



The Columbia City Council conducted a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, The Honorable Leona K. Plough and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman. The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel arrived at 6:28 p.m. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Rev. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager offered the Invocation.

MINUTES

1. Minutes of [July 14, 21](#) and [28](#), 2010 – *Approved as presented.*

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of July 14, 21 and 28, 2010.

PRESENTATIONS

2. City of Columbia [Humanitarian Award](#) – The Honorable Mayor Steve Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the Columbia City Council presented Dr. Stuart Hamilton with the City of Columbia Humanitarian Award for his dedication as a healthcare advocate and for helping to improve the quality of life for low income and underinsured citizens in the Columbia area. Dr. Stuart Hamilton, Founder of the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center was recently honored as Columbia's 2010 Community Champion by Feeding Dreams, a grassroots initiative supported by General Mills.

3. [Columbia City Jazz Dance Company](#) – Ms. Catherine White, Development Director and Ms. Dale Lam, Artistic Director

Ms. Dale Lam, Artistic Director spoke passionately about the positive impact the Columbia City Jazz Dance Company, a non-profit organization has on the lives of Columbia's youth.

Ms. Catherine White, Development Director invited everyone to the Columbia City Jazz Dance Company's Christmas Program "The Two Claras" on December 17 and 18, 2010 at Drayton Hall/USC Campus.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

4. [Capital Senior Center](#) – Ms. Mary Kessler, Executive Director

Ms. Mary Kessler, Executive Director reported that the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging has funding available for Senior Centers for building projects and renovations. The Capital Senior Center is 16 years old and we would like to take advantage of this opportunity by proposing a renovation project that would provide a safer environment for seniors; enhance our programs; and encourage more rentals of our space. The project includes new floor coverings, a new reception desk, updated restrooms and paint and repairs for the walls. I am estimating that the entire project will cost \$160,000, which requires a 30% match or \$48,000. I am requesting \$5,000 from the City of Columbia.

▪ **Dr. Gergel joined the meeting at 6:28 p.m.**

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to disburse \$5,000 as match funding to the Capital Senior Center from the Economic Development Contingency Account. If the grant is not awarded, the funds will not be disbursed.

5. One Book One Columbia Initiative – The Honorable Mayor Steve Benjamin and The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to establish a One Book One Columbia Committee. The committee will be comprised of an appointment from each member of Council along with the Richland County Public Library Director, representatives of Richland School Districts One and Two, Columbia Council of Neighborhoods, Capital Senior Center and the local colleges and universities.

6. [Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority \(CMRTA\) Briefing](#) – The Honorable Mayor Steve Benjamin and The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel

Mayor Benjamin said that we are acutely aware of the penny tax referendum failing at the polls on November 2nd, which means that every government in this community will have to start working together to figure out what we are going to do to sustain a regional transit authority for the next couple of years until the County decides to put this on the ballot again in 2012.

Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager stated that we presently allocate \$1 million to the CMRTA every October. They had an agreement with the County for a 2-year period and while they had the vehicle tax in place, we added an additional \$1 million to that resulting in a \$2 million annual allocation, but that ended October 2010. The next \$1 million will be made available October 2011.

Councilor Gergel reported that the Special Budget Committee of the CMRTA met today, but she has not received a report. The Special Budget Committee was tasked with closely examining the remaining funds that the CMRTA has through June 30, 2011 and determining how we can maximize every dollar to extend through the remainder of the budget year, which is October for them. That committee will present recommendations to the CMRTA and there will be a public hearing. The goal is to serve as many of the most critically dependent folks as we can through June 30, 2011. Any proposals and recommendations will be presented to the City of Columbia and Richland County.

7. [Fiscal Year 2010 / 2011 First Quarter Hospitality Tax Contingency Funding Recommendations](#) – Ms. Libby Gober, City Council Liaison

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the fiscal year 2010/2011 first quarter funding recommendations from the Hospitality Tax Contingency Fund in the total amount of \$104,000.

8. [Neighborhood Street Lighting Requests](#) – Ms. Missy Gentry, P.E., Director of Public Works

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Neighborhood Street Lighting Requests as outlined:

Neighborhoods Listed by Priority	Existing Lights / Upgrades	Requested Lights	Current Lease Cost / Annually	Increased Amount
Oxford Road	0	1	\$0.00	\$118.92
Martin Street	0	4	\$0.00	\$475.68
Hampton Ridge	23	0	\$6,022.32	\$0.00

Mr. Pringle Boyle, President of the Hampton Ridge Neighborhood Association said that they are requesting that 23 lights be upgraded for a neighborhood that was built in 1980. The bulbs haven't been changed since they burned out.

Councilor Plough explained that Dave Brewer, Traffic Engineer has been working with the neighborhood for some time now and his recommendation is to handle this in 3 phases. Staff has already cut the trees back; the fixtures are being upgraded; and now we can determine what the lumens are and what additional lighting is needed. This is not an inexpensive third phase, because the lighting is underground.

9. [Allen Benedict Court Hope VI Application](#) – Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to authorize Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager to submit a letter in support of the Columbia Housing Authority's 2010 HOPE VI Application for Allen Benedict Court. If the grant application is successful, the City of Columbia will budget \$3.5 million in the 2010/2011 Capital Improvement Program budget for infrastructure needs associated with this project.

10. [Organizational Review of Utilities and Engineering](#) – Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to authorize Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager to proceed with a technological review of the Utilities and Engineering Department by IBM at no cost to the City of Columbia.

11. [Code Enforcement and Absentee Landlord Registration Program](#) – Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services provided an update on demolitions under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program; the Absentee Landlord Registration Program; and Code Enforcement as it relates to property maintenance, housing and zoning. She outlined some of the challenges incurred by the Planning and Development Services Department along with possible opportunities to negate some of those challenges.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted six (6) to one (1) to refer this report to the Economic and Community Development Committee and the Public Safety Committee to review and provide recommendations. Council members were asked to refer specific properties to the Planning and Development Services Department with the expectation that the properties will be reviewed and a report will be provided. Staff was asked to determine why the demolition ordinance was repealed. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel, Mr. Newman and Mayor Benjamin. Ms. Plough voted nay.

12. [Hospitality Districts Briefing](#) – Mr. Michael King, Assistant City Manager of Public Safety, Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Chief of Columbia Fire Department, Mr. Randy Scott, Interim Chief of Columbia Police Department and Ms. Kimberly Gathers, Director of 311/911 Communications

Mr. Michael King, Assistant City Manager of Public Safety reported that the Hospitality Districts include Harbison, Five Points, the Vista, Two Notch and Main Street. We clearly understand that our Hospitality Districts are a critical component to the health, vitality and vibrancy of our City. Our goal is to provide the safest possible environment for all areas of our City.

Ms. Kimberly Gathers, Director of the Columbia/Richland 911 Communications Center reported on the calls for service for each Hospitality Tax District.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Chief of Columbia Fire Department reported on the top problems encountered by the Fire Department to include overcrowding, exits, failure to maintain equipment and outside eating areas. He also reported on the number of summons issued and operations conducted in each Hospitality District.

Mr. Randy Scott, Interim Chief of Columbia Police Department reported on the operations conducted, business contacts made, number of officers assigned, total arrests, total man hours and approximate expenditures by Police Region.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to refer further discussion of the Public Safety Hospitality District Report to the Public Safety Committee along with the upcoming Hospitality District Taskforce Report.

13. [City Council Committees](#)

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to refer the report from IBM on the Utilities and Engineering Department technological review to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to refer ongoing discussions about the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority to the Economic and Community Development Committee. The Finance, Audit and Budget Committee should be notified of scheduled discussions.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to refer the City Manager's contract to the Administrative Policy Committee for review and recommendations.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to authorize the City Council Arts and Historic Preservation Committee to meet with staff and the Mayor's Transition Team's Arts and Historic Preservation Committee to review their findings.

- 13a. **Council is asked to approve the appointment of Mr. Joshua Stroman to the Community Promotions Advisory Committee as requested by The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. Joshua Stroman to the Community Promotions Advisory Committee to fill the seat vacated by Ms. Emma Myers.

- 13b. **2010 MetLife Foundation Award for Neighborhood Revitalization

Mayor Benjamin and the members of Council recognized Ms. Doris Hildebrand, President of the Waverly Neighborhood Association; Ms. Deborah Livingston, Director of the Columbia Housing Development Corporation; Mr. Marvin Heller, President of the Lyon Street Community; and the Columbia Police Department for receiving the 2010 MetLife Foundation Award for Neighborhood Revitalization.

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) announced the 2010 MetLife Foundation Community-Police Partnership Award, where the Columbia Police Department (CPD), TN Development Corporation, and the Columbia Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) received the Neighborhood Revitalization Award for Project: Resurgence of the Historic Waverly Neighborhood. This national recognition recognizes community organizations and police departments working together to reduce crime and revitalize neighborhoods.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to refer the issue of infill development in the Lyon Street Community to the Economic and Community Development Committee along with Councilman Newman.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 14.** through **21.** and **23.** through **27.** Consideration of **Item 22.** was deferred.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

14. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of a Twelve \(12\) Month Maintenance Agreement for the Fire and Life Safety System at Drew Wellness Center](#), as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department. Award to Simplex Grinnell, as a Sole Source in the amount of \$13,186.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Drew Wellness-Professional Services 1015115-63600 - Approved*
15. Council is asked to approve [Project #WM4201](#); Change Order #2, Repaving of North Beltline Boulevard and Forest Drive, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to McClam and Associates in the amount of \$25,855.13. This vendor is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: Water Improvements Fund WM420101-851500 – Note: This change order is necessary to compensate the contractor for additional asphalt work requested by the City of Columbia at Rosewood Drive and Assembly Street - Approved*
16. Council is asked to approve [Project #SS7159-02](#); Purchase of Materials for Morris Pumps #1 at the Saluda River Lift Station, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Charles R. Underwood, Inc., the lowest bidder in the amount of \$27,998.80. This vendor is located in Sanford, NC. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund 5516212-631800 - Approved*

17. Council is asked to approve [Project #WM4009](#); Change Order #3 to Agreement for Professional Services for Providing Renovation, Painting and Preventive Maintenance Services for the City's Upper Richland Water Storage Facility, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Tank Pro, Inc., in the amount of \$29,790.00. This vendor is located in Northport, Alabama. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Fund Maintenance 5516210 - Approved*
18. Council is asked to approve [Project #SS7146\(8\)](#); Purchase of Ten (10) Flight Skimmers and Twenty (20) Diffused Air Flotation (DAF) Flight Attachments for the Diffused Air Flotation (DAF) Basin at the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Siemens Technologies, as a Sole Source in the amount of \$30,980.00. This vendor is located in Waukesha, WI. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Maintenance Fund 5516212-631800 - Approved*
19. Council is asked to approve the [Renewal of the Annual HP Storage Area Network \(SAN\) Maintenance Support Agreement](#), as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to Hewlett Packard in the amount of \$32,261.51. This vendor is located in Roseville, CA. *Funding Source: Information Technology/Maintenance & Service Contracts 1011120-638200 - Approved*
20. Council is asked to approve [Project # SD8348](#); An Agreement for a Stormwater System Inventory Pilot Project, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Woolpert, Inc., in the amount of \$79,940.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Stormwater Improvements Fund 5549999-SD834801-636600 – Approved*
21. Council is asked to approve [Project #WM4143](#); Change Order #7, Water Main Rehabilitation, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Carolina Tap & Bore, Inc., in the amount of \$93,190.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Water Improvement Fund WM414301-851500 – Note: This change order is necessary to compensate the contractor for additional work requested by the City of Columbia to approve water quality and fire protection. The change order extends the contract completion date to December 31, 2010. - Approved*
22. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of a Tandem Dump Truck](#), as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Advantage Truck Center, the lowest bidder meeting specifications in the amount of \$126,037.30. This vendor is located in Charlotte, NC. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement/Auto, Truck, Heavy Equipment >\$5,000; 6308972-658500 – Consideration of this item was deferred.*
23. Council is asked to approve [Project #WM3958](#); 12" Water Main Extension along Clemson Road and 8" Water Main Extension along Chimney Ridge Drive, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Carolina Tap and Bore, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$232,874.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: WM3958-658650 – This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Northeast Backflow is the Protégé. - Approved*
24. Council is asked to approve [Project #SS711701](#); New 12' Asphalt Road at the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to McClam and Associates, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$244,200.00. This vendor is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Improvement Fund SS711701-658650 – This is a Subcontracting Outreach Project. - Approved*

25. Council is asked to approve [Project #WM4182](#); Rehabilitation Gervais Street Clean & Line, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Carolina Tap and Bore, the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder in the amount of \$7,422,185.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Water Main Improvement Fund WM4182-658650 – This is a Subcontracting Outreach Project. - Approved*

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

26. [Ordinance No.: 2010-144](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 11, Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Article II, Business and Professional Licenses, Sec. 11-32, Definitions, Gross Income – *First reading approval was given on November 2, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*
27. [Ordinance No.: 2010-145](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 11, Licenses, Permits, Business Regulations, Article II, Business and Professional Licenses, Sec. 11-49 Classification rate schedules to add Code E52 Entertainment and amend Code 100, SIC 7941 Promoters: Athletic Exhibitions, Dances, Theatricals, Musical Entertainments – *First reading approval was given on November 2, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

28. [Ordinance No.: 2010-152](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute Agreements of Purchase and Sale between the City of Columbia and Columbia Venture, LLC for the purchase of approximately 312 acres (being portions of Richland County TMS #R11000-01-02 and R11000-01-06 and between the City of Columbia and Sunday School, LLC for the purchase of approximately 33 acres (Richland County TMS #R11000-01-04) and authorizing the City Manager to execute an access easement to Columbia Venture, LLC for access across a portion of the 312 acre parcel

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-152 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute Agreements of Purchase and Sale between the City of Columbia and Columbia Venture, LLC for the purchase of approximately 312 acres (being portions of Richland County TMS #R11000-01-02 and R11000-01-06 and between the City of Columbia and Sunday School, LLC for the purchase of approximately 33 acres (Richland County TMS #R11000-01-04) and authorizing the City Manager to execute an access easement to Columbia Venture, LLC for access across a portion of the 312 acre parcel.

RESOLUTIONS

29. [Resolution No.: R-2010-095](#) – Amending R-2010-80 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine at The White Mule Wine Walk on Main Street in the 1500 block of Main Street between Hampton Street and Taylor Street

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2010-095 – Amending R-2010-80 Authorizing consumption of beer and wine at The White Mule Wine Walk on Main Street in the 1500 block of Main Street between Hampton Street and Taylor Street.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to refer the request from the Town of Blythewood to paint their name on the City's Rimer Pond Road Water Tower to the Economic and Community Development Committee. Staff is directed to provide a recommendation to the committee for review and consideration.

APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC HAVING BUSINESS WITH CITY COUNCIL

No one appeared at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. as outlined.

- 30. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
 - 31. **Discussion of employment of employee – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
 - 32. **Receipt of legal advice incident to the proposed purchase of property – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
- **Council adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.**

<u>Tentative Meeting Dates</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting Times</u>
Tues., November 16, 2010	Council Meeting – City Hall	6:00 p.m.
	Zoning Public Hearing	
Tues., December 7, 2010	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Tues., December 14, 2010	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.