



We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at the Busby Street Community Center, 1735 Busby Street, Columbia, SC 29203. The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Edward H. McDowell, Jr. 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 Daniel J. Rickenmann, and The Honorable William Brennan. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Honorable Howard E. Duvall offered the invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the October 5, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the October 5, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Resolution No.: R-2021-117 Approving the Honorary Naming of the Intersection of Oak Street and Gervais Street "Simon P. Bouie Square" – *Approved*

Dr. Bobby Donaldson, University of South Carolina / Director for the Center for Civil Rights History and Research said I am very pleased to recognize an American hero. On March 14, 1960, a young student at Allen University named Simon Bouie joined a movement of young men and women in downtown Columbia. He goes into the Eckerd's Drug Store on Main Street and requests to be served but is denied service because of his race. He was arrested with his close



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friends. That arrest led to a landmark United States Supreme court case called Bouie versus the City of Columbia, which is still taught in nearly every law school in this country. The young man who is named in that lawsuit was born in Waverly in a home that still stands on the corner of Oak Street and Gervais Street. He is a proud graduate of the historic Booker T. Washington High School and Allen University. He had no idea that day that he would ever be in law school textbooks. Mr. Bouie had no idea that the work he did in the spring of 1960 would lead to a city council that looks like it does today. I am very pleased to join the City of Columbia in recognizing Simon P. Bouie and encouraging the adoption of a proposal to rename the intersection where he once lived "Simon P. Bouie Square".

Reverend Simon P. Bouie said I'm honored to be here. I never thought this day would come. My grandmother said one-day sitting on the porch, "Boy, you never know what you will become. They may even name that street after you". I never believed that would have ever happened. It brings to reality the dreams and hopes of so many people. I didn't do this for myself. I did it for our beloved city, that it will grow and that it would be the kind of city that we all will be pleased to live in and to live together as neighbors, friends, and loved ones. I am so pleased to accept this beautiful marker going up on the corner of Oak Street and Gervais Street. I will go and look at it almost every day. God bless you and thank you so very much.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-117 Approving the Honorary Naming of the Intersection of Oak Street and Gervais Street "Simon P. Bouie Square".

3. Columbia Navy Week (October 18-23, 2021) Proclamation - The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Councilor McDowell said a word of thanks to the men and women dressed immaculately in their uniforms today. You serve us well and we are appreciative of what you continue to do. I am so happy to have Rear Admiral Jeffery S. Scheidt here with us today. Admiral Scheidt is the Senior Military Advisor for Cyber Policy to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence. We are just happy and delighted to have you with us today.

The members of City Council proclaimed the week of October 18 through October 23, 2021 as Columbia Navy Week in the City of Columbia.

Rear Admiral Jeffery S. Scheidt said thank you council members and everyone in attendance today for helping us feel a very warm welcome in Columbia. We really appreciate everything we have seen and been able to participate in today. I had the honor of enlisting 18 of your sons and



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daughters on the Capitol steps. It was a very powerful image for your city and state and a hopefully a very meaningful day for those individuals and their families. I have with me today members of the James E. Williams crew. USS James E. Williams is a missile destroyer. We couldn't bring the whole crew, but we have a representative group of outstanding sailors and officers. There are many events going on across the city this week. Hopefully, you all will be able to participate in some of them and enjoy learning more about our modern Navy and how we are doing our mission globally to help advance the freedoms, opportunities, and prosperity of the City of Columbia and the State of South Carolina. Thank you for everything.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

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

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

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said in lieu of the normal situational report, I thought I would address and give you a little bit of an update regarding our mandatory vaccination policy that you all directed back in early September. That policy is due to be implemented on November 1, 2021. We are making steady progress and I am very pleased from the point we started to where we are. We had less than 50% of employees vaccinated and we are now at 74% with an additional 4% partially vaccinated. I really want to thank our city employees for listening to me during some very hard conversations. I have been going out and talking with them trying to encourage and explain why it is not about discounting their personal beliefs but about the continuity of services that we must provide as a municipality. I have explained to the employees that I do feel like 80% is a good aspirational goal to achieve in our city employee population to show that we are at a level to sustain a healthy workforce while also balancing labor shortages. When we push the policy out on November 1st the expectation is that everyone gets vaccinated. I will also be sharing with you all some additional protocols like continued testing procedures and some consequences for those unvaccinated employees who may remain in a quandary about whether they want to get the vaccine or not once the policy is implemented. These consequences, which we are working through with Ms. Benjamin and the entire legal team, will be things that I think are meaningful to some of our staff if they choose to still work for the city. I do not recommend that we terminate anyone by November 1st. We are building in some deadlines that I'll present to the staff and to you all.

Councilor Devine asked about the testing protocols that have been put in place.



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Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said Director Tinsley and Ms. Benjamin have been very active in setting up available sites for our city employees to go to weekly. We have a schedule for which department goes on which day. Employees must present their test results to their supervisors in a timely manner during the testing week period. If they are negative, which we hope that they are and many have been, then it will be documented. If they are positive, we are handling each of those cases on an individual basis by adhering to the same protocols we always had in place making sure that those employees get the care that they need and that any exposures have been addressed as well. Prior to November 1st, I will share the final draft of the policy with you all and push that out to our employees. That policy will mandate vaccinations and it will also go into any additional consequences for those who may choose not to get vaccinated by the deadline. My recommendation is to follow some of those consequences in lieu of any automatic termination of employment. I do think we will get 80% of our entire population vaccinated by then. Every day I am talking to employees and we are still pushing forward. Consequences that we are talking about for unvaccinated employees will factor in things like no cost of living increases and illegibility for merit increases. If you are not agreeing to adhere to city policy, this is a mechanism for documenting and therefore as an unvaccinated employee you may not be able to benefit from some of those things. These are just some of the possibilities of what we are thinking about while also trying to incentivize the employees that are vaccinated. We are working with legal to incorporate in the policy all exemptions that any employee may qualify for whether it's for medical reasons, religious reasons, and pregnancy. Employees will have to fill out forms per their request. We certainly will be taking them very seriously and will review them and let them know if those exemptions qualify and would be accepted so they don't have to get the vaccine. Any OSHA and FLSA compliance regulations will be in the policy as well. There will also be things that are more department specific for police and fire. I am trying to recommend opportunities for our employees to keep their jobs, but if you choose not to be vaccinated and you are given the opportunity to still maintain your employment there will have to be other consequences put in place and protocols to include continued testing. The goal is to push vaccinations. That is the directive you have given and that is the direction we are trying to follow.

Councilor McDowell asked for the time parameters.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said the policy will give all this information in great detail. The policy will come out on November 1, 2021. We have looked at December 31, 2021 for the final deadline of vaccinations.



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Councilor Duvall said you are doing the right thing by having a continuum of steps to encourage those that are not vaccinated. I think December 31st is too late. I would prefer it to be moved up to maybe the last day in November. These people that are refusing to get the vaccination are putting themselves at risk, their families at risk, their fellow coworkers at risk, and they are putting the people they serve in the City of Columbia at risk. Beyond that they are a tremendous risk to the city for our health plan. It is about \$75,000 to treat a COVID patient. If we allow them to stay on our payroll, we are going to incur more of those expenses now that we are on the state health plan. I think we are being self-evaluated each year now that we have been there long enough to maintain our own rating system. This is going to hurt us. I think it is your right to give them some options to push them in the right direction. I wish they would go ahead and accept the vaccine but they have to be terminated at some point, whether it's the last of November or the 1st of January if they have not been vaccinated.

Councilor Davis said I am supportive of doing whatever we can to make sure that the necessary information is provided to employees in terms of the impact individually, as well as within the workplace. I think we owe to employees and the people who serve the city to make sure that they have every opportunity to take advantage of the approach to make sure that we have a safe workplace. I don't have a position on termination yet because I don't know that you have fully reached that point of determining whether or not it is in fact necessary. I think we should have conversations and dialogue with employees. I am hoping that we can reach a level of appreciation on both sides. I want to make sure that if decisions are made to not comply, then I hope the decision be made with the full understanding of the impact of non-compliance as well as with a full appreciation of what we have been trying to do to ensure that we maintain a safe environment. We need to give them every opportunity to have the right information so that they can make individual choices.

Councilor McDowell said I think the flexibility of what you just said gives us an opportunity to look at forensically what the policy is and how it impacts employees. We don't want anybody to be terminated. This policy gives us an opportunity to make this thing work. I agree with the December timeline to fully put this plan together and protect the 2,300 city employees.

Councilor Duvall made a point of personal privilege to welcome Representative Leon Howard.



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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 18

Councilor Rickenmann said in regards to item 16, we created this program to make sure we take care of minority businesses but we are constantly seeing more and more minority businesses outside of our state and outside of our city. Are we taking away business from local people as we do that. The question keeps coming up that we are not doing enough for minority businesses in our community. Is that hurting us internally or is this because there is no one who can provide this service in town?

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said it is the continuous effort of the programs, which I do feel has grown to address small minority woman owned business enterprises. The reality is for certain type of work like some of these really large water sewer projects, we just have to do better to help build capacity. I think our programs are in place to do that. We have done lots of presentations to committees and council. We have the Office of Business Opportunities and their efforts working with procurement. For some of this work on the consent decree, we have to follow certain guidelines and we have to stay on course to get it done. The disparity study is underway and I am very hopeful for the feedback and guidance from those professionals on this particular issue. The reality is if we are asking about this specific item and the sub consultants who fall under that, the capacity does have to be there and sometimes it may not be local.

Councilor Rickenmann said I want to make sure that we are reaching out to hit a goal based on having minority participation. If it is not from here, we are taking that business away from another local business that is here. We have to have a balance to make sure that we are still growing all businesses here because collectively together they make up our community.

Mr. Clint Shealy, P.E., Assistant City Manager for Columbia Water said about 25% of this contract is going to minority women owned business enterprises. About 20% of those are local. We did select many years ago with CDM Smith, the base providers of services based on their qualifications to be able to deliver services in a consent decree compliance of this magnitude. This is a continuation of that.

Councilor Davis said I don't know what CDM Smith is trying to do to help us. That is a lot of money again that is leaving the state. I don't know what their policy is but our policy is that we are trying to grow local small minority businesses. It doesn't seem as though that is their goal. It is still not convincing me that we are really working to develop the talent in town. We are doing what we can to find the dollars to help the businesses grow but somebody has to play a major role in helping them develop the kinds of skills that are needed for these types of contracts we are putting on the street.



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Councilor Devine said there is one minority sub for 3% going to Georgia and everybody else is in South Carolina. When we did our local business ordinance, it included some of the surrounding counties. I know that CDM has done a good job at not just trying to make sure that we have subs but that we are also building capacity.

Councilor Davis said I am going beyond DESA Inc. and Chao who always lead the pack. It is not only the percentage leaving the state; it is who is getting the dollars, who is participating, and where the contracts are going.

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 5 through 18**.

5. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Agreement Designating One Columbia as a Local Arts Agency for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 for the purpose of Advising, Amplifying, and Advocating for the Strengthening and Unifying of the Arts and History Community, as requested by the Budget & Program Management Office. Award to One Columbia for Arts and History in the amount of \$52,353.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Accommodations Tax 5% (2035205-688200). The original budget amount is \$52,353.00.

6. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Official, Umpire and Scorekeeper Services, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department. Award to Warren Bolden, doing business as HOTEK SPORTS, in an amount not to exceed \$59,310.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Recreation Programs - Professional Services (1015106-636600). The original budget amount is \$59,310.00.

7. Council is asked to approve COVID-19 Building Cleaning Services, as requested by the Support Services Division. Award to National Interior Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$142,700.00. This firm is located in Miami, FL. – *Approved*

Funding Source: General Support Services - Coronavirus Services (1011201-638412) \$61,350.00; Support Services Public Building - Coronavirus Services (5511219-638412) \$81,350.00. The original budget amount is \$142,700.00.



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8. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Computer Aided Dispatch Annual Maintenance Software Services, as requested by the Columbia - Richland 911 Communications Center. Award to CentralSquare Software Systems in the amount of \$291,434.76. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: City Account (1012701-638200) \$145,717.38 and County Account (2082702-638200) \$145,717.38. The original budget amount is \$291,434.76.

9. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of 180 sets of Globe Bunker Gear, as requested by the Columbia Fire Department. Award to Newton's Fire and Safety Equipment, Inc. using the HGAC Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$460,728.00. This vendor is located in Swepsonville, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Fire Suppression and Safety Clothing and Supplies (1012303-625900) \$230,364.00 & Fire Suppression and Safety Clothing and Supplies (2082301-625900) \$230,364.00. The original budget amount is \$460,728.00.

10. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of 793 Ninety-Five Gallon Recycling Roll Carts for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Schaefer Systems International using the HGAC Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$50,285.80. This vendor is located in Charlotte, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Solid Waste Recycling - Roll Carts and Recycle Bins (1014407-627600). The original budget amount is \$50,285.50.

11. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of 1,248 Toter Ninety-Six Gallon Garbage Roll Carts for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Wastequip Manufacturing using the Omnia Partners Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$79,136.16. This vendor is located in Charlotte, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Solid Waste Roll Carts - Roll Carts and Recycle Bins (1014401-627600). The original budget amount is \$79,136.16.

12. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project WM4602; New Water Main Extension along Rocky Point Drive, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to J.W. Brown Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$129,564.00, which includes contingency. This firm is located in Lexington, SC. – *Approved*
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Funding Source: Engineering - Water & Sewer Improvements (5529999-WM460201-658650). The original budget amount is \$129,564.00.

This is a Mentor Protégé Program Protégé Only Project. J.W. Brown Construction, LLC is the protégé and will provide waterline installation services at 71.75% (\$77,470.00) of the total contract amount.

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

Fortiline Waterworks of Lexington, SC will provide water line materials at 23.15% (\$25,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Capital Concrete Company of Lexington, SC will provide flowable fill at 2.78% (\$3,000.00) of the total contract amount.

Sloan Construction of Duncan, SC will provide asphalt at 2.32% (\$2,500.00) of the total contract amount.

13. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Compost Grinding and Screening Services for the Solid Waste Division, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Martin Edwards & Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$159,068.70. This vendor is located in Erwin, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Solid Waste Compost - Special Projects (1014406-638500). The original budget amount is \$159,068.70.

14. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for a Water and Sewer Rate Study, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC in the amount of \$148,989.00. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Admin Assistant City Manager - Professional Services (5511109-636600). The original budget amount is \$148,989.00.

Black and Veatch Management Consulting, LLC of Columbia, SC will provide a comprehensive water and sewer rate study to develop a 5-year integrated financial plan at 90% (\$134,091.00) of the total contract amount.

The following subconsultant will provide additional services:

Civil Engineering Consulting Services, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) of Columbia, SC will provide financial planning and rate study services at 10% (\$14,898.00) of the total contract amount.



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15. Council is asked to approve Instrumentation and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System Maintenance, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to CITI, LLC in the amount of \$234,545.00. This firm is located in Charlotte, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant - Maintenance and Service Contract (5516208-638200). The original budget amount is \$234,545.00.

16. Council is asked to approve Contract Amendment #10 for Project SS7236; Consent Decree Program Management Services, as requested by Columbia Water. Award to CDM Smith, Inc. in the amount of \$4,200,000.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Water and Sewer Capital Projects - Capital Project Costs (5529999-SS723622-658650). The original budget amount is \$4,200,000.00.

CDM Smith, Inc. of Columbia, SC will provide program management for the Clean Water 2020 Program with complying with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Consent Decree and development of Water Information Management System and oversight of subconsultants at 75.00% (\$3,150,000.00) of the amended amount.

The following subconsultants will provide additional services under Contract Amendment #10:

Atlantic South Consulting Services, a Minority Business Enterprise of Charleston, SC, will provide assistance with master specifications at .69% (\$28,800.00) of the amended amount.

Blue Cypress Consulting, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise of Decatur, GA, will provide review of existing data to evaluate the inspection/cleaning program for Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) at 3.59% (\$150,934.00) of the amended amount.

Comprehensive Business Consultants, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) of Columbia, SC, will provide project management oversight services at 7.74% (\$324,994.00) of the amended amount.

DESA Inc., a Minority Business Enterprise (W) of Columbia, SC, will provide document controls support, public outreach assistance, and project management oversight services at 7.78% (\$326,872.00) of the amended amount.

ELL Enterprises, LLC, a Minority Business Enterprise (W) of Chapin, SC, will provide Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) implementation and business analysis review services at 5.20% (\$218,400.00) of the amended amount.



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17. Ordinance No.: 2021-079 Authorizing the City Manager to execute the First Extension Option of the Lease Renewal Agreement with Truist Bank f/k/a Branch Banking and Trust Company (BB&T) for use of 3905 Ensor Avenue (Lutheran Survey Building) - *First reading approval was given on October 5, 2021 – Approved on second reading.*
 18. Ordinance No.: 2021-080 Authorizing the City of Columbia, South Carolina to Execute and Deliver an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$9,000,000 Between the City and the Lessor Thereof to Defray the Cost of Acquiring Certain Equipment; and Other Matters Relating Thereto - *First reading approval was given on October 5, 2021 – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

19. Ordinance No.: 2021-082 Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, to repeal and replace Chapter 11, Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Article II. Business and Professional Licenses – *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.: 2021-082 Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, to repeal and replace Chapter 11, Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Article II. Business and Professional Licenses.

20. Ordinance No.: 2021-086 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Sixteenth Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001 LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/-acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02 – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Devine asked why there is another extension.

Ms. Missy Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager of Development said the developers have made a lot of progress on the site. They are working to secure the Corps 404 permit. Their investors need that permit in hand before they can complete the transaction.



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2021-086 Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Sixteenth Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001 LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02.

RESOLUTIONS

21. Resolution No.: R-2021-107 Adopting the By-Laws of the South Carolina Memorial Park Commission – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-107 Adopting the By-Laws of the South Carolina Memorial Park Commission.

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve **Items 22** through **25**.

Councilor Rickenmann said we are not issuing the bonds; these are requirements as a formality provision for the Housing Authority.

22. Resolution No.: R-2021-108 A Resolution Approving the Issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia South Carolina of its Not to Exceed \$22,000,000 Multifamily Housing Revenue Notes (Haven at Palmer Pointe Project), in One or More Series, Pursuant to Section 147(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended; Providing Certain Other Matters in Connection Therewith; and Providing an Effective Date – *Approved*
23. Resolution No.: R-2021-109 Approving the Issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, South Carolina of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Notes (The Oaks at St. Anna's Park - Oak Terrace) in the Maximum Principal Amount of \$12,000,000, in One or More Series, Pursuant to Section 147(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended; Providing Certain Other Matters in Connection Therewith; and Providing an Effective Date – *Approved*



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24. Resolution No.: R-2021-110 Approving the Issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, South Carolina of Multifamily Housing Revenue Notes (The Oaks at St. Anna's Park - Oak Park) in the Maximum Principal Amount of \$24,000,000, in One Or More Series, Pursuant to Section 147(F) of The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended; Providing Certain Other Matters in Connection Therewith; and Providing an Effective Date – *Approved*
25. Resolution No.: R-2021-112 Approving the Issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Notes or Bonds (Colonel Bluffs Apartments) in the Maximum Principal Amount of \$26,100,000, in One or More Series, Pursuant to Section 147(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended; Providing Certain Other Matters in Connection Therewith; and Providing an Effective Date – *Approved*
26. Resolution No.: R-2021-113 Adopting the All Natural Hazards Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan for the Central Midlands Region of South Carolina Update – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-113 Adopting the All Natural Hazards Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan for the Central Midlands Region of South Carolina Update.

EVENT RESOLUTION

27. Resolution No.: R-2021-105 CMA Gala Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for CMA Gala: Celebrating 30 Americans on Saturday, December 4, 2021 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-105 CMA Gala Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for CMA Gala: Celebrating 30 Americans on Saturday, December 4, 2021.

28. Resolution No.: R-2021-116 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for Live on Boyd Plaza on Sunday, November 7, 2021 – *Approved*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2021-116 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for Live on Boyd Plaza on Sunday, November 7, 2021.

APPOINTMENTS

29. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – *Deferred*

30. Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to appoint Tiara Dungy to the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development for a term of four years.

31. Climate Protection Action Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to appoint Mary Nesfield, Lisa Muzekari, and Daniel Apoldite as non-voting members to the Climate Protection Action Committee for a term of three years.

32. Richland County Board of Assessment Appeals – *Deferred*

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS / REPORTS

33. Council is asked to refer objections to the City Center Business Improvement District assessment to the Economic and Community Development Committee for the purpose of scheduling an appeal hearing, as requested by the Legal Department. – *Approved*

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve Item 33 and a referral to the Administrative Policy Committee to review Chapter 2 - Administration in its entirety, specifically Sec. 2-7. - Mayor Pro Tempore and Sec. 2-127. - Director of municipal court/administrative municipal court judge.

Councilor Duvall made a point of personal privilege to thank Attorney Patrick Wright for his years of service to the city. This is his last meeting. Patrick has accepted the position of Richland County Attorney beginning November 1st. I was very disappointed to see that he was leaving the city staff but I was delighted that we are sending a competent attorney over to Richland County.



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We look forward to working with him while he represents the county with the same vigor and integrity that he represented us with for a number of years. We wish you well.

Councilor McDowell said thank you very much for giving to us your time, talent, and service. We will miss you.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Dan Labonte, Master Police Officer Columbia Police Department, said I am a 15-year employee. I am retired from the Navy after serving 20 years. First of all, I am going to say that I am not going to get the shot. I understand mandates are coming and I fear them as well as my fellow employees. A vaccine is something that makes you immune from getting a virus and this vaccine has been proven not do that. I refer to it as a shot and not as a vaccine. In addition to that, once you do get the COVID-19 vaccine you could still get COVID-19 and you can still transmit it. So I can't see me getting it and still having the same known side effects. Why would you even consider mandating a shot when it's been proven to be ineffective. In 2002-2003, China had an outbreak of SARS with a fatality rate of 9.6%. In 2012, Saudi Arabia had an outbreak of the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) with a fatality rate of 34.4%, yet no one mandated a vaccine. COVID-19 in comparison has a 0.1% fatality rate. The majority of these deaths happen within the 0.62% of the population that lives in nursing homes. There is a proper prophylactic regiment, which utilizes HCQ. HCQ has been used in many countries and has been proven to be effective in combating COVID. With utilizing HCQ as a preventative measure, you can go ahead and give every employee one pill a week and that is all it takes to help prevent them from getting COVID-19.

Mr. Anthony Mitnaul, Master Police Officer Columbia Police Department, said I appreciate everything that has been presented in order for us to keep our jobs and our careers. As far as the testing, I don't mind doing that. I will test every day if you guys need me to. I really don't want to put this vaccine in my body. According to the CDC website, as of October 6, 2021, 8,638 deaths have occurred from people taking the COVID-19 vaccination. In my opinion, that is 8,638 people too many dying from putting something that they thought was going to help them into their bodies. I have four kids, I take care of my little brother, and I have a grandkid already. I have been doing this job for ten years and I am 15 years away from retirement. It sounds like a long time from now but I am looking forward to making it there and taking care of my family instead of having to start over somewhere else. I am hoping for the best. I appreciate you hearing me.



We Are Columbia

COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 3:31 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 34** and **35**.

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

*COVID-19
SC Pride Festival Security
Legislative Priorities*

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

*Riverfront Park Naming Rights Agreement
Convention Center
Municipal Complex*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk