



CITY OF COLUMBIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2015 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - 1737 MAIN STREET
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 3RD FLOOR

The Columbia City Council will conduct a Meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. The Honorable Leona K. Plough was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Little Miss Tamia and Jade Devine led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Chaplain Byron Powers, Columbia Police Department offered the Invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [December 16, 2014 Work Session & Council Meeting](#) – *Approved as presented.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the December 16, 2014 Work Session & Council Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

2. [Frank B. Washington Day Proclamation](#) – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin said one of the most significant things we've done in the last several years is beginning to chronicle the contributions of Civil Rights pioneers to the development and prosperity of Columbia. He said there are so many people whose names are forgotten, but in this particular place, many would argue that very few contributions come close to the contribution of Mr. Washington.

Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Associate Professor of History at the University of South Carolina said it is a great pleasure as part of the ongoing work to chronicle the Civil Rights struggle in our City and particularly during this season as we mark the 50th Anniversary of the March on Selma and the Voting Rights Bill, that we look closely at events here in our City and recognize those individuals who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the struggle to advance human rights, social justice and political opportunity. He said we have the great pleasure of introducing one of the architects of the struggle in Columbia and South Carolina, Mr. Frank Washington. He described Mr. Washington as a proud graduate of Booker T. Washington High School, Allen University and the President of the Columbia Chapter of the NAACP for nearly twenty years. He said it was under Mr. Washington's work that the City of Columbia was transformed and today we have a much more diverse representation on City Council.

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed Tuesday, January 6, 2015 as Frank B. Washington Day in the City of Columbia.

Mr. Frank B. Washington thanked the Mayor and members of City Council. He recalled memories of being here on many occasions to ask for the playing field to be leveled so that all Columbians could have an equal opportunity to progress. He recalled asking Council to change its method of electing councilmembers and each time the request was denied. He said this led him to file a law suit against the former mayor John Campbell. He said that Mayor John Campbell was replaced by Mayor Kirkman Finlay, who acted with such diligence and such understanding. He explained that they couldn't get a majority of councilmembers to consent to the referendum so they went to Federal Court and lost; then they went to the Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia and lost; and they went to the Supreme Court twice and lost. He said it was their finding that with black representations, the understanding and sensitivity rendered by black representatives would not be greater than what we already had. He described how Mayor Finlay proposed that they take the matter before the populous for a vote and with the help of Councilman Rudy Barnes they won by a slim margin. He said a committee of three whites and three blacks appointed by Mayor Finlay came up with the 4-2-1 Plan. He said we have enjoyed a City that has progressed, because we had a mayor with foresight who helped us to do what we did. He insisted that Columbia is his home and he wouldn't trade it for anything!

3. Recognition of South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame Inductee – Mr. Jeff Caton, Director of Parks and Recreation

Mr. Jeff Caton, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department introduced Mr. Jeff Kefalos as a recent South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame Inductee. He said that Jeff has served as the Tennis Center Director for the City of Columbia since 1977; he was inducted into the University of South Carolina Hall of Fame in 2011; and he played for and coached the University of South Carolina Men's Tennis Team. He outlined many of Mr. Kefalos' outstanding accomplishments, noting that he's proud of the great work done by Mr. Kefalos on behalf of the City of Columbia.

OTHER MATTERS

4. [Neighborhood Street Lighting Request](#) - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Neighborhood Street Lighting Request:

Neighborhoods Listed by Priority	Existing Lights	Requested Lights	Current Lease Cost / Annually	Project Request Total	Total Year to Date
1000 Tree Street	1	1	\$118.92	\$118.92	\$1,308.12

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 5 through 17.**

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS and AGREEMENTS

- 5. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Two \(2\) Chevrolet Tahoes](#), as requested by the Police Department. Award to Love Chevrolet, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$58,802.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: US Justice Grants Contract; 2659999-658500 – **Note:** The original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$58,802.00. - Approved*

- 6. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Four \(4\) Chevrolet Silverado Trucks for the Animal Services Division and the Parks and Recreation Department](#), as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Love Chevrolet, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$77,368.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement-Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment Capital; 6308972-658500 – **Note:** One (1) truck is for the Animal Services Division and three (3) trucks are for the Parks and Recreation Department. The original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$83,557.44. - Approved*

- 7. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Three \(3\) Dump Trucks for the Street Division and the Parks and Recreation Department](#), as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Carolina International Trucks, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$229,023.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement-Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital; 6308972-658500 – **Note:** Two (2) trucks are for the Street Division and one (1) truck is for the Parks and Recreation Department. The original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$259,949.52. - Approved*

8. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Two \(2\) Wheel Loaders for the Solid Waste Division](#), as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Blanchard Machinery Company, using the National Joint Powers Alliance Contract in the amount of \$278,930.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement-Autos, Truck, Heavy Equipment Capital; 6308972-658500 – Note: The original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$322,559.28. - Approved*
9. Council is asked to approve a [Contract Renewal for the Geographic Information System Software effective January 6, 2015 through January 5, 2016](#), as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to Environmental Systems Research Institute in the amount of \$52,405.77. This vendor is located in Redlands, CA. – *Note: This renewal provides access to technical support and any new software updates upon release. The following departments/accounts will be impacted. The original budgeted amount is \$60,000.00. Chief Information Officer Comments: This maintenance is for GIS users in the following departments. There are licenses for up to 27 concurrent users. – Approved*

Departments	Accounts	Amount
GIS	Geographic Information System/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5511121-638200	\$36,320.22
Planning/Development Services	Development Services/Computer License – 1014101-627510	\$2,900.00
Utilities and Engineering	Engineering/Computer License – 5511706-627510	\$4,600.00
Traffic Engineering	Traffic Engineering/Maintenance and Service Contract – 1013203-638200	\$2,225.00
Solid Waste	Public Works Admin/Computer License – 1011124-627510	\$1,875.00
Police Department	Police Admin Services/Computer License – 1012402-627510	\$2,800.00
Wastewater Maintenance	Utilities Wastewater Maintenance/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5516205-638200	\$1,685.55

10. Council is asked to approve a [Contract Renewal for City Works Maintenance and Support effective January 15, 2015 through January 14, 2016](#), as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to Azteca Systems in the amount of \$65,990.00. This vendor is located in Sandy, UT. – *Note: This renewal provides software updates, customer support and access to mycityworks.com. The following accounts will be impacted. The original budgeted amount is \$70,000.00. Chief Information Officer Comments: This enables support for the work order and asset management system used across many departments. - Approved*

Accounts	Amount
Public Works Administration/Computer Equipment/Hardware – 1011124-627500	\$1,990.00
Public Works Administration/Maintenance and Service Contract – 1011124-638200	\$5,000.00
Forestry Horticulture/Maintenance and Service Contract – 1011217-638200	\$7,500.00
Street/Streets & Sidewalk Repair/Maintenance and Service Contract – 1013201-638200	\$2,000.00
Traffic Operations/Maintenance and Service Contract – 1013204-638200	\$3,000.00
Street-Storm Drains/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5534203-638200	\$1,500.00
Street Water & Sewer Repair/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5513202-638200	\$2,000.00
Solid Waste Street Sweeping/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5534408-638200	\$10,000.00
Customer Service/Special Contracts – 5511407-638300	\$3,000.00
Utilities Water Maintenance Customer Service/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5516202-638200	\$15,000.00
Utilities Wastewater Maintenance/Maintenance and Service Contract – 5516205-638200	\$15,000.00

11. Council is asked to approve [a Professional Services Contract to provide Architectural and Engineering Services for the Construction of an Animal Services Building at 121 Humane Lane](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Studio 2LR in an amount not to exceed \$76,335.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: CP0001802 – **Note:** The fee includes architectural programming, construction documents and construction administration. The following local sub-consultants will be utilized for this project at 48.7% of the contract value. The original budgeted amount for this project is \$700,000.00. - Approved*

Sub-consultants	Firm Type	Locations	Contract %	Amount
RB Todd Consulting Engineers	Non M/F/SBE	Irmo, SC	13.5%	\$10,300.00
Mabry Engineering	SBE	West Columbia, SC	6.4%	\$4,850.00
Swygert & Associates	Non M/F/SBE	Cayce, SC	16.7%	\$12,750.00
ETi Engineering	Non M/F/SBE	Columbia, SC	12.1%	\$9,210.00

12. Council is asked to approve an [Agreement for Engineering Services for the Design, Permitting and Construction of a New Truck Washing Station for the Fleet Services Division](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Neel-Schaffer, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$91,000.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5549999-SD8388-658660 – **Note:** This is Mentor Protégé Program Project and Chao & Associates, Inc. (Protégé), a MBE firm located in Columbia, SC will provide field surveys and assist with the building design, bidding assistance and construction administration at 25% (\$22,810) of the contract value. The original budgeted amount for this project is \$300,000.00. - Approved*
13. Council is asked to approve [Project SS6776; Sewer Construction at the Charbonneau Apartments on Normandy Road](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to G.H. Smith Construction, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$121,565.00 with a project contingency of \$13,000.00 for a total amount of \$134,565.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: CIP Improvement Fund; 5529999-658650 – **Note:** This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Lake Murray Utility (Protégé) located in Chapin, SC is implementing 20% (\$27,000) of the contract value. The original budgeted amount for this project is \$144,380.00. - Approved*

14. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4312; Construction along Furman Avenue from Chicora Street to Limestone Street](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Carolina Tap and Bore, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$197,425.00 with a project contingency of \$22,000.00 for a total amount of \$219,425.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: CIP Improvement Fund; 5529999-658650/WM431201-658650 – Note: This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Northeast Backflow (Protégé) located in Lugoff, SC is implementing 20% (\$50,000) of the contract value. This project consists of construction of approximately 240 linear feet of 6” ductile iron water main. The original budgeted amount for this project is \$241,420.00. - Approved*

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING

15. [Ordinance No.: 2014-129](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Lease Renewal Agreement between the City of Columbia and the United States House of Representatives for lease of a portion of the second floor of the building located at 1225 Lady Street – *Approved on second reading.*

EVENT RESOLUTIONS

16. [Resolution No.: R-2014-112](#) – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Party Animals Mardi Gras at City Roots – *This event is scheduled for Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. - Approved*
17. [Resolution No.: R-2014-120](#) – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine only at Soda City Suds and Spuds on March 21, 2015 – *The event time is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. - Approved*

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

18. [Ordinance No.: 2014-108](#) – Granting an encroachment to Stephanie Freisner for installation and maintenance of a brick paver walkway, driveway, landscaping and irrigation system within the right of way area of the 100 block of South Gregg Street adjacent to 114 South Gregg Street, Richland County TMS #11310-19-13 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2014-108 – Granting an encroachment to Stephanie Freisner for installation and maintenance of a brick paver walkway, driveway, landscaping and irrigation system within the right of way area of the 100 block of South Gregg Street adjacent to 114 South Gregg Street, Richland County TMS #11310-19-13.

19. [Ordinance No.: 2014-127](#) – Granting an encroachment to Fast Eddie's Calzones at 819 Harden Street for placement and maintenance of two tables and four chairs immediately in front of their business for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during its normal business hour – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2014-127 – Granting an encroachment to Fast Eddie's Calzones at 819 Harden Street for placement and maintenance of two tables and four chairs immediately in front of their business for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during its normal business hour.

20. [Ordinance No.: 2014-128](#) - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Contract of Sale between the City of Columbia and the United Way of the Midlands, Inc. for the purchase of approximately 0.95 acre known as 1800 Main Street, Richland County TMS #19015-11-10 – [United Way Building Costs](#) – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Runyan asked if there is an appraisal for the property.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said it's in the process.

Councilor Runyan said we are going to do the purchase price without an appraisal. He inquired about the source of funds.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said \$700,000 will come from fund balance and the remaining funds will come from capital funds.

Councilor Runyan said the \$700,000 from fund balance will further deplete our unassigned fund balance. He asked if this could adversely impact our credit rating.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said as we discussed with Council earlier, any decision on going below our 15% would impact that, but this wouldn't take us below 15%. She noted that there are other decisions you all are making with other projects.

Councilor Runyan said this probably wouldn't be looked on favorably by the credit rating agencies. He expressed concerns with giving the seller twelve months of free occupancy for 1,800 sq. ft. in the building; that sets a bad precedent. He noted that this is an organization with \$12 million in annual revenue and we are giving them free rent for a year.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said that was a negotiation point that we discussed with the full Council early on in the negotiations.

Councilor Runyan said for those reasons, he can't support this.

Councilor Baddourah said we are buying this building to save money from leasing space somewhere else and make this building a city department complex.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said the Council has gone down the path of discussion with me about the northern end of Main Street and our vision going forward to strategically plan for internal growth as well. She said we have several buildings that we lease space in; we have over 2,300 employees; and as the city grows, it's a good visionary process for us to go through to determine where we will be in the next five (5) years and where we will place our staff. She said we are looking at a Request for Proposals for our spacing needs across the City.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2014-128 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Contract of Sale between the City of Columbia and the United Way of the Midlands, Inc. for the purchase of approximately 0.95 acre known as 1800 Main Street, Richland County TMS #19015-11-10. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Baddourah and Mayor Benjamin. Mr. Runyan voted nay.

APPOINTMENTS

21. [Planning Commission](#)

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ms. Kendora Foster to the Planning Commission.

22. Mayor Pro-Tempore

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Sam Davis as Mayor Pro-Tempore for 2015.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS/REFERRALS

No committee reports/referrals were made at this time.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Dr. Germon Miller thanked everyone for their support. She announced that the RICH Program still has a zero recidivism rate with all of its members.

Ms. Catherine Bruce presented photos of the damages in Columbia, Mississippi after the EF3 Tornado touched down a few days before Christmas. She noted that settlers that migrated from Columbia, South Carolina renamed Lott's Bluff, Mississippi to Columbia, Mississippi. She said that five (5) lives were lost, a lot of businesses and homes have been destroyed and they have not been approved by FEMA for national relief. She encouraged the people of Columbia to assist the Columbia Strong Program and the rebuilding efforts. For more information visit www.pinebeltfoundation.org.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk

Meeting Dates	Type of Meeting	Meeting Times
January 20, 2015	State of the City Address	6:00 p.m.
	<i>Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center</i>	
	<i>1101 Lincoln Street – Coble Ballroom</i>	
January 27, 2015	Work Session	2:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	
	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers</i>	
	Zoning Public Hearing	7:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers</i>	
February 10, 2015	Work Session	2:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	
	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers</i>	
	Zoning Public Hearing (Land Use Plan)	7:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers</i>	
February 17, 2015	Work Session	2:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	
	Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
	<i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers</i>	