

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
WORK SESSION ACTION REPORT
MAY 12, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.
CITY HALL - 1737 MAIN STREET
2nd Floor – COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**



The Columbia City Council conducted a Work Session on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 in the Council Conference Room located on the second floor of City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Robert D. Coble called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann and The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel. The Honorable Kirkman Finlay III arrived at 9:12 a.m. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING

1. [Ordinance No.: 2010-082](#) – An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Columbia, South Carolina, to enter into a Development Agreement with the Mast General Store, Inc.; and other matters relating to the foregoing – *First reading approval was given on May 5, 2010. Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-082 – An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Columbia, South Carolina, to enter into a Development Agreement with the Mast General Store, Inc.; and other matters relating to the foregoing. Mayor Coble abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. [Fiscal Year 2010-2015 Consolidated Plan & Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Action Plan](#) – Ms. Dollie Bristow, Community Investment Manager
 - **Council opened the Public Hearing at 9:29 a.m.**

Ms. Ellen Cooper, President of the Coalition of Downtown Neighborhoods appeared before the Council to express concerns related to the omission of funding for the Housing First Program.

- **Council closed the Public Hearing at 9:35 a.m.**

RESOLUTION

3. [Resolution No.: R-2009-083](#) – Resolution appointing Assistant City Manager Allison Baker as City Chaplin for the purpose of giving or arranging for the giving of invocations at City Council meetings

Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted five (5) to one (1) to approve Resolution No.: R-2009-083 – Resolution appointing Assistant City Manager Allison Baker as City Chaplin for the purpose of giving or arranging for the giving of invocations at City Council meetings. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Mr. Finlay and Mayor Coble. Dr. Gergel voted nay.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

4. Vacancy Report – Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager presented a General Fund Vacancy and Operational Review to the members of Council. He recommended that a total of thirty (30) fulltime and two (2) part-time **vacant positions** be eliminated. This would reduce the fiscal year 2010/2011 General Fund Budget by \$1 million.

There was an in-depth discussion. No action was taken.

5. GASB 45 – Mr. Bill Ellis, Director of Finance

Mr. Bill Ellis, Director of Finance provided a briefing on the Annual Required Contribution (ARC) for GASB 45.

6. Fiscal Year 2010 / 2011 Budget Review – Mr. Steve Gantt, City Manager

- General Fund

Mr. Jeff Palen, Treasurer provided a comparison of property taxes imposed by the City of Columbia to similarly composed municipalities.

Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager reviewed options for reducing the General Fund.

- **Mr. Finlay left the meeting at 11:46 a.m.**

The members of Council held an in-depth discussion. No action was taken.

There was a consensus of Council to schedule a Budget Work Session on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Upon a motion by Mayor Coble and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to appoint Mayor-Elect Steve Benjamin as the City of Columbia representative to the National Mayor's Conference to be held in June 2010 and to authorize the City of Columbia to pay for Mr. Benjamin's expenses associated with his travel, meals and attendance at this conference.

- Parking Fund

The Parking Fund was not discussed.

- Water & Sewer Fund

The Parking Fund was not discussed.

- **Mr. Finlay returned at 1:19 p.m.**

- **Council adjourned the Work Session at 1:19 p.m.**