



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tempore, The Honorable William Brennan, The Honorable Aditi Bussells, and The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. The Honorable Tina N. Herbert was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. *The minutes are numbered to coincide with the order of the meeting.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda, subject to adding Tunnel 2 Towers Foundation 5K Walk and Run Presentation and deferring consideration of Resolution R-2022-074 (*Resolving to Consider Ordinance No.: 2022- 081 Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances, Chapter 17 (Unified Development Ordinance), Article 4, Use Regulations, Section 17-4.2, Principle Uses, to add Provisions Governing Smoke or Vape Shops, and Article 9, Definitions and Measurements, to add Definitions concerning Smoke or Vape Shops; and, Setting and Advertising to the Public the Date of a Public Hearing on this Ordinance; and, referring this Ordinance to the Planning Commission for its Consideration; and Invoking the Pending Ordinance Doctrine with Respect to this Ordinance*).

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the July 26, 2022 and the August 2, 2022 Work Session and Council Meeting Minutes. – *Approved*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve the July 26, 2022 and the August 2, 2022 Work Session and Council Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Resolution No.: R-2022-073 - Approving the Honorary Naming of the intersection of Adams Grove Road and Colonial Drive "Willie A. Tompkins, Sr. Drive" – *Approved*

Councilor McDowell said some years ago, I met a young man who became a close friend to my family. Willie Tomkins was involved in his community and with every single person in Columbia. He was there whenever I asked him to do something for me. He was a good listener. He understood what it meant to care for people and to love people where they were and not particularly where he wanted them to be. Willie cared for families when death bombarded their lives. He sincerely cared for them and carried out a service that was memorable and honorable in his funeral home, a landmark in our community. A place where persons are able to find comfort in the midst of death. We have named the street right next to the Bostick – Thompkins Funeral Home "Willie A. Tompkins, Sr. Drive".

Ms. Kaycee Tompkins, daughter of Mr. Willie A. Tompkins said this has been a long journey dealing with the grief of losing my dad. I wanted to give him everything that he deserved and honor him even after his passing. I thought this would be a perfect way to represent him. Thank you.

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-073 - Approving the Honorary Naming of the intersection of Adams Grove Road and Colonial Drive "Willie A. Tompkins, Sr. Drive".

3. Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mrs. Yvonne E. Donald, Deputy Director of the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation said I want to begin by thanking Mayor Rickmann, his staff, and members of City Council for the opportunity to receive this proclamation today. I also want to thank them for the opportunity to share and encourage participation in our 16th Annual Dr. James R. Clark Sickle Cell Walk. The 16th annual walk will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022 at Martin Luther King Park, 2300 Greene Street. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the pre-walk ceremony at 8:00 a.m. The walk is held each September to honor the children, families, and adults who live



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daily with the chronic illness. Sickle cell disease affects millions throughout the world. Sickle cell affects the red blood cells causing cells to become misshaped and trapped in tiny arteries, which causes pain and serious complications. Proceeds from our walk benefit our scholarship fund, which assists students with sickle cell disease in their pursuit for higher education. We have awarded 33 scholarships. Please join us on September 10, 2022 for our Annual Sickle Cell Walk and join the sickle cell community in September as we recognize sickle cell disease awareness month. Additional information can be found at strictlyrunning.com and www.jamesrclarksicklecell.org.

4. National Infant Mortality Awareness Month - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann

Mr. Mike Bundy, CEO of Prisma Health Richland Hospital said on behalf of Prisma Health, I would like to thank the Mayor and Columbia City Council for recognizing the life changing work our Prisma Health Midlands Healthy Start team provides to reduce disparities in maternal and infant mortality within our communities. I am joined by Ms. Kim Alston, Director of Midlands Healthy Start along with numerous members of her team. This team works in Richland and Sumter counties to build strong partnerships with families to help bridge gaps that exist among the health and social service providers. Midlands Healthy Start is a member of the National Healthy Start Initiative, which is recognized as a leader in reducing infant mortality by encouraging expectant mothers to start quality prenatal care. As soon as they become pregnant, our team brings a holistic approach to improving birth outcomes and family wellbeing using an array of services from childbirth education classes, nutrition management, and fatherhood initiatives. South Carolina's infant mortality rate in 2020 was at 6.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, which is 7% lower than the 2019 rate. We are encouraged by this decline, but we know there is much work to do. Prisma Health delivers approximately 15,000 babies each year. As we recognize September as National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, I applaud you Mr. Mayor and Columbia City Council for bringing awareness to the efforts being made by our team members to reduce the state's infant mortality rate and supporting our work to improve the health and wellbeing of women, infants, children, and families.

Ms. Kim Alston, Director of Midlands Healthy Start Program said I have been here since the inception of the program. I am honored that our team has been recognized for the work that we have been doing. We feel that by saving one baby's life at a time, we are making a change in the community. On behalf of Prisma Health Midlands Healthy Start, I would like to thank you for this opportunity.



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Mayor Rickenmann said I want to thank you for what you do. All of us have had a friend, relative, or close acquaintance that has been through that situation. Your team does amazing work and not everybody can perform that type of service and provide the comfort that you are giving to families. The preventative measures that you all created have made a massive difference in our community. I would like to invite the whole team up to present you with a Key to the City of Columbia to thank you for what you are doing here in the Midlands.

5. Tunnel 2 Towers Run and the 9/11 Morning of Remembrance Ceremony - Mr. Daniel C. Hennigan, U.S. Army, Retired, Tunnel 2 Towers and 9/11 Remembrance Foundation of South Carolina Founder and Chairman

Mr. Daniel C. Hennigan, U.S. Army, Retired, Tunnel 2 Towers and 9/11 Remembrance Foundation of South Carolina Founder and Chairman said I stood here 12 years ago with a vision of building the 9/11 Memorial. I went to New York City and received two steel beams from the Mayor and the Commissioners of New York City. I got a call from Chief Jenkins asking me if he could have the beams to share them on 9/11 at a park. Those two steel beams motivated me to move towards this vision. We must never forget 9/11. Columbia, Lexington, and Richland are all part of this memorial. I am happy to report that we built the 9/11 Memorial and we did it in three and a half months. We raised \$755,000. That memorial has a name and it is the 9/11 Memorial. The towers represent resolve. At the top, they are cut off and they are sitting at the bottom next to the beams so we never forget the fallen. The beams represent a cross to remind us we are a united nation of one. I invite you to come this Sunday at 8:00 a.m. to be part of our Morning of Remembrance. You will see four F16's, helicopters, a choir, the honor guard, and Arms Memorial. I am happy to be here before you. This has been a labor of love and it is something we can all be proud of.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

6. Retiree Benefits - Ms. Tiniece P. Javis, Ed.D., Director of the Human Resources Department

Ms. Tiniece P. Javis, Ed.D., Director of the Human Resources Department said in 2018, the city approved participation in the state health plan. The city became a part of the South Carolina Group Health Plan Benefit in January 2019. In 2020, PEBA increased the employer premiums but the city opted not to pass the increase to retirees at the time. In January 2023, PEBA will increase the employer's portion of the employer premium at the rate of 18.1%. The active employee premiums are designed by PEBA. We cannot change those but as a local sub, we are able to change the premium and alter in any way the premiums of the retirees. We will pass that



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18.1% increase on to all participating retirees. In the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out information notifying retirees of this increase with hopes that it gives them time to prepare. It will be effective January 2023.

Mayor Rickenmann said some retirees have reached out regarding other options. Is there a third party administrator helping? How are those questions being answered?

Ms. Tiniece P. Javis, Ed.D., Director of the Human Resources Department said when we have retirees that for some reason don't qualify, we always try to help them. We are not advising them on what they should or should not do with reference to that. We are not a third party. The only thing that we can do is advise them on what we offer and entertain any questions they may have. We will be sending out rate sheets along with the letter to let them know exactly what they are going to be paying. At this point, they have about four months to find another plan of some sort or pay the premiums that are offered.

Councilor Duvall said we have had two increases that the city has absorbed for the retirees. This is the third increase and we are going to let it go into effect.

Ms. Tiniece P. Javis, Ed.D., Director of the Human Resources Department said to my knowledge, this is the second increase. We absorbed one. We have not increased the rates for retiree premiums since 2019.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 7 THROUGH 23

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda **Items 7 through 23**.

7. Council is asked to approve the Annual Contract Renewal for Cornerstone On Demand Automated Recruiting Module, as requested by the Department of Human Resources on August 5, 2022. Award to Cornerstone On Demand, Inc. in the amount of \$68,943.82. This vendor is located in Santa Monica, CA. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Program Management Office - Cloud Based Software Solutions (6218950-632170). This is the second annual renewal of a three-year renewal period, which includes a 4.5% price increase. The original budget amount is \$68,943.82.



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8. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase and Upfit Twenty-Nine (29) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoes for the Columbia Police Department, as requested by the Fleet Services Division on August 8, 2022. Award to Love Chevrolet, with customization and upfitting work to be contracted out to West Chatham Warning Devices, in the amount of \$1,568,442.70. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Capital Replacement - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (6308972-658500). This is a new contract for purchasing replacement vehicles. The original budget amount is \$1,568,442.70.

9. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase Two (2) 2023 Ford F-150 Crew Cab Trucks for the Canal Water Treatment Plant, as requested by the Fleet Services Division on August 8, 2022. Award to Alan Jay Automotive Management, using the Sourcewell Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$90,636.00. This vendor is located in Sebring, FL. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant - Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (5516206-658500). This is a new contract for purchasing vehicles. The original budget amount is \$90,636.00.

10. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7609; New Gravity Sewer Extension at 2439 Gadsden Street, as requested by Columbia Water on June 3, 2022. Award to Smoak Construction Company, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$57,172.50, which includes contingency. This contractor is located in Little Mountain, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water and Sewer Improvements (5529999-SS760901-658650). This is a new contract. The original budget amount is \$100,000.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program protégé only project. Smoak Construction Company, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise (W), is the Protégé and will provide sewer line installation services at 76.69% (\$36,537.28) of the total contract amount.

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

Fortiline Waterworks of Columbia, SC will provide pipe and fittings services at 19.32% (\$49,206.47) of the total contract amount.

Argos USA, LLC of Columbia, SC will provide concrete and flow fill services at 3.15% (\$1,500.00) of the total contract amount.



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Sloan Construction of Columbia, SC will provide asphalt services at 0.84% (\$400.00) of the total contract amount.

11. Council is asked to approve a Contract Renewal for Sewer Maintenance Repair Materials at the Wastewater Maintenance Division, as requested by Columbia Water on August 12, 2022. Award to LMK Technologies LLC, as a Sole Source in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. This vendor is located in Ottawa, IL. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance - Pipe, Fitting, Hydrants, etc (5516205-625700). This is the 2nd year sole renewal option from 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023 with no price increase. The original budget amount is \$60,000.00.

12. Council is asked to approve a Contract Renewal for Wet Well Cleaning Services at the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Columbia Water on July 11, 2022. Award to EnviroWaste Services Group, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$275,600.00. This vendor is located in Palmetto Bay, FL. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant – Maintenance & Service Contracts (5516208-638200). Tank cleaning frequency varies year to year. The initial contract period was for six months from 1/1/2022 to 6/30/2023. This renewal period is for year 1 of 2 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 with no rate increase. The original budget amount is \$275,600.00.

13. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement for Project SS7617; Wastewater Collection System Flow Monitoring, as requested by Columbia Water on January 27, 2022. Award to Woolpert, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$441,875.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering Wastewater System Improvements - Special Contracts - W/S, SW (5516221-638305). This is a new agreement with an initial term of one year with the option to renew. The original budget is \$451,000.00.

14. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS754801; Shady Lane Force Main Replacement, as requested by Columbia Water on August 23, 2021. Award to Carolina Tap & Bore, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$681,068.85, which includes contingency. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water and Sewer Improvements (5529999-SS754801-658650). This is a new contract. The original budget amount is \$681,068.85.



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This is a Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) program project with a 9% CDBE goal. The CDBE goal for this project was exceeded at 16.86%.

Carolina Tap & Bore, Inc. is the prime contractor and will provide sewer line replacement services at 83.14% (\$514,753.50) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractors will provide additional services:

LG Utility Contractors, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) and a CDBE of Lugoff, SC, will provide pipe installation services at 14.86% (\$92,000.00) of the total contract amount.

AOS Specialty Contractors, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) and a CDBE of Lexington, SC, will provide concrete work at 2.0% (\$12,400.00) of the total contract amount.

15. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7604; Continuing Sewer Assessment Program Preventative Maintenance Assistance, as requested by Columbia Water on February 11, 2022. Award to Woolpert, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$785,507.03, which includes contingency. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water & Sewer Improvements (5516205-SS760401-638305). This is a new contract. The original budget amount is \$785,507.03.

This is a Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) program project with a 10% CDBE goal. The CDBE percentage is currently met at 10%. Woolpert, Inc. is the prime contractor and will provide sanitary sewer construction at 71.05% (\$507,387.57) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractors will provide additional services:

Chao and Associates, a Minority Business Enterprise and CDBE of Columbia, SC, will provide manhole inspection services at 10.00% (\$71,409.73) of the total contract amount.

RedZone Robotics, Inc. of Warrendale, PA will provide multi-sensor inspection services at 18.95% (\$135,300.00) of the total contract amount.

16. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS748101; Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Metering Improvements, as requested by Columbia Water on December 31, 2021. Award to M.B. Kahn Construction Company, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$877,910.00, which includes contingency. This contractor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*



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Funding Source: Engineering - Water and Sewer Improvements (5529999-SS748101-658650). This is a new contract. The original budget amount is \$877,910.00.

This is a Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) program project with a 21% CDBE goal. The CDBE percentage is currently at 0.13%. This contract has been reviewed by the Office of Business Opportunities and deemed in compliance with the CDBE program.

M.B. Kahn Construction Company, Inc. is the prime contractor and will provide flow metering improvements at 32.59% (\$260,135.00) of the total contract amount.

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

CITI, Inc. of Charlotte, NC will provide instruments and integration services at 29.65% (\$236,613.00) of the total contract amount.

AKA Trucking, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise and a CDBE of Blythewood, SC, will provide hauling services at 0.13% (\$1,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Gregory Electric Company of Columbia, SC will provide electrical services at 11.46% (\$91,500.00) of the total contract amount.

Duke's of Elgin, IL will provide a Flo-Dar installer at 3.13% (\$25,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Knight's Precast of Summerville, SC will provide manhole services at 1.15% (\$9,184.00) of the total contract amount.

The Metal Works, Inc. of Lexington, SC will provide metal supplies at 21.89% (\$174,668.00) of the total contract amount.

17. Council is asked to approve Contracts to Purchase Annual Repair. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance - Pipe, Fittings, Hydrants, etc. (5516205-625700). These are new contracts with initial term periods of 9/1/2022 to 6/30/2023 with optional Materials for the Wastewater Management Division, as requested by Columbia Water on May 9, 2022. Award to the following vendors in an amount not to exceed \$279,507.51 renewals thereafter not to exceed 6/30/2025. The original budget amount is \$279,507.51.

Lots	Vendors	Location	Amounts
1-9	Core and Main	St. Louis, MO	\$269,074.71
10	Ferguson Waterworks	Elgin, SC	\$10,432.80



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18. Council is asked to approve Contracts to Purchase Annual Repair Materials for the Water Distribution Division, as requested by Columbia Water on May 9, 2022. Award to the following vendors in an amount not to exceed \$1,171,107.28. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution and Maintenance - Pipe, Fitting, Hydrant, etc. (5516203-625700). These are new contracts with initial term periods of 9/1/2022 to 6/30/2023 with optional renewals thereafter not to exceed 6/30/2025. The original budget amount is \$1,171,107.28.

Lots	Vendors	Location	Amounts
1- 6, 8-22, 25-30	Core and Main	St. Louis, MO	\$1,124,387.68
7, 23-24	Fortiline Inc.	Columbia, SC	\$46,719.60

19. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SD8471/WM4631; Benedict Area Low Impact Development Stormwater Project, as requested by Columbia Water on March 24, 2022. Award to TCO Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$2,105,219.76, which includes contingency. This contractor is located in Sumter, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Engineering - Water & Sewer Improvements (5529999-WM463101-658650) and (554999-SD847101-658650). This is a new contract. The original budget amount is \$2,140,000.00.

This is a Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (CDBE) program project with a 23% CDBE goal. The CDBE percentage is currently met at 23%. TCO Construction, Inc. is the prime contractor and will provide sanitary sewer construction services at 77.00% (\$1,350,849.35) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractor will provide additional services:

A James Global Services, Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise and CDBE of Columbia, SC, will provide traffic control, stabilizing, planting/grassing, and waterline services at 23% (\$403,500.45) of the total contract amount.

20. Zoning Map Amendment for 5609 Farrow Road, TMS# 11612-03-02 – *Approved on second reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2022-067 - Amending the Official Zoning Map to modify the zoning for 5609 Farrow Road, Richland County TMS# 11612-03-02. - The public hearing was held on July 26, 2022 and first reading approval was given on August 16, 2022 – Approved on second reading.

Council District: 1

Proposal: Request to rezone the property from Community Activity Center/Corridor District (CAC) to General Commercial District (GC).



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Applicant: John C. Sims

Staff Recommendation: Denial

PC Recommendation: 05/12/2022; Approval (4-1)

21. Ordinance No.: 2022-076 - Granting an encroachment to Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (CMRTA), for the use of the right of way area of the 3700 and 3800 blocks of Lucius Road and the 3800 block of River Drive for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks and a bus stop adjacent to 3800 and 3808 Lucius Road, Richland County TMS#09103-07-01 - *First reading approval was given on August 16, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*
22. Ordinance No.: 2022-077 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Procurement Sec. 2-210 Purchase and sale of real property, exceptions for certain utilities project and site acquisitions - *First reading approval was given on August 16, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*
23. Ordinance No.: 2022-078 - Approval for Conveyance of 0.33 acre portion of City property located at 1796 Shady Lane and identified as Richland County TMS#16606-03-09; CF#250-528 - *First reading approval was given on August 16, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

24. Ordinance No.: 2022-089 - Amending Ordinance 2022-052 to Adopt the Budget for the City of Columbia, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-089 - Amending Ordinance 2022-052 to Adopt the Budget for the City of Columbia, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023.



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25. Ordinance No.: 2022-080 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 14, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article I, In General, Sec. 14-7 Reporting of Lost /Stolen Firearms; Firearms recovered from crimes or criminal activity – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Duvall said this was referred to the Public Safety Committee. This raises the penalty to \$500 for failure to report your firearm being stolen. This is an existing law in the city's ordinances, but I believe the penalty is \$100. We have a gun violence problem in Richland County and the City of Columbia. Part of that problem is the availability of firearms. We take around 800 firearms off the streets because of ShotSpotter, but we have about 500 firearms a year that are stolen out of cars. Over 90% of those cars are unlocked vehicles. This is an effort to get the attention of the public that if we are going to get a handle on gun violence in Richland County and the City of Columbia, we need to keep our firearms locked up and secured. If you lose a firearm, it is your duty to report it to the proper authorities or you will be fined \$500.

Councilor McDowell asked if the consideration regarding ghost guns is included.

Councilor Duvall said we took your suggestions into consideration, but we are prohibited by a court order from dealing with ghost guns.

Ms. Teresa Knox, Esq., City Attorney said the state has preempted us from dealing with ghost guns, guns at school, and the mental health issue. These are the three that you all repealed recently. Judge Manning's order that we were preempted by state law still stands.

Councilor McDowell said I thought this was going to be all inclusive of guns. The data is out there that a number of crimes are committed by persons who have either stolen a gun or used a ghost gun in the act of violence. I'm hearing that there is nothing we can do to make this a comprehensive part of this ordinance.

Ms. Teresa Knox, Esq., City Attorney said we cannot. Judge Manning issued an order. We appealed it but then withdrew the appeal. That order stands.

Councilor Taylor said what we have done does not create a criminalized situation and I think it's something that will pass legal challenges.

Councilor Bussells said the intent behind this, given that the prevalence of gun violence continues to plague our city, is to be able to have a tool in the toolbox that is evidence based and speaks to some of the data that we are seeing around lost and stolen firearms. It's not a catchall



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solution, but the city can't be the leader in everything. We need our state and federal partners to step in and help, especially as it relates to some of the issues that either lead to or are underlying to gun violence. We hope this sets the standard that we are a city that believes in accountability. We are a city that is always ahead of the curve when it comes to creative solutions to address problems that are facing our city, despite some of the legal challenges that we often have to move through. I want to thank my colleagues as this is my first city law that will hopefully be passing at second reading. I appreciate the thoughtful conversation and I appreciate my state partners at the Attorney General's Office for being open to conversation.

Mayor Rickenmann said as we continue to move forward, we won't give up on our efforts to continue to work with our legislative partners and other folks to find avenues to address gun violence. We can't stop every time we hit a roadblock. We have to keep being creative and work together. That has been our commitment. As this legislative season comes forth, we will be having those discussions.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted five (5) to one (1) to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-080 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 14, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article I, In General, Sec. 14-7 Reporting of Lost /Stolen Firearms; Firearms recovered from crimes or criminal activity. Mr. Taylor, Dr. Bussells, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Duvall, and Mayor Rickenmann voted aye. Mr. McDowell voted nay.

RESOLUTIONS

26. Resolution No.: R-2022-074 - Resolving to Consider Ordinance No.: 2022- 081 Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances, Chapter 17 (Unified Development Ordinance), Article 4, Use Regulations, Section 17-4.2, Principle Uses, to add Provisions Governing Smoke or Vape Shops, and Article 9, Definitions and Measurements, to add Definitions concerning Smoke or Vape Shops; and, Setting and Advertising to the Public the Date of a Public Hearing on this Ordinance; and, referring this Ordinance to the Planning Commission for its Consideration; and Invoking the Pending Ordinance Doctrine with Respect to this Ordinance – *Deferred*
27. Resolution No.: R-2022-049 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement between the City of Columbia and Reverend W.J. Grier and Effie F. Grier, as co-trustees of the Grier Family Revocable Living Trust dated the 4th day of March, 2019 for the purchase of property located at 1109 Columbia College Drive, Richland County TMS #09216-07-20 – *Approved*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted five (5) to one (1) to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-049 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement between the City of Columbia and Reverend W.J. Grier and Effie F. Grier, as co-trustees of the Grier Family Revocable Living Trust dated the 4th day of March, 2019 for the purchase of property located at 1109 Columbia College Drive, Richland County TMS #09216-07-20. Dr. Bussells, Mr. Brennan, Mr. McDowell, Mr. Duvall, and Mayor Rickenmann voted aye. Mr. Taylor voted nay.

28. Resolution No.: R-2022-076 - Authorizing the City Manager and Fire Chief to execute an Automatic Aid Agreement for Fire Service Response between the County of Lexington, County of Richland, and City of Columbia – *Approved*

Councilor Brennan asked if the agreement extends the work load of the Fire Department or is it a renewal of the current work load.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Chief of Richland – Columbia Fire Department said we already have a mutual aid agreement. This is an automatic aid agreement meaning we respond automatically. This is actually going to help both sides.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-076 - Authorizing the City Manager and Fire Chief to execute an Automatic Aid Agreement for Fire Service Response between the County of Lexington, County of Richland, and City of Columbia.

29. Resolution No.: R-2022-080 - Approval for Release of Agreement Regarding Two Lots at 1796 Shady Lane; Richland County TMS#16606-03-09; CF#250-528 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-080 - Approval for Release of Agreement Regarding Two Lots at 1796 Shady Lane; Richland County TMS#16606-03-09; CF#250-528.

EVENT RESOLUTIONS

30. Resolution No.: R-2022-059 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at JerryFest at the Five Points Fountain on Sunday, October 2, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Sunday October 9, 2022 – *Approved*



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-059 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at JerryFest at the Five Points Fountain on Sunday, October 2, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Sunday October 9, 2022.

31. Resolution No.: R-2022-068 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at the Palmetto Peanut Boil Fundraiser in the 2900 block of Devine Street on Saturday, October 8, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Saturday, October 15, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Bussells and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-068 - Authorizing consumption of beer, wine and liquor at the Palmetto Peanut Boil Fundraiser in the 2900 block of Devine Street on Saturday, October 8, 2022 with a rain contingency date of Saturday, October 15, 2022.

32. Resolution No.: R-2022-081 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture within the 1800, 1900 and 2000 blocks of Marion Street between Richland Street and Elmwood Avenue and the 1400 block of Richland Street between Marion Street and Bull Street on Saturday, September 17, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-081 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Jubilee: Festival of Black History & Culture within the 1800, 1900 and 2000 blocks of Marion Street between Richland Street and Elmwood Avenue and the 1400 block of Richland Street between Marion Street and Bull Street on Saturday, September 17, 2022.

APPOINTMENTS

33. Columbia Museum of Art – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to appoint Paul Bouknight to the Columbia Museum of Art Commission for a term of five years.

OTHER MATTERS

34. Pilot Program on Anti-Violence Efforts - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor



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Mayor Rickenmann said Council has talked about a process for outside groups to apply for possible funding in different categories. We had the opportunity to meet with the South Carolina Treasurer and I was able to get unclaimed funds that were available to the city. It is for your consideration that we use the unclaimed funds over a monthly period for the next three months on a reimbursable process to advance and pilot the GANGS Program that has been brought forth from a group in the community. The fall programming cost is about \$25,000 plus transportation. I think this would be a great opportunity for us to use this unclaimed funding to evaluate the program and see if this will be long term. With it being reimbursable month to month, it gives us an opportunity to pilot the program and see if it's something that makes sense and see what the results are. We wouldn't be voting on something today but I wanted to bring this forward for us to consider. The organization had great success with their after-school basketball program and their midnight basketball. This program provides transportation and the facilities for the fall. County Council is going through a process about what they are going to do long term. This is a good way for us to use unclaimed funds that we didn't count on receiving. I would like to get some feedback if it is a consideration that Council could support.

Councilor Duvall said this is a good idea, but Councilwoman Herbert has an idea about a coordinator that would work with the Department of Parks and Recreation to coordinate programs that would deal with children that might be at risk. Maybe we can have a Council discussion when she is back at the table.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said when we receive this funding, we need to make sure it's going to be properly accounted for from the original source. I don't know if it was water and sewer money or general fund money. We just haven't seen the funds yet and don't know how we would source the funds back.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS AND NEW BUSINESS

35. Public Safety Committee Report - The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr.

Councilor Duvall said the Public Safety Committee had two items on the agenda today. We have deferred the smoke and vape shop ordinance until we have further discussion. We passed the first reading of the firearms ordinance. There are a couple of other items on our committee agenda that we will be taking up. One of them is the nuisance ordinance that will be going along with some of the homeless discussions we will be taking up. We have asked the city manager to work with Reverend McDowell on the signage for concealed weapons.

Councilor Taylor said we also discussed the CBD warning signs.



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36. Central Midlands Council of Governments Report – *Received as information.*

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Javar Juarez, Broad River Business Alliance Senior Director said there has been outpouring support from the City of Columbia that has been very beneficial to the Broad River Community; a community of over 58,000 people, where 65% of those are low-income households. We have assessed many of the gang and gun violence issues and we understand how to help our citizens live a more peaceful and prosperous life. We are on the ground, assessing the data. We have gone door-to-door and collected over 6,000 surveys. It is important that people in elected positions listen to the data. The federal and state governments are often disconnected because many of these elected bodies do not communicate very well with one another. We appreciate the city's degree of transparency that allows us to be able to get access to the information that we need. We are excited about our future. We are growing our business footprint. We are tackling conservation issues, family, and mental health issues that are contributing to a lot of these problems. We are very pleased that the City of Columbia has continued to be a friend to the Broad River District.

Mayor Rickenmann said the Alliance has done so much for the community and brought a lot of things to our attention. Thank you for what you are doing. I want to wish Mr. Taylor a happy birthday coming this Thursday. I know you are going to celebrate it with a smile.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:20 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 37 through 39.**

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

- *Dominion Energy*

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

- *Event Resolutions*



We Are Columbia

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

- *Jacqueline Hendricks v. City of Columbia*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk