

COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers
Second Floor of City Services Center
3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, GA 31906

June 4, 2019
5:30 PM
Regular Meeting

MAYOR'S AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III and Councilors R. Gary Allen, Jerry "Pops" Barnes (arrived at 5:35 p.m.), Glenn Davis (arrived at 6:09 p.m.), R. Walker Garrett, John M. House, Judy W. Thomas and Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson (arrived at 6:09 p.m.). City Manager Isaiah Hugley, City Attorney Clifton Fay, Clerk of Council Sandra T. Davis and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey Glisson.

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner and Councilors Charmaine Crabb and Bruce Huff.

The following documents were distributed around the Council table: (1) Transportation Update Presentation; (2) Court Management System Update Presentation; (3) Towing/Traffic Incident Management Services Update Presentation.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, Presiding.
2. **INVOCATION:** Pastor Ben Giselbach- Edgewood Church of Christ.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by the Golden Elite Dancers.

PROCLAMATIONS

PROCLAMATION: NeighborWorks® Columbus Week

RECEIVING: Melanie Faison

Proclamation for NeighborWorks Columbus Week, June 3-7, 2019, read by Councilor House.

PROCLAMATION: Miss Georgia Scholarship Competition Week

RECEIVING: Billy Kendall and Trina Pruitt, Chairman of the Board of the Miss Georgia Scholarship Competition

Proclamation for Miss Georgia Scholarship Competition Week, June 12-19, 2019, read by Councilor Thomas.

PROCLAMATION: Kadie the Cow Day

RECEIVING: Beth Reed-Richardson

Proclamation for Kadie the Cow Day, June 9, 2019, read by Councilor Barnes.

PROCLAMATION: LGBT Pride Month

RECEIVING: Michelle Johnson, Raymond Chambless, Harry Underwood, Matasha Spiller, and Jeremy Hobbs

Proclamation for LGBT Pride Month, June 2019, read by Councilor Garrett.

PROCLAMATION: **Dacia Irvin Day**

RECEIVING: Dacia Irvin

Proclamation for Dacia Irvin Day, June 4, 2019, read by Councilor Thomas.

MAYOR'S AGENDA (continued):

4. **MINUTES:** Approval of minutes for the May 28, 2019 Council Meeting. Councilor Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent for the meeting.

5. **TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS PUBLIC HEARING:** 6:00 p.m. The budget tentatively adopted by the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate. Therefore, before the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, may finalize the tentative budget and set a final millage rate, Georgia Law requires that three public hearings be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on this increase.

Director Angelica Alexander (Finance) introduced the Taxpayer Bill of Rights Public Hearing for the FY2020 Millage Rate.

Mr. George Lotts approached the rostrum to make comments and ask questions for clarification, which was responded to by Director Alexander and City Manager Hugley.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

ORDINANCES:

Director Angelica Alexander (Finance) approached the rostrum to answer any questions from Council or the public for all seven (7) First Reading Ordinances listed on the City Attorney's Agenda.

(1) **1st Reading** – An Ordinance adopting an Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2020 beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, for certain funds of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, and appropriating the amounts shown in each budget; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

(2) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance adopting Non-Operating Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2020 beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, for certain funds of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia, and appropriating the amounts shown in each budget; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

(3) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance amending Article VII of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code Solid Waste Collection and Disposal by updating the guidelines for an offset to the residential rate for low-income households; and for other purposes. (Budget Review Committee)

(4) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance providing for contributions to the Columbus, Georgia General Government Employee's Pension Plan for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. (Budget Review Committee)

(5) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance providing for contributions to the Columbus, Georgia Pension Plan for Employees of the Department of Public Safety for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. (Budget Review Committee)

(6) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance providing for Government funding of a Major Disability Income Plan for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. (Budget Review Committee)

(7) **1st Reading** - An Ordinance providing for Government funding of a Death Benefit Escrow for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020. (Budget Review Committee)

PUBLIC AGENDA:

{Public Comments were provided by the individuals listed below; unless otherwise stated.}

1. Mr. Russell Scott, Re: The lack of safety crossings in a school zone. **No Action Taken**

REFERRAL(S):

- Check on school zone signs around the Jordan High School property. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*
- Ask the Columbus Police Department to patrol the area to slow down traffic. *(Request of Councilor Thomas)*
- All schools in the county to be checked with the assistance of the Muscogee County School District. *(Request of Councilor Woodson)*

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA:

I. PURCHASES:

Approval is requested of items "A" to "C":

- A. Contract Amendment for NEOGOV Application Management Tracking System

Resolution (147-19): A resolution authorizing the contract amendment with GovernmentJobs.com Inc., d/b/a/ Neogov (El Segundo, CO), to add e-0forms and onboard bundle software modules for the annual subscription fee of \$36,031.50, plus a one-time fee of \$12, 000 for set-up and implementation; as well as, approve the updated annual subscription fee for the current application tracking management system module in the amount of \$18,357.49. The contract term will be for 36 months beginning in FY20. The annual subscription fees shall increase up to five (5) percent from the previous term for the first two (2) renewal terms. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent for the meeting.

- B. Trolley Repairs for Metra

Resolution (148-19): A resolution authorizing repair services for two trolleys to be performed by Cummins Sales and Service (Albany, GA), for the total estimated amount of \$40,741.41. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent for the meeting.

- C. Mental Health Services for Muscogee County Jail (Annual Contract)

Resolution (149-19): A resolution authorizing the execution of an annual contract with New Horizons Community Service Board d/b/a New Horizons Behavioral Health (Columbus, GA) to provide comprehensive mental health services for inmates incarcerated at Muscogee County Jail. Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent for the meeting.

II. UPDATES AND PRESENTATIONS: (THE UPDATES WERE PRESENTED IN THE ORDER AS NUMERICALLY INDICATED BELOW.)

- 1) Transportation Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager. **No Action Taken**

Deputy City Manager Pam Hodge gave an update on various transportation projects.

REFERRAL(S):

- Schedule a meeting with the City Manager, Deputy City Manager Hodge and the At-Large Councilors regarding transportation projects. (*Request of Councilor Thomas*)
 - Request to be included in the meetings requested by Councilor Davis. (*Request of Councilor Garrett*)
- 2) Court Management System Update - Pam Hodge, Deputy City Manager and Forrest Toelle, I.T. Director. *No Action Taken*

Deputy Manager Pam Hodge, Director Forrest Toelle (IT), and Application Development & Support Manager Shane Walker (IT) gave an update on the new court management system that is being implemented.

- 3) Towing/Traffic Incident Management Service Update - Angelica Alexander, Finance Director (Add-On). *No Action Taken*

Director Angelica Alexander (Finance) gave an update on the towing/traffic management service contract for the City of Columbus.

**Bid Advertisement
(Schedule opening bid date)**

June 19, 2019

1. **Bus Shelters (Annual Contract) – RFB No. 19-0051**

Scope of Bid

METRA is requesting qualified vendors to provide Bus Shelters on an “as needed” basis. The contract term will be for three years.

CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA:

ENCLOSURES, ACTION REQUESTED:

1. **RESOLUTION:** Excusing Councilor Jerry “Pops” Barnes from the May 28, 2019 Council Meeting.

Resolution (150-19): A resolution excusing Councilor Barnes’ absence. Councilor Allen moved adoption, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

2. **RESOLUTION:** Excusing Councilor Charmaine Crabb from the June 4, 2019 Council Meeting.

Resolution (151-19): A resolution excusing Councilor Crabb’s absence. Councilor Allen moved adoption, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

ADD ON RESOLUTION: Excusing Mayor Pro Tem Evelyn Turner Pugh from the June 4, 2019 Council Meeting.

Resolution (152-19): A resolution excusing Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh’s absence. Councilor Allen moved adoption, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

3. **Minutes of the following boards:**
Animal Control Advisory Board, May 21, 2019.
Board of Tax Assessors, #18-19.
Budget Review Committee, May 14, 2019.
Hospital Authority, April 30, 2019.
Recreation Advisory Board, October 31, 2018.
Recreation Advisory Board, January 30, 2019.
Recreation Advisory Board, March 27, 2019.

Councilor Allen moved adoption, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS- ACTION REQUESTED:

4. **COUNCIL'S DISTRICT SEAT APPOINTMENTS- NOMINATION FOR CONFIRMATION:**

Appointment of John M. Lawson (*Councilor Allen's nominee*) to succeed Mike Peacock as the District 6 Representative on the Recreation Advisory Board. Councilor Woodson moved confirmation, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

UPCOMING BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

~ Downtown Development Authority

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA (continued)

RESOLUTIONS (add-on):

Resolution (153-19): A resolution honoring Lorette Hoover for her service and dedication to Columbus Technical College and the Technical College System of Georgia. Councilor Thomas moved approval, seconded by Councilor House and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Davis being absent for the vote, and Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent from the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1) **Mr. Albert Brinson** approached the rostrum to make comments and express his concerns regarding the new traffic citation system being implemented by the Columbus Police Department.

Director Forrest Toelle (IT) approached the rostrum to address the concerns expressed by Mr. Brinson regarding the new traffic citation system.

With there being no further business to discuss, Mayor Henderson entertained a motion for adjournment. Motion by Councilor Garrett to adjourn the June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by seven members present, with Councilors Crabb, Huff and Turner Pugh being absent for the meeting, and the time being 7:32 p.m.