

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
WORK SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2010 – 3:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - 1737 MAIN STREET
2nd Floor – COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**



The Columbia City Council met for a Work Session on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Robert D. Coble called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.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 was absent. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

**Upon a motion made by Mayor Coble and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to allow Mayor-Elect Stephen Benjamin and Councilmember-Elect Leona Plough to participate in all Council Meetings, excluding voting; to participate in all Executive Sessions; to receive a full Council agenda packet for each meeting; to receive a City e-mail address; to receive a parking decal for parking in the City Council reserved spaces at City Hall; to schedule briefings with the City Manager; and for the Mayor-Elect to have office space and staff's support at City Hall.

PRESENTATION

1. Fire Department Budget – Mr. Michael King, Assistant City Manager of Public Safety and Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Interim Chief of Columbia Fire Department

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Interim Fire Chief / Columbia Fire Department provided an overview of the organizational structure and budget request for fiscal year 2010/2011.

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

2. Police Department Budget – Mr. Michael King, Assistant City Manager of Public Safety and Mr. Tandy Carter, Chief of Columbia Police Department

Mr. Tandy Carter, Chief of Police / Columbia Police Department provided an overview of the fiscal year 2010/2011 budget request to include priorities, funded positions, vacancies, capital replacement of fleet and contingency costs.

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

3. Council is asked to approve Two (2) Mutual Aid Agreements between the City of Columbia and the Counties of Darlington and Florence Narcotics Units for Criminal Patrol Transfer

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve Two (2) Mutual Agreements between the City of Columbia and the Counties of Darlington and Florence Narcotics Units for Criminal Patrol Transfer.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

4. Fiscal Year 2010 / 2011 Budget Review – *This discussion was deferred until April 28, 2010.*
5. Resolution of Outstanding Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Issues – Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager explained that in 2009, HUD conducted a review of the Empowerment Zone and determined that the loan made to Cambry was an ineligible expenditure of federal funds and that the \$179,000 had to be refunded to HUD. He further explained that the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc. doesn't have the amount necessary to repay the loan. He requested funding from the Land Acquisition Fund in the amount of \$179,000 for the repayment of the loan. He added that CEZ, Inc. would repay the City of Columbia over a ten (10) year period with 1% interest. This is not a request to forgive the loan. Once the funding is repaid to HUD, it will be returned to the City of Columbia and used by the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc. for federal programs.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to grant a loan to the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc. in the amount of \$179,000 from the Land Acquisition Fund with 1% interest over a ten (10) year period. The loan will be used to repay \$179,000 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development as a result of the Cambry loan being ineligible for federal funding. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Dr. Gergel and Mayor Coble. Mr. Rickenmann voted nay.

6. Attorney-Client Privilege Waiver

Upon a motion made by Mayor Coble and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to waive the attorney-client privilege for legal advice given by Senior Assistant City Attorney Dana Thye to Fire Marshal Carmen Floyd for the purpose of assisting SLED in its investigation of the Benedict College Code Violations.

- **Council adjourned the Work Session at 4:48 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley
City Clerk