plans in place to restore the houses that have been burned down and is there funding for seniors who need help. Seniors have to determine whether to pay their light bills or medical bills. We need a grocery store in our neighborhood. We would like to know more about that plan that Mr. Davis and Mr. McDowell have referenced. Many seniors and single parents don't have transportation. Please consider getting us a grocery store in the Beltline and Farrow Road neighborhood. I had an unpleasant experience at City Hall with someone who was very disrespectful towards me and I hope that doesn't happen again.

Mayor Benjamin said an arrest has been made. You may recall that we established the PEAR and MAP programs specifically for Booker Washington Heights, but there was significant opposition to participation. No one applied and those funds went to 29203. Also, the neighborhood is one of the target neighborhoods for utilization of CDBG, HOME, and other funds coming through the City from federal funds. A lot is happening on the grocery store front. Mr. McDowell and I have been working directly with others to explore creative approaches to make sure people in the community have access to fresh foods in the interim.

Ms. Andya Davis, Double Dutch Forces asked Council to consider accepting volunteers to help with staffing MLK Park on Sundays. I've been in that park for over 30 years advocating and inspiring youth. The jump rope participants have siblings who participate in other activities during practice. We are going to continue Joy's legacy. I am requesting that ribbons be placed on the Double Dutch Forces signs throughout the City in honor of Joy.



We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018**

Ms. Shardae Avents, Double Dutch Forces said I was a student athlete who played every sport. I was able to commit to Double Dutch on Sundays. There could be a window of time for the jumpers to practice and I am willing to volunteer. I started jumping double-dutch at the age of three even though I was supposed to be four. Joy taught me things that people pay thousands of dollars to learn; tenacity, teamwork, and interdependency. We have to see everything through and that is something that Joy is doing from her death bed. I hope you hold the Double Dutch Forces near and dear to your heart.

Mayor Benjamin said we recognize that City parks are a cornerstone of communities across the City. I propose that we do a street renaming with the full participation of the neighborhood.

Mr. John Blackmon said I moved to Columbia in 1958 and I've been in the real estate business since 1975. I am concerned with how hard it is for homeowners to maintain their property in certain neighborhoods. I understand preservation and historical properties. I have a hard time understanding why you won't let somebody replace their windows with modern technology. Mayor Benjamin said the Economic Development Subcommittee will be discussing this issue on July 31, 2018.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore, CMC
City Clerk