

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
WORK SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 23, 2010 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - 1737 MAIN STREET
3rd Floor – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**



The Columbia City Council conducted a Work Session on Wednesday, June 23, 2010 in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Robert D. Coble called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 Kirkman Finlay III and The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

The members of City Council presented Mayor Robert D. Coble and Councilman Kirkman Finlay III with a cake and tokens of appreciation. Mayor Coble served as the Mayor of the City of Columbia for twenty (20) years and Councilman Finlay represented City Council District IV for four (4) years.

Councilor Devine introduced a video of Mayor Coble's inauguration as Mayor twenty (20) years ago. This video was provided by WIS.

The members of City Council proclaimed Wednesday, June 23, 2010 as Beth Coble Day in the City of Columbia. Mrs. Beth Coble was presented with tokens of appreciation for serving as an outstanding First Lady of the City of Columbia for twenty (20) years.

Councilor Devine introduced another video of previously recorded farewell messages from the members of City Council.

Mr. Dalton Trezvant recited a tribute to Mayor Coble that was read into the Congressional Record by Congressman James Clyburn on June 22, 2010.

Senator John Courson said that he and Representative Smith wrote a letter to the Governor recommending Mayor Coble for the Order of the Palmetto.

Representative James Smith read the letter of recommendation that was sent to the Governor nominating Mayor Coble for the Order of the Palmetto in commemoration of his selfless service and multitude of accomplishments. They presented the Order of the Palmetto to Mayor Bob and Mrs. Beth Coble.

Mr. Jack Kuenzie, Senior Reporter for WIS News 10 shared news footage covering Mayor Coble's twenty (20) year tenure.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. Economic Development Special Projects Account – *Discussion of this item was deferred.*
2. University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine – The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to form a taskforce of City Council to work with the University of South Carolina and the Palmetto Health Alliance to discuss the proposed expansion of the medical school program in Greenville, South Carolina in an effort to protect the existing University of South Carolina School of Medicine and its resources.

3. City Hall Security Upgrades – *Discussion of this item was deferred.*
4. Funding for the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council and the Capitol Senior Center – Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager – *Discussion of this item was deferred.*
5. Land Use Boards and Commissions – Ms. Libby Gober, City Council Liaison

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to reopen the advertisement and application process for the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Design Development Review Commission and the Planning Commission for 30-days; to discuss a possible interview process for applicants; and to consider scheduling discussions between City Council and the land use board members.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

6. Ordinance No.: 2010-047 – To Raise Revenue and Adopt the Budget for The City of Columbia, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2011 – *First reading approval was given on June 16, 2010. - Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted five (5) to one (1) to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-047 – To Raise Revenue and Adopt the Budget for The City of Columbia, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2011. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel and Mayor Coble. Mr. Finlay voted nay.

7. Ordinance No.: 2010-086 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 20, Special Fees and Taxes to add Article IV, Electronic Payment Fees – *First reading approval was given on June 16, 2010. - Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Finlay, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-086 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 20, Special Fees and Taxes to add Article IV, Electronic Payment Fees.

8. Ordinance No.: 2010-089 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article V, Water and Sewer Rates, Sec. 23-143 Water service rates and Sec. 23-149 Sewer service rates, (a) Generally, (b) Consumers using water cooling towers for air conditioning and (f) Contaminated groundwater – *First reading approval was given on June 16, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted four (4) to two (2) to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-089 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article V, Water and Sewer Rates, Sec. 23-143 Water service rates and Sec. 23-149 Sewer service rates, (a) Generally, (b) Consumers using water cooling towers for air conditioning and (f) Contaminated groundwater. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Dr. Gergel and Mayor Coble. Mr. Rickenmann and Mr. Finlay voted nay.

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to **Items 9.** through **11.**

9. Ordinance No.: 2010-088 – Granting DukeNet Communications, LLC, its Successors and Assigns the Right, Power and Authority to Construct, Install, Maintain and Operate In, Over, Upon and Under the Streets and Public Places of the City of Columbia, its Fiber Optic Network Facilities for Such Period as Provided Herein; to Provide for the Payment of Compensation for its Use of the Streets and Public Places; and to authorize the City Manager to execute the attached Rights-of-Way Access Agreement – *First reading approval was given on June 16, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*
10. Ordinance No.: 2010-097 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article III, Officers and Employees to repeal Sec. 2-130 Director of business enterprise and grants; and Article IV, Departments, Sec. 2-151, Departments created; department heads; administrative regulations and procedures, (a) to repeal (15) Business enterprise and grants – *First reading approval was given on June 16, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*
11. Ordinance No.: 2010-084 – Authorizing the transfer of 5208 Randall Avenue, Richland County TMS #11701-06-05 to Eau Claire Development Corp. and 612 Glenlea Road, Richland County TMS #09314-06-06; 136 Springway Drive, Richland County TMS #16310-05-25; 2514 Louise Street, Richland County TMS #11510-01-20; 1216 Pine Street, Richland County TMS #11406-07-20; 4061 Water Street, Richland County TMS #11602-12-07; 1501 Manning Avenue, Richland County TMS #11411-06-09; 1525 Manning Avenue, Richland County TMS #R11412-06-06; and R11411-06-03; 1527 Manning Avenue, Richland County TMS #R11412-06-06; and 926 East Campanella Drive, Richland County TMS #R14305-15-25 to Columbia Housing Development Corporation – *First reading approval was given on May 19, 2010. – Approved on second reading.*

RESOLUTIONS

12. Resolution No.: R-2010-045 – Authorizing the execution of a Sub recipient Agreement between City of Columbia/Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone and the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc., for the purpose of transferring grant funds to the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc., for eligible activities consistent with the Empowerment Zone Strategic Plan, as those funds have been applied for and received by the City of Columbia/Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone pursuant to Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 14.244 (CFDA 14.244) for the Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone, HUD Grant Number: EZ-99-SC-0011 - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2010-045 – Authorizing the execution of a Sub recipient Agreement between City of Columbia/Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone and the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc., for the purpose of transferring grant funds to the Columbia Empowerment Zone, Inc., for eligible activities consistent with the Empowerment Zone Strategic Plan, as those funds have been applied for and received by the City of Columbia/Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone pursuant to Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 14.244 (CFDA 14.244) for the Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone, HUD Grant Number: EZ-99-SC-0011.

13. Resolution No.: R-2010-052 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Operation and Management Agreement between the City of Columbia and EdVenture, Inc. and First Addendum to the Operation and Management Agreement for the Terrace Building Addition between the City of Columbia and EdVenture, Inc. - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2010-052 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Operation and Management Agreement between the City of Columbia and EdVenture, Inc. and First Addendum to the Operation and Management Agreement for the Terrace Building Addition between the City of Columbia and EdVenture, Inc.

14. **Resolution No.: R-2010-053 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Columbia and Midland Housing Alliance for 2025 Main Street - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted four (4) to two (2) to approve Resolution No.: R-2010-053 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Columbia and Midland Housing Alliance for 2025 Main Street. Voting aye were Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel and Mayor Coble. Voting nay were Mr. Davis and Mr. Finlay.

- 14a. **Resolution No.: R-2010-055 – Authorizing the transfer of FY 2010/2011 funds allocated for the Youth Work Program funds to the Columbia Urban League Summer Work Employment Leadership Program - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2010-055 – Authorizing the transfer of FY 2010/2011 funds allocated for the Youth Work Program funds to the Columbia Urban League Summer Work Employment Leadership Program. Mr. Davis was not present for the vote.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

15. Council is asked to approve Project #CM1010; Parks & Recreation Administration Building and Community Center. Award to Pyramid Contracting, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$2,158,904.00. This firm is located in Irmo, SC. *Funding Source: 4039999-638300 / PK008501*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Coble and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to approve Project #CM1010; Parks & Recreation Administration Building and Community Center. Award to Pyramid Contracting, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$2,158,904.00. This firm is located in Irmo, SC. Voting aye were Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel and Mayor Coble. Mr. Finlay voted nay. Mr. Davis was not present for the vote.

Upon a single motion made by Mayor Coble and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve **Items 16., 16a. and 16b..**

16. Council is asked to approve Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Testing for Environmental Monitoring Programs required by the City's Code of Ordinances and State and Federal Regulations, as requested by Utilities and Engineering in the amount of \$133,926.00. *Funding Source: Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant, Lake Murray Water Treatment Plant and Engineering Divisions' FY 2010/2011 Operating Budget. Award to the following Independent Laboratories: - Approved*

- 16a. ******Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Street Sweeper, as requested by Fleet Services Division. Award to Amick Equipment, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$183,267.00. This vendor is located in Lexington, SC. *Funding Source: 6308972-658500 - Approved*

- 16b. ******Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Thirty-five (35) Flex-Fuel Chevrolet Impala vehicles, as requested by the Police Department. Award to Love Chevrolet, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$1,056,794.90. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 6308972-658500 – Approved*

- **Mayor Coble left the meeting at 6:49 p.m. and Mayor Pro-Tempore Kirkman Finlay III is now presiding.**

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC HAVING BUSINESS WITH CITY COUNCIL

Ms. Christie Savage, Northwood Hills Organization appeared before the members of Council to express concerns about problems with Carolina Wrecking over a five (5) year period. They were recently dumping asphalt between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., but they have yet to apologize for not meeting with us. We received a letter from their lawyer, which did not address any of the concerns that we have. Our concerns are mostly related to zoning and we are tired. There are elderly residents that are being impacted by the noise. We were told by the City Manager that it would take two (2) weeks for them to finish and I find that unacceptable. On Monday we did a protest with signs and interestingly enough they told WIS News that they had suddenly finished the project. Since that time, we have not heard noise, but I am concerned that this is not the end of the matter.

There was a consensus of Council to direct the City Manager to schedule a meeting with Richland County Administration, Richland County Council and Carolina Wrecking to discuss the concerns of Northwood Hills and the impact of development within Richland County on City residents.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

16c. **City Council Expense Accounts

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to carry forward the balance of the fiscal year 2009/2010 expense accounts for City Council members to fiscal year 2010/2011.

PRESENTATION

17. Fiscal Year 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009 – Mr. Bud Addison, Auditor / Webster Rogers, LLP

Mr. Bud Addison, Auditor / Webster Rogers, LLP reported that significant improvements have been made with bank reconciliations, financial reporting and inventory controls. The Accounting Department has taken the initiative to do things that previously had not been done. He stated that the most focus needed to be on federal grants. There are eleven (11) findings within the internal control reports and 80% of them deal with federal grants.

- **Mayor Pro-Tempore Finlay left the meeting at 7:16 p.m. and Mr. Sam Davis is now presiding as the senior member of Council.**

There was an in-depth discussion between the members of City Council and Mr. Addison.

Mr. Bud Addison, Auditor / Webster Rogers, LLP stated that the 2009/2010 audit should be complete by year end.

There was a consensus of Council to direct the City Manager to provide a report in July on how information will flow from departments/development corporations to the Finance Department in a timely manner and how he will ensure that the reported deficiencies are addressed and corrected.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

18. Discussion of negotiations incident to the proposed sale of property – *Discussion of this item was deferred.*

APPOINTMENTS

19. ** Maxcy Gregg Park Centennial Advisory Committee – The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel

Councilor Gergel reported that the Maxcy Gregg Park Centennial Celebration Committee is moving right along. She sought appointments from Councilor Davis and Councilor Finlay. She asked the Council to consider appointing ad-hoc members to the committee to include the Executive Director of the Capitol Senior Center; a representative of Christopher Towers, the University of South Carolina, Five Points Association and others slots as deemed appropriate. I will share the list with the full Council.

Councilor Davis nominated Ms. Virginia Bedford to serve on the Maxcy Gregg Park Centennial Celebration Advisory Committee.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC HAVING BUSINESS WITH CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Bill Manley, Eau Claire Community Resident appeared before the members of Council to express concerns about Ordinance 2010-084 for the third time. He noted that the Ordinance involves ten (10) properties; one (1) is going to the Eau Claire Development Corporation and nine (9) are going to the Columbia Housing Development Corporation; however, the attachment shows that one (1) property will go to the Eau Claire Development Corporation and eight (8) properties will go to the TN Development Corporation. I have looked at these properties and I went to the courthouse to look up the deeds. He noted that some of the houses have been moved and asked Council to review the cost of the land. The cost of these houses ranged from \$214,900 to \$256,400; these are very expensive houses. There is a lot that I don't know, but I am going to find out. I am looking forward to seeing the check registers for all of the Development Corporations.

Mr. Tony Lawton, Director of Community Development explained that four (4) houses were donated to the Community Development Department and those houses were placed on lots that were owned by the City of Columbia.

Mr. Temple Ligon, The Columbia Star appeared before the members of Council to announce that he was invited by the Shandon United Methodist Church to give a speech on August 26, 2010 on the history of Columbia; where we are; and where we might be headed. It will be at Doc's BBQ at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The Wren Institute for Urban Research will have a lecture on the same topic on the second Friday in August at the Capital City Club. The annual lecture on the history of the streets of Paris will be on the second Friday in July.

Ms. Bessie Watson, President of the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods appeared before the members of Council to invite everyone to the Annual Columbia Council of Neighborhoods Banquet and Awards Ceremony at the Marriott Hotel on Saturday, June 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor-Elect Benjamin will be the guest speaker and Mayor Coble will be the special honoree.

- **Council adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley
City Clerk