



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at the Busby Street Community Center, 1735 Busby Street, Columbia, SC 29203. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr., The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, and The Honorable William Brennan. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. The minutes are numbered to coincide with the order of the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Honorable Mayor Pro Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr. offered the invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda, subject to adding the Nathaniel Abraham, Sr. Day Proclamation.

1. Nathaniel Abraham, Sr. Day Proclamation - The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin – *Received as information. No action was taken.*

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed August 17, 2021 as Nathaniel Abraham, Sr. Day in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Tanita Abraham, youngest daughter of Nathaniel Abraham said we traveled from Fort Mill, SC to accept this and we appreciate it. We can't begin to say that we can speak as eloquently as my father or even partially fill his shoes. I do know that everything that he fought for and stood for made him happy and he is smiling right now. We are saddened by our loss and the loss for the community, but we know that it was a life well lived and a job well done. Thank you again to each of you for recognizing all that he attempted to do to assist his fellow man. Please know that although we are saddened we will definitely do our very best to continue and build on his legacy.



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Mayor Benjamin said Mr. Abraham was always present, always leading, and serious about his business of protecting the people's work. He will be sorely missed and I can only imagine the treasure trove of memories that helped shape the City over the last half century that you might have in your archives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Council is asked to approve the August 3, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the August 3, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

3. Columbia-Richland Fire Department Appreciation Day Proclamation - The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed August 17, 2021 as Columbia-Richland Fire Department Appreciation Day in the City of Columbia.

Mayor Benjamin said we can't even begin to encapsulate all the work that the men and women of the Columbia-Richland Fire Department do. Time and time again we have leaned on you even in some very non-traditional responsibilities and time and time again you stepped up and made it happen. This is a brief opportunity to say how much we appreciate all of you and thank you for your service.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Columbia-Richland Fire Chief said thank you Mayor, Council, and City Manager for this recognition. We are certainly going to continue to make sure that we keep our citizens and visitors safe.

4. Update from the Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board - Ms. Miriam Atria, President/CEO of Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board

Ms. Miriam Atria, President/CEO of Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board said we just had our annual meeting. This is when we get together with our funding partners, tourism alliances, and advocates to unveil what we have done in the past year and what is expected in the coming year. In the last four months of our fiscal year we hosted five major



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national tournament events. All of these events brought national TV exposure which included our tourism ad for this region. We just returned from ICAST, the largest fishing and outdoor show in the United States. This tourism region is a 1.5-billion-dollar industry for the four counties that our organization promotes. We have returned with some great business for 2022, 2023, and into 2024. We are hosting the Women's Sunfish Regatta in September. It will bring people from all across the United States. Some of the businesses we are bringing will also support rentals at the Columbia Convention Center. During the pandemic, the Capital City/Lake Murray board committed 54% of our budget on direct marketing and advertising. We are on the way to the world food championship. Seven chefs from this region were chosen including Master Chef John Cooper, a resident of the City of Columbia. This region is going to receive unprecedented media coverage from the world food championship on the *Food Network* television show. Our region's message is being shared through media press partners who provide us with an annual report as well. Last fiscal year, 162 articles were published on this region's various tourism facilities, itineraries, attractions, etc., and 18 billion media impressions were made from the 162 articles. That is a \$168 million marketing value for this region and we spent \$681,000. We have a regional show called *Beyond Your Backyard* with Eric the Travel Guy. Many Columbia and regional attractions are featured in this show that will be airing in the fall on PBS. We joined with our South Carolina regional partners to produce a one hour show on the Revolutionary War trail journey through South Carolina. The production has been completed and will be airing on January 2022. *Forbes Magazine* named our region a top southern destination. *More Real News Food and Travel Magazine* named us as a top food and travel destination. We are spreading the message that we are the region in South Carolina to visit; come spend a night and spend your money. We couldn't do this without our partnership with the city and for that we are always grateful. Mr. Davis has served on our board of directors for 20 years. We heard he is thinking about retiring and we did not want you to leave us without a small memento in recognition of the wonderful partnerships, for helping us with our tourism efforts, and for the 20 years you have been an asset to our organization. We just wanted to give you a small token of our appreciation today.

Mayor Benjamin said your presentations always capture all the great substance of the work that you have been doing. You are right, the exponential value to the quality of life in the Midlands has been amazing. Thank you and your team.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

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

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



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Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director said according to the CDC, the seven-day moving average for daily COVID-19 cases has increased 18.4%. The previous week we had 114,000 cases. Of the four classified variants of concern, the combined portion of those cases are attributed to delta. This is estimated to increase from 83.4% to 97.4%. As of August 15th, 44 states are now classified as high community transmission. South Carolina is now included in that list. Six states are classified as substantial and zero states are classified as low. The top states with the highest cases are Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, and South Carolina. All 46 counties in our state now have high disease activity. According to DHEC data from July 1st to July 31st, of the 26,848 cases reported where DHEC could determine vaccine status, 88% of those were considered not fully vaccinated. Of the 550 hospitalizations reported, 77% of those were considered not fully vaccinated. Of the 110 deaths reported, 87 were considered not fully vaccinated. As of August 14th, Japan and Mexico are seeing their slope increase, the United Kingdom is plateauing, South Africa is decreasing their peak, and India is fully plateauing. We started seeing ours in July so we are kind of in the middle in the state. We have two more vaccine locations next week: August 24th at Melrose Park and August 25th at Woodland Park from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. As of today, the state's confirmed case count stands at 545,625 with 9 million tests administered to date. The new case count for today is 1,991 confirmed with 286 probable [cases] for a total of 2,277 combined cases. The percent positivity rate is 13%. There were six new confirmed deaths and one probable bringing the total to 8,916. In Richland County, the test count stands at 44,307. There were an additional 129 with 23 probable cases. Over the last 14-days we are averaging about 179 per day in Richland County. Statewide utilization rate is at 79% and ICU bed utilization is also at 79%. As of today, there are 1,718 patients currently hospitalized due to confirmed or suspected COVID-19. In Richland County, the hospital bed utilization is 68.9% and there are 129 patients currently hospitalized. DHEC reports that there have been 4.3 million doses of vaccines administered in our state. In Richland County, 57.7% of residents have received at least one dose and 48.8% of those have completed their vaccinations. As of August 16th, 59.8% of the U.S. population has been fully vaccinated and 72.1% have received at least one dose.

Councilor Devine asked if we have the hospitalization numbers for the Children's Hospital.

Mr. Harry Tinsley, Emergency Management Director said I do not have that data. It is reported to the counties. I will reach out to their emergency management to obtain that data.

Mayor Benjamin said I agree we need to see the children's hospital numbers on a regular basis. I do know that statewide Prisma saw overnight a 10% increase in admissions. Lexington had the highest number of admissions since the beginning of the pandemic this past weekend. We are



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seeing concerning trends. One consistent thing we see is that the likelihood of someone surviving goes up dramatically if in fact they receive the vaccine. I want to encourage anyone to take one of the vaccines authorized for emergency use because it can indeed help save your life. Almost every case now is the delta variant. If you haven't started reading about the lambda and epsilon variants, then you should. The epsilon variant shows a significant vaccine resistance. If we don't do anything we can as quickly as we can this can be an ever ending journey. There are ways to stop it, obviously get vaccinated, mask up, and follow any regulations to indeed save lives, improve public health, improve education of children, and save our businesses.

6. Chief Health Officer Proposal - The Honorable Edward H. McDowell

Councilor McDowell said there are 10,000 deaths in South Carolina due to COVID-19. Children are continuing to be diagnosed with COVID-19. There is also the pandemics of diabetes, cancer, HIV, obesity, and sickle cell that we have not discussed but continue to ravish the lives of people. We talked about the delta variant, epsilon variant, and lambda variant. I hope we don't get to the point where we have to execute a name for every letter of the Greek alphabet. If our city is going to be a health haven, we cannot continue to negate the fact that 29203 and 29229 have the highest number of amputees and highest numbers of hard medical issues. We can't just sit silently by and not do anything. Do we allow persons with expertise to step forward to help persons in those areas? If we are going to beat this delta variant and move in a direction where folk are being resourcefully helped, then we need to act today. It saddens me when I talk to a family who just admitted a child to ICU. I have children and honestly I am scared. This is not political at all; this is about saving our city. There are other municipalities in the United States that have health officers like Atlanta, Baltimore, and Miami. It is time to step up and make health a priority. People are going to continue to die and our children are going to continue to be at risk. Everything that was said today is factual and we need to do something. I would like to propose that we refer this to the Administrative Policy Committee and continue the conversation within a parameter of two to three weeks.

Councilor Duvall said I take exception to Mr. McDowell's request. He says this is not political, but we all know this is political. One of the candidates in the mayoral race has run on this. I received an email criticizing one of our colleagues calling them irresponsible and dangerous for objecting to it. I am not sure if I object to the position of a health officer as much as I object to it being interjected into the City Council debates before the people vote in November. I have told many people that the group we have representing the city at the present time and the staff is one of the best councils I have ever sat on. It's representative of lots of diverse options. We debate, we come to a decision, and we move on. The position of a health officer has been promoted by a candidate that is running for mayor. It is being debated in the many forums that are coming to the



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city about the mayor's election. I think we should at least wait until the new council is sworn in to see if this has public support and political support on the seven-member council. I don't mind referring to the Administrative Policy Committee but I don't think our staff should spend a lot of time doing research. I can tell you that if you research South Carolina, you will not find a city with a chief health officer because that is a county responsibility. We have county health offices, department of health and environmental control, and the city's risk and emergency department. I am not sure what more can be done with a chief health officer than we are presently doing. I would respectfully ask that this be held until we have the election.

Councilor McDowell said I disagree with your political stance. This is a health stance for me and thousands of other people. You raised the issue of this being political and having to wait until the election; folk are dying. They shouldn't have to wait until someone is elected, whoever that person might be. This is not political but you made it political by wanting to push this off. It's not only COVID-19 affecting the community, it's also cancer, diabetes, and others. We each support our candidate of our choice. It has nothing to do with one candidate bringing up the whole notion of a chief health officer. If we keep waiting, folks are going to keep dying.

Councilor Rickenmann said I appreciate bringing forth these issues because there are priorities that need to be addressed. One of the things I have discovered since this discussion has come forth is that we haven't reached out to the agencies here and engaged the folks that can do things today. If this goes to committee, you need to make sure those folks are at the table. Between DHEC, the School of Medicine, and the 1,700 providers who provide home health that is covered through various insurances like Medicaid and Medicare. There are opportunities to make sure that we get the help that folks need, the advice they need, and any services they need virtually or at home. Bringing this forward is a great step in acknowledging that we have some health disparities in our districts. I am not sure that a health officer is going to make anything happen faster than any agency. We need to show people how to take advantage of what is out there. We should reach out to these agencies including Blue Cross Blue Shield which provides services through their health foundation. I would ask that you bring those agencies into the committee and ask them to be engaged.

Councilor Devine said the way that this came forward was not our normal process. Whether this is political or not, the perception is that it is. When you have a press conference in front of City Hall and announce something before it is brought to the city manager for consideration, it can be taken as political. The resolution that was prepared talks a lot about statistics in 29203. In 2014 Prisma Health came here at my request to address the work that they were doing to address health disparities. They told us then that there was a community health council specifically for 29203. I wanted to verify if that is still happening and it still is. It has been revamped into Rise



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Up Richland. They have DHEC, school districts, mental health providers, and others at the table. I would ask our staff to reach out to see what they are doing and make it a part of the report. I have no objection of it going to committee to evaluate and actually look at the data to see who is already doing what. I would like to hear from staff on what information has been put together and what additional information they feel needs to be put together before it gets to committee. If we want to address something it does not always have to be the city doing it, it is working together with our partners to actually make sure we are impacting our community. Ms. Wilson is there any new data or information?

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said yes, we presented information to Mr. McDowell to present at the committee. What we found in the research is that this should be a collaborative effort with the different agencies that we have at our disposal here in the Midlands. We did a thorough review of what a chief health officer is, which is very different than a chief medical officer. I have heard those terms being interspersed. This is not someone who is a doctor at a hospital system but it someone knowledgeable of health disparities and public health issues. The cities that have that position in place typically is where the health department itself reports up in that chain of government, which is not the way that we are structured in Columbia. We do have DHEC, a medical school, a university that has a public health department, and wonderful hospital systems that we can potentially bring together as some type of committee of the city to work with you all to focus in the particular zip codes where you are seeing underserved communities and health disparities in particular. The council through the committee process can determine recommendations on what would be the best direction to go. It will not be something we can do this budget year because we have not budgeted for a position like that. But the research does show we can address this in a collaborative way.

Councilor Davis said I don't have a problem having the city play a major role in making sure the health of our citizens is top notch. We do have a number of partners and agencies assigned to certain areas of health management and care. If we are getting true benefits from all of these partners and agencies that are on the payroll, then why are the numbers so high in 29203 and 29222. There has to be a reason somebody is not hitting the target. There is nothing wrong with having a professional that guides the city on the path of being a true health city and making sure the people that we serve are in the best of health. I think the committee process is fine. I am not approaching this from a political view. I can see that someone is missing the boat if our health disparities are this high with all these partners we have.

Mayor Benjamin said there was a lot said and a lot of it I think is completely unrelated to the issue before us. Some of it seems to be presented as mutually exclusive options that are not mutually exclusive options. Under our state statute, the city manager has the authority to



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establish departments and staff positions. This council can decide to vote on the spirit of this and direct the city manager to move forward with the council's will. There is also the authority under state law for a city to establish their own health commission. The fact that there is no position like this in South Carolina doesn't matter. We should never hesitate when it's right or when it's in the interest of the life, health and safety of our citizens. We obviously have the authority under state law to maintain a board of health that will have operational responsibilities. Maybe in the age in which we are living, it's time for that. As we worked our way through this pandemic, we have been fairly reactive. An opportunity to be more proactive is not a bad idea. If we believe something is a good idea and is as important as this is, we need to allow a good idea to advance if it has our support. If it's a bad idea, then we go through the process and choose otherwise. The opportunity to have a discussion with all the other organizations in the Midlands in charge of these responsibilities is important. But it's our sworn responsibility to do everything we possibly can. If a recommendation comes back from the committee, then we'll take it up in whatever form it is and hopefully not have to debate this again.

7. Tax Study Ad-Hoc Committee Update - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann

Councilor Rickenmann said we have already taken action as a council to form the committee. We all put together a subcommittee that was supposed to take three different economists and we were to choose one to move forward. We need the committee to start operating if we are going to be competitive in the restructuring that is going on in the U.S. I had three institutional lenders and developers in town this week looking around our city. We need to be having the discussion on how to be competitive to get those outside investments and grow as the restructurings comes. Let the three economists get together and structure this committee so that we can have community dialogue and try to advance the ball.

Councilor Duvall said I will get with the clerk and provide her the three economists' names and to schedule the committee meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 8 THROUGH 28

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 8 through 28**.

8. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Recruitment and Entrepreneurial Assistance, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to Midlands Technical College Enterprise Campus Authority in the amount of \$10,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*



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Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$10,000.00.

9. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Information Technology Training, Certification, and Research, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to ITology in the amount of \$10,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$10,000.00.

10. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Entrepreneurial Support, Management, and Assistance, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to USC/Columbia Technology Incubator in the amount of \$25,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$25,000.00.

11. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Sister Cities Programs to Assist with Recruitment, Marketing, and Research, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to Columbia World Affairs Council in the amount of \$30,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$30,000.00.

12. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Entrepreneurship, Small Business Development, Event Management, and Marketing, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to GrowCo in the amount of \$37,500.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$37,500.00.

13. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Professional Services for Improvement and Operational Services within the Downtown Business Improvement District, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to the City Center Partnership in the amount of \$70,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$70,000.00.



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14. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Assistance with Recruitment, Project Management, Promotions, Marketing, and Research, as requested by the Economic Development Department. Award to Central SC Alliance in the amount of \$72,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Special Contracts (5511301-638300). The original budget amount is \$72,000.00.

15. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Contract Renewal for Emergency Notification System Services, as requested by Columbia-Richland 911 Communications. Award to Everbridge Systems in the amount of \$89,897.85. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: City Account (1012701-638200) \$44,948.93 and County Account (2082702-638200) \$44,948.92. The original budget amount is \$89,897.85.

16. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Kronos Workforce Annual Subscription and Equipment Support Services, as requested by the Budget & Program Management Office. Award to Kronos Inc. in the amount of \$176,255.54. This vendor is located in Chelmsford, MA. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Program Management Office - Cloud Based Software Solutions (6218950-632170). The original budget amount is \$176,255.54.

17. Council is asked to approve a 6-month Contract Extension for Professional Janitorial Services, as requested by the Support Services Division. Award to American Facility Services Inc., located in Alpharetta, GA, in an amount not to exceed \$161,652.00 and Goodwill Industries, located in Greenville, SC, in an amount not to exceed \$95,865.90, for a total amount not to exceed \$257,517.90. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Support Services Public Building - Maintenance & Service Contract (5511219-638200) \$47,010; General Support Services - Maintenance & Service Contract (1011201-638200) \$59,069.40; Utilities Columbia Canal WTP - Maintenance & Service Contract (5516206-638200) \$12,426.00; Police Administrative Services - Maintenance & Service Contract (1012402-638200) \$77,078.40; Emergency Communications/911 - Maintenance & Service Contract (1012701-638200) \$3,900.00; Streets-Storm Drains - Maintenance & Service Contract (5534203-638200) \$27,619.00; Purchasing - Maintenance & Service Contract (6228959-638200) \$11,070.00; Parking Operations - Maintenance & Service Contract (5312413-638200) \$3,287.46; Employee Health Center - Maintenance & Service Contract (6048920-638200) \$2,289.36; Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Maintenance & Service Contract (5516208-638200) \$17,759.28. The original budget amount is \$257,517.90.



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18. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Citywide Uniform Rental Services for a term of one year, as requested by the Procurement and Contracts Department. Award to UniFirst Corporation, using the National Joint Powers Alliance Contract in the amount of \$480,000.00. This firm is located in Lexington, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Supplies - Uniforms and Clothing (6208956-624100). The original budget amount is \$480,000.00.

19. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #2 to an Engineering Agreement for Project WM4484; Water Valve and Hydrant Survey, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Chao and Associates, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise, to increase the price per asset for the expanded scope of services in an amount not to exceed \$759,761.71 as previously approved by City Council on December 3, 2019. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution and Maintenance - Maintenance and Service Contract (5516203-WM4484-638200).

20. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Project WM4263; Water Quality Consulting for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 for an initial term of ten months with the option to renew for one additional one-year period effective September 1, 2021, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation in the amount of \$75,000.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water Compliance - Consultant Fees Contract (5516230-636700). The original budget amount is \$75,000.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Black & Veatch Corporation is the mentor and will provide water quality consulting services at 80% (\$60,000.00) of the total contract amount. Howard Engineering, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise (W) located in Marietta, SC is the protégé and will provide electrical & instrumentation and control design engineering services, construction management, water treatment staff training, review of water quality data, and quality control of update report services at 20% (\$15,000.00) of the total contract amount.

21. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Rear Loader for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Carolina Environmental using the Sourcwell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$142,275.00. This vendor is located in Kernersville, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital (6308972-658500). The original budget amount is \$142,275.00.



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22. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Environmental Sample Testing for an initial term of one year, with an option to renew for two additional one-year periods, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Rogers & Callcott Environmental in the amount of \$176,699.35. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater - Special Contracts (5516208-638300) \$62,224.55 and Wastewater Compliance-Special Contracts (5516231-638300) \$114,474.80, The original budget amount is \$176,699.35.

Rogers & Callcott Environmental will provide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Aqueous Sample Matrix Testing, Metro Groundwater, Stormwater General Permit/Sanitary Sewer Overflows: Aqueous Sample, Fat, Oils, and Grease Program Testing, and Pretreatment Testing services at 79.88% (\$141,154.35) of the total contract amount.

The following subconsultants will provide additional services:

Eurofins Lancaster Labs Environmental of Lancaster, PA will provide Volatile Organic Compounds VOA Method 1666A and Formaldehyde services at 13.86% (\$24,485.00) of the total contract amount.

Montrose Environmental Group, Inc. of Irvine, CA will provide Polyfluoroalkyl Substances and Perfluorooctanoic Acid services at 6.01% (\$10,625.00) of the total contract amount.

GEL Laboratories, LLC of Charleston, SC will provide Low Level Mercury Analysis services at 00.25% (\$435.00) of the total contract amount.

23. Council is asked to approve an AIA Contract for Project SS7568; Preconstruction and Construction Manager at Risk Services for Saluda River Force Main Extension, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to McClam and Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.00. The contractor is located in Little Mountain, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects, Saluda River Force Main Extension, Capital Projects Cost (5529999-SS756801-658650). The original budget amount is \$150,000.00.

24. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of (25) 6", (2) 8", and (1) 10" Fire Service Assembly Meters and (600) 5' and (48) 25' registers for the Water Distribution Division, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Badger Meter Inc., as a sole source in the amount of \$238,460.76. This vendor is located in Milwaukee, WI. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution & Maintenance - Meters, Parts, and Supplies (5516203-625600). The original budget amount is \$238,460.76.



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25. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #4 for Project SS7253; Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Anaerobic Digester Rehabilitation, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Hazen and Sawyer in an amount not to exceed \$634,768.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects; Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS742801-658650). The original contract amount was \$4,189,652.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$634,768.00. The revised budget amount is \$4,824,420.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Hazen and Sawyer is the mentor and will provide construction management and engineering services at 79.22% (\$3,821,765.00) of the total contract value. Construction Dynamics, Inc. located in Columbia, SC is the protégé and has provided construction observation services at 14.13% (\$681,780.00) of the total contract value.

The mentor will be performing 100% (\$634,768.00) of contract amendment #4. This amendment does not include opportunities for participation by protégé or subconsultant firms due to the specialized engineering processes associated with anaerobic digestion. However, the overall percentage of services provided by subconsultants is 20.78% of the total contract value.

26. Council is asked to approve Amendment #2 to Work Order #2 for Project WM4453 & SS7460 Carolina Crossroads, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to CDM Smith, Inc. in the amount of \$1,405,721.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Capital Project Costs (5529999-WM445301-658650) \$944,459.91; Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS746001-658650) \$461,261.09. The original budget amount was \$1,351,160.00. The budget amount for this amendment is \$1,405,721.00. The total revised budget amount is \$2,756,881.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. CDM Smith, Inc. located in Columbia, SC, is the mentor and will provide administration of the project, project management, meetings, and oversight of the protégé firm at 74.50% (\$2,053,839.00) of the total revised contract amount. Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise (W) located in Columbia, SC, is the protégé and will provide full-time inspection of the utility relocation construction at 25.50% (\$703,042.00) of the total revised contract amount.

27. Ordinance No.: 2021-066 Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Mayor, Council and City Manager, Division 2, Council Meetings, Sec. 2-59 Council committees and special committees - *First reading was given on August 3, 2021 – Approved on second reading.*



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

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28. ANNEXATION, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP AMENDMENT, AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT for 80-acre portion, N/S Percival Road – 4621, 4635, 4651, and 4655 Percival Road; TMS# 25600-03-04(p) - *First reading approval was given on May 18, 2021 – Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2021-036 Annexing and Incorporating an 80-acre portion N/S Percival Road known as 4621 Percival Road, 4635 Percival Road, 4651 Percival Road and 4655 Percival Road, Richland County TMS# 25600-03-04(p) into Columbia Compass: Envision 2036 adopted by Ordinance No.: 2020-028 on August 4, 2020 - First reading approval was given on May 18, 2021 – Approved on second reading.

Council District: 4

Proposal: Request to annex, assign land use classification of Urban Edge Residential Small Lot (UER-1) and assign zoning of General Residential District (RG-1), a portion within the Flood Protective Overlay (-FP) at the time of annexation. The property is currently classified as Neighborhood (Medium Density) and zoned M-1 by Richland County.

Applicant: C. Ray Miles / HVP3 Development, LLC

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 04/05/2021; Approval (8-0)

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

29. Ordinance No.: 2021-067 Fifth Supplemental Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of a City of Columbia, South Carolina Special Obligation Refunding Bond (Hospitality Fee Pledge), Series 2021, in the aggregate Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$31,000,000 in Order to Refund all or a Portion of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Special Obligation Bonds (Hospitality Fee Pledge), Series 2014, Authorizing the Mayor, the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager for Finance and Economic Services, or any two of them acting together, to determine certain matters with respect to the Bond; Prescribing the Form and Details of Such Bond; and Other Matters Relating Thereto – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to amend Ordinance No. 2021-067 to reflect a Principal Amount of Not to Exceed \$31,000,000.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Duvall Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2021-067 Fifth Supplemental Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of a City of Columbia, South Carolina Special Obligation Refunding Bond (Hospitality Fee Pledge), Series 2021, in the aggregate Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$31,000,000 in Order to Refund all or a Portion of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Special Obligation Bonds (Hospitality Fee Pledge), Series 2014, Authorizing the Mayor, the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager for Finance and Economic Services, or any two of them acting together, to determine certain matters with respect to the Bond; Prescribing the Form and Details of Such Bond; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

30. Ordinance No.: 2021-072 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Columbia and Latitude 32 Development, LLC for the sale of 2221 Devine Street, Richland County TMS #11312-02-03 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2021-072 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Columbia and Latitude 32 Development, LLC for the sale of 2221 Devine Street, Richland County TMS #11312-02-03.

ZONING / PLANNING MATTERS - FIRST READING

31. ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT to Amend the text of the Unified Development Ordinance – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No: 2021-062 Amending The Unified Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Article 3: Zoning Districts, Sec. 17-3.7 Overlay Districts, (c) OV-A: Airport Safety Overlay District and Article 4: Use Regulations, Sec. 17-4.2. Principal Uses (c) Standards for Specific Principal Uses (1) Residential Uses, b. Group Living Uses, 2. Private Dormitory, and Table 17-4.2(C)(2) A.1: Permissibility of Bulk Requirement for Wireless Communication Facilities According to Support Structure – Approved on first reading.

Proposal: Amendments to the new Chapter 17 of the Columbia Code of Ordinances entitled “Unified Development Ordinance” adopted August 20, 2019 and effective August 30, 2021 updating text related to Wireless Communication Facilities, Private Dormitories, and the Airport Height Overlay.

Applicant: Rachel Bailey, Zoning Administrator

Staff Recommendation: Approval

PC Recommendation: 06/07/2021; Approval (8-0)



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

The public hearing was held on July 20, 2021 and first reading was deferred.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No: 2021-062 Amending The Unified Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Article 3: Zoning Districts, Sec. 17-3.7 Overlay Districts, (c) OV-A: Airport Safety Overlay District and Article 4: Use Regulations, Sec. 17-4.2. Principal Uses (c) Standards for Specific Principal Uses (1) Residential Uses, b. Group Living Uses, 2. Private Dormitory, and Table 17-4.2(C)(2) A.1: Permissibility of Bulk Requirement for Wireless Communication Facilities According to Support Structure.

RESOLUTIONS

32. Resolution No.: R-2021-047 Approving Assessment Roll for City Center Business Improvement District – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-047 Approving Assessment Roll for City Center Business Improvement District.

33. Resolution No.: R-2021-090 Supporting We Love Five Points LLC's proposed concept for development of the former Wells Fargo property located at 705 Saluda Avenue in Five Points – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-090 Supporting We Love Five Points LLC's proposed concept for development of the former Wells Fargo property located at 705 Saluda Avenue in Five Points.

34. Resolution No.: R-2021-091 Ratifying and Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Columbia and Celia Saxon Shopping Center, LLC for the Employee Health Center – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-091 Ratifying and Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Columbia and Celia Saxon Shopping Center, LLC for the Employee Health Center.



**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021**

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35. Resolution No.: R-2021-093 Certifying Five (5) Building Sites as Abandoned Buildings Pursuant to the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act, Title 12, Chapter 67, Section 12-67-100 et seq., of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended, regarding property located at 2200 Hampton Street, Richland County TMS # R11407-14-01 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-093 Certifying Five (5) Building Sites as Abandoned Buildings Pursuant to the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act, Title 12, Chapter 67, Section 12-67-100 et seq., of the Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended, regarding property located at 2200 Hampton Street, Richland County TMS # R11407-14-01.

EVENT RESOLUTIONS

36. Resolution No.: R-2021-080 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for CMA Arts and Draughts on Friday, September 10, 2021 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-080 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for CMA Arts and Draughts on Friday, September 10, 2021.

37. Resolution No.: R-2021-086 Repealing and Replacing R-2021-034 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Lifting as We Climb Fundraiser on Main Street on Saturday, September 18, 2021 – *Approved*

The organizer has requested relocation of the event from the Lady Street area to the parking lot between City Hall and the Courthouse due to the proximity of construction projects along Lady Street. The event date and hours remain the same.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-086 Repealing and Replacing R-2021-034 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Lifting as We Climb Fundraiser on Main Street on Saturday, September 18, 2021.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

APPOINTMENTS

38. Advisory Council on Equality – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to appoint Todd Shaw, Dylan Gunnels, Darius Jones, Tarra McRavin, Tyson Lusk, Tanya Hatton, Jeff March, Grant LeFever, and Sien Rivera to the Advisory Council on Equality.

39. Columbia Housing Authority – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to reappoint Ernest W. Cromartie, III to the Columbia Housing Authority for a second term of five-years.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to reappoint George Green to the Columbia Housing Authority as a resident commissioner for a third term of five-years.

40. Design Development Review Commission – *Deferred*

41. Food Policy Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to appoint Jabari Bodrick, Roddrick Dugger, Lauren Eckstrom, Guillermo Espinosa, Regina Greer, Quinn Hayes, Jennifer Lobel Kahn, Zack King, Tyler McDonald, Omme-Salma Rahemtullah, and Yumi Weathersby to the Food Policy Committee for a term of two-years.

42. Transportation Penny Oversight Committee – *Deferred*

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS / REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to refer the Chief Health Officer Proposal to the Administrative Policy Committee.

Councilor Duvall said we were asked to look at reconstituting the Memorial Park Committee. It was formed about 30 years ago but it never had a structure to it. Some of the members of the committee are now deceased. Legal staff is currently working on this request.



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

Councilor Brennan said a lot of the topics we have talked about today would benefit from the leverage of federal, state, or non-profit funding that is out there floating around. Mrs. Wilson, can you give us a quick update on where we are with our full-time grant writer position so that we can take some action on pursuing these funding outlets?

Mrs. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said we have it posted. We were not seeing the breadth of applicants that we were looking for so have reposted it. I do think we are at a point now to have interviews. I brought the first professional grant writer to the city many years ago. We lost her to the university but we still partner with her. We have reached out to her to help us look for some good applicants. ACM Simons hired a grant writer specifically for the Parks and Recreation Foundation. That is proving to be really successful. We are trying to work with certain departments like police and fire. They are always applying for grants as well.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Oveta Glover, said I appreciate the opportunity to come before you. I am representing family and friends in the community to say thank you for taking the unprecedented stance and making the decision to mandate mask wearing in our schools. Council, continue to stand for your rights, being responsible, making intelligent decisions, governing for a healthy tomorrow, and saving our youth and community. I represent Funds, Inc., the organization that sponsors the annual statewide black history parade and festival. An effort to educate our communities about our history. The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department assisted with this effort since 2004. Thank you for your continued support and we shall see you in February. I also stand as president of the Columbia branch of the NAACP to inform you that we stand whole heartedly with the City Council mask mandate. We are demanding Governor McMaster lift the mask ban and that he join in the effort of saving the lives of our youth and our community. We are encouraging everyone to continue to wear masks and get vaccinated. In February, the Columbia branch NAACP launched a housing navigator program, an effort to guide or assist those community members that are facing evictions from their homes. We have people that are going to be put out that have been in their homes all their lives. We are there to help them navigate through the system. We have partnered with over 40 lawyers, South Carolina Appleseed, and some other entities with monies that people can receive. We encourage those of you that are hearing my voice to please tell anyone that may be facing eviction that they have an organization that can assist them. Since February, we have been able to guide and assist over 120 families.



We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

Councilor McDowell said I issued a challenge to County Council Derrek Pugh to stuff a bus of school supplies. I have already declared the city is going to win this. The school supply drive will be held at the Page Ellington Park on Saturday, August 21, 2021 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please come out and show your support. We have computers as well that are going to be designated to schools.

Mrs. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said I have been advised by the Clerk that we are anticipating a run-off election on November 16th. We have a council meeting scheduled for that day and we are proposing to move that meeting to November 9th.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the revision to the Council Meeting calendar to move the November 16, 2021 meeting to November 9, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:11 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 43** through **45**.

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

*COVID-19
Phillips Street
Franchise Agreement
Gun Crime Legislation
Monticello Road SCDOT Pavement Improvement Program*

44. Discussion of matters relating to proposed location or expansion of services to encourage location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(5)

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We Are Columbia

**COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021**

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

*Legislative Affairs
Deed Restrictions for 1001 Senate Street*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk