



CITY OF COLUMBIA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2011  
6:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1737 MAIN STREET

The Columbia City Council conducted a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Leona K. Plough called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Belinda F. Gergel and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin was absent. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION**

Chaplain Darrel Croft, Columbia Fire Department offered the Invocation.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda with the following revisions:

- Defer consideration of Item 35
- Add consideration of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority as Item 34b

**APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC WITH COMMENTS RELATED TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Howard Winslow appeared before the members of Council to express concerns about the safety of all cab drivers.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of October 11, 2011 (*Revised*) - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of October 11, 2011, as revised.

## PRESENTATIONS

2. Introduction of the September 2011 Employee of the Month – Mr. Emmanuel Lawson, Superintendent of Solid Waste

Mr. Emmanuel Lawson, Assistant Superintendent for the Solid Waste Division introduced Mr. Legrand Ingram, Recycling Truck Driver III as the September 2011 Employee of the Month.

Mayor Pro-Tem Plaugh presented Mr. Ingram with a plaque and Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager presented Mr. Ingram with a token of appreciation.

3. Introduction of the October 2011 Employee of the Month – Mr. Randy Scott, Chief of Columbia Police Department

Mr. Randy Scott, Chief of Columbia Police Department introduced Investigator Robert McCracken as the October 2011 Employee of the Month.

Mayor Pro-Tem Plaugh presented Mr. McCracken with a plaque and Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager presented Mr. McCracken with a token of appreciation.

4. Check Presentation to the SC Special Olympics – Mr. Randy Scott, Chief of Columbia Police Department

Mr. Gary Coats, President and CEO / SC Special Olympics reported that 21,422 individuals are served statewide by the SC Special Olympics. He said that law enforcement agencies are their biggest partners. The Columbia Police Department contributes over \$25,000 annually to the SC Special Olympics.

Ms. Sue Maner, Vice President of Programs and Public Relations recognized Chief Scott, members of the Columbia Police Department, Krispy Kreme Donuts, Fort Jackson and the University of South Carolina for their support of the recent fund raiser. Ms. Maner noted that all funds will go towards athletics and not to support the organization's expenses.

Police Chief Randy Scott presented a fund raiser check to the SC Special Olympics in the amount of \$17,855.75. The check includes donations from the "Cops on Doughnut Tops" event held at Krispy Kreme Donuts on September 21-23, 2011.

5. Introduction of the Walk Against Domestic Violence Advocates – The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine

Councilor Devine announced that October is Domestic Violence Month. The City of Columbia hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk Against Domestic Violence on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at Finlay Park. It was the largest walk to date with over 750 participants. There were over 15 exhibitors to include Sistercare, the State Office of Victim's Assistant, the SC Attorney General's Office, the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office, the Columbia Police Department and the SC Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. She offered a special thanks to Houston's Low Country Grill, The "M" Word, RC's Celebrations, Kimestry Salon and Spa and the City's Public Relations Department for their donations and support of this year's walk. There was a renewed sense of partnership with Sistercare and the SC Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

6. Fast Forward Update – Ms. Dee Albritton, Executive Director

Ms. Dee Albritton, Executive Director of Fast Forward announced the 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fast Forward, which started with a grant from the SC Department of Education. The City of Columbia has been a partner since the very beginning and still remains as our biggest and most important partner. As Fast Forward extends its reach, our work with veterans has become very important. South Carolina has 400,000 veterans to include 35,000 female veterans.

Mr. Ted Creech, Director of Governmental Relations for AT&T presented an AT&T Foundation Grant to Fast Forward in the amount of \$21,000.

7. Capital City Lake Murray Update – Ms. Miriam Atria, Executive Director

Ms. Miriam Atria, Executive Director of Capital City Lake Murray Country reported that their regional tourism program has been very busy. When you think of our organization, think of outdoor recreation, vacationing families and fishing. This weekend we will have over 500 fishermen arriving for the Lake Murray Berkley/Sebile Big Bass Tournament. We have booked the FLW National Championship Collegiate Tour in April 2012. We are negotiating for another FLW tour event in April 2013.

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Director of Business Development for Capital Software Consultants said that they are delighted to help Lake Murray Country further extend their footprint into the mobile marketplace. Lake Murray Country has a new mobile website and a Quick Response (QR)Code campaign.

Mr. Scott Ellison, Promotions Manager for FLW Outdoors Community Outreach Department said that they are excited about bringing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Collegiate Championship here. Over 1,000 anglers competed in the 2011 college tournaments and 25 events have led up to this national championship. This event will have a lot of national exposure and will be televised on Versus. He presented video footage from the college tournament.

**CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION**

8. Neighborhood Street Lighting Request – Mr. Dave Brewer, Director of Traffic Engineering - *Approved*

Neighborhoods Listed by Priority	Existing Lights	Requested Lights	Current Lease Cost / Annually	Increased Amount
Forest Hills	42	14	\$5,181.84	\$2,039.28

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the Neighborhood Street Lighting Request for Forest Hills.

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve **Items 9** and **10**.

9. Council is asked to approve an Application for Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, as requested by the Business License Division. This certificate is being awarded to Victor Simon Laben doing business as Royal Cabs, LLC at 69 Lexington Drive #A-5, West Columbia, SC. - *Approved*

10. Council is asked to approve an Application for Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, as requested by the Business License Division. This certificate is being awarded to Jennifer Porter doing business as New South Limo at 332 Trent Court, Irmo, SC. - *Approved*

### CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 11** through **30**.

### CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

11. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of the Retiree Medicare Supplemental Plan, effective January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012, as requested by the Employee Insurance Committee. Award to United Healthcare at a per member per month rate of \$199.41 for medical which includes a 7.5% increase and \$219.16 for pharmacy which includes a 6.7% increase. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Health Insurance Fund GL 6048933 – Note: The renewal increase is due to the healthcare trend, community rating evaluation and decreased funding from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). There are no changes to the terms of the contract. - Approved*
12. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Service Plan for the Atomic Absorption/Graphite Furnace, as requested by the Columbia Canal Water Plant Division. Award to Perkin Elmer, as a Sole Source in the amount of \$11,517.48. This vendor is located in Shelton, CT. *Funding Source: Utilities Columbia Canal WP/Maint. & Service Contract; \$5,758.74 and Utilities Lake Murray PI/Maint & Service Contract; \$5,758.74 – Note: The purpose of this instrument is to measure the level of metals in water. - Approved*
13. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Safety Consulting Services, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to URS / BP Barber in the amount of \$15,500.00. This vendor is located in San Francisco, CA. *Funding Source: FY2011/2012 Operating Budgets for the Columbia Canal, 5516206-638300 and Lake Murray, 5516207-638300 Note: The agreement is to provide safety consulting and advisement services to the Utilities and Engineering Department and the Columbia Waterworks Division on various safety issues. - Approved*
14. Council is asked to approve a Memorandum of Agreement to provide Strategic Business Consulting and Business Assistance Services to Minority Firms. Award to the Minority Business Development Agency Business Center, as a Sole Source in the amount of \$20,000.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 1011126-636600 - Approved*
15. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #WM4215; Little Jackson Creek Bridge Water Main Crossing, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award G.H Smith Construction, Inc., the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$32,920.00. This vendor is located Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: Water Main Special Contracts, 5516210-638300 – This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Lake Murray Utility Company, Inc. is the Protégé. - Approved*

16. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of the HP Storage Area Network Maintenance Support Agreement, as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to Hewlett Packard Direct in the amount of \$40,454.28. This vendor is located in Omaha, NE. *Funding Source: 1011120-638200 - Approved*
17. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Projects WM4243 and SS7203; 2011 General Services Agreement, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Howard Engineering to provide services on an hourly rate basis not to exceed a total fee of \$50,000.00. This vendor is located in Marietta, SC. *Funding Source: (Water Maintenance Fund; 5516210-WM4243-636600) and (Sewer Maintenance Fund; 5516212-SS7203-636600) **Note:** The firm will render certain engineering services in relation to the operation of the City's water and wastewater treatment plants and respective distribution and collection systems. - Approved*
18. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Two (2) Supervisor Engines, as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to NWN Corporation, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$67,970.68. This vendor is located in Atlanta, GA. *Funding Source: (6218954-658600; \$51,169.54); (6218954-627510; \$12,840.00) and (6218954-627500; 43,961.14) – **Note:** The supervisor engines manage all of the data traffic that goes through the network. - Approved*
19. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Resurfacing of Tennis Courts, as requested by Parks and Recreation Department. Award to Howard B. Jones, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$77,896.00. This vendor is located in Lexington, SC. *Funding Source: General Capital Projects-Machinery and Equipment Capital; 4039999-658300. - Approved*

<b>Locations</b>	<b>Number of Courts</b>
Woodland Park	8
Earlewood Park	2
Hampton Park	2
Mays Park	2

20. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Four (4) Ford F-250s, as requested by the Wastewater Maintenance Division. Award to Benson Ford Mercury, using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$96,624.00. This vendor is located in Easley, SC. *Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance-Auto, Trucks Heavy Equipment Capital; 5516205-658500 - Approved*
21. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Thirty (30) Computers for Police Cars, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to CDW Government, the only bidder in the amount of \$127,244.40. This vendor is located in Vernon Hill, IL. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement/Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equip Capital; 6308972-658500 - Approved*
22. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of a Rear Loader Garbage Truck, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Columbia Truck Center, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$159,828.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement/Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital; 6308972-658500 - Approved*

23. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Four (4) Trash Trucks, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Magic City Ford, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$256,672.00. This vendor is located in Roanoke, VA. *Funding Source: Capital Replacement/Auto, Trucks, Heavy Equipment-Capital; 6308972-658500 - Approved*
24. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS691111; Root Removal for Sanitary Sewers, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering. Award to Dukes Root Control, Inc., the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$757,560.12. This vendor is located in Syracuse, NY. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Special Contracts, 5516212-638300 – Approved*
25. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #WM3068; Water Main Improvements off Trenholm Road, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Trussell Bros. Construction Co., Inc., the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$778,307.50. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Water Maintenance Improvement Fund; WM306801-658650 – This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Corley Construction is the Protégé. - Approved*
26. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #CM2004; Contract Amendment No. 1 for North Harden Street Phase II, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to LPA Group, Inc., in the amount of \$876,265.39. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Harden Streetscaping Fund; 4139999-9801000105-658650 – **Note:** This project was initiated by the City of Columbia to add Construction Administration Services for the Read Street portion of the renovation being done in conjunction with Harden Street. - Approved*
27. Council is asked to approve Change Order #3, SS7073; Rehabilitation of Existing 48”, 54”, &60” Gravity Sewer, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award McClam and Associates, Inc., in the amount \$3,618,247.24. This vendor is located in Little Mountain, South Carolina. *Funding Source: Sewer Improvements Fund – **Note:** This change order is necessary to compensate the contractor to perform additional work requested by the City of Columbia due to unforeseen circumstances and additional bypass pumping necessary to complete the project. Project Summary - Approved*
28. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS6871: A Subcontractor Outreach Program and Local Business Preference Program Project for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant Final Clarifiers, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to M.B. Kahn Construction, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$11,298,900.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Maintenance Fund/Special Contracts, 5516212-638300 – **Note:** Currently the Wastewater Treatment Plant has ten (10) clarifiers in two flow trains. This CIP will replace one of these units and repair/refurbish the other units. The new clarifier and refurbished clarifiers will be more efficient and will provide a more reliable operation. The CIP Budgeted Amount for this Project is \$19,461,078.00. - Approved*

## ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

29. Ordinance No.: 2011-045 – Amending Ordinance 83-99 to grant additional encroachments to Parkside Center, LLC for installation and maintenance of columns/pilasters, glass and steel cantilevered canopy, underground parking garage, and nine (9) tables and thirty-six (36) chairs for outdoor dining within the 1100 block of Lady Street adjacent to 1301 Main Street – *First reading approval was given on October 11, 2011. – Approved on second reading.*
30. Ordinance No.: 2011-054 (*Revised*) - Granting encroachment to the University of South Carolina for use of the right of way areas of the 700 block of Assembly Street, 1000 block of Greene Street and 700 block of Park Street adjacent to the Darla Moore School of Business, Richland County TMS #08915-08-01 for installation and maintenance of landscaping, irrigation systems; sidewalks; concrete drop-off drives; service drive; storm drainage junction boxes; catch basin pipe; sanitary sewer service manholes and piping; water services valves; fire hydrant; ~~and~~ piping; and “soil nails” (steel reinforcing bars) – *First reading approval was given on September 20, 2011. – Approved on second reading.*

## ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

31. Ordinance No.: 2011-076 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Procurement, Sec. 202-7 Award of contracts – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-076 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Procurement, Sec. 202-7 Award of contracts.

32. Ordinance No.: 2011-078 – Granting an easement to South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) for overhead and underground power lines along a portion of City Property Identified as Earlewood Park for the North Main Street Streetscape Project, Phase IA-2; Richland County TMS #09111-08-01 (Portion); CF#250-304 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-078 – Granting an easement to South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) for overhead and underground power lines along a portion of City Property Identified as Earlewood Park for the North Main Street Streetscape Project, Phase IA-2; Richland County TMS #09111-08-01 (Portion); CF#250-304.

## ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

33. Ordinance No.: 2011-036 (*Revised*) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article II, Taxicabs, Shuttles and Limousines – Note: *A Public Hearing was held on June 21, 2011. No Action was taken. – First reading approval was given on October 11, 2011. - Approved on second reading.*

Mr. Dallas Ball, Esq. stated that the changes to the ordinance will improve cab business for the patrons, the companies and the City of Columbia. There hasn't been a rate increase since 2005. After talking with Capitol City Cab, Blue Ribbon and Checker Yellow, we are requesting \$2.30 per mile, because \$2.50 is too much for our patrons. The current drop rate is \$1.80 and we are requesting that it be increased to \$2.00.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-036 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinance of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article II, Taxicabs, Shuttles and Limousines, subject to the following:

- Sec. 24-141. Rates established, being effective on November 7, 2011.
- The fuel surcharge shall be based upon the American Automobile Association's average regular gasoline per gallon fuel rate for Columbia, South Carolina as of January 1st, April 1st, July 1st and October 1st of each calendar year.

34. Ordinance No.: 2011-058 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article IV, Wrecker and Towing Services, Sec. 24-207 Zone service generally; Sec. 24-210 New applications to participate in zone service; Sec. 24-211 Equipment for emergency wreckers; 24-hour service required; Sec. 24-214 Storage lots and Sec. 24-215 Towing and storage charges – *First reading approval was given on September 6, 2011. - Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-058 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article IV, Wrecker and Towing Services, Sec. 24-207 Zone service generally; Sec. 24-210 New applications to participate in zone service; Sec. 24-211 Equipment for emergency wreckers; 24-hour service required; Sec. 24-214 Storage lots and Sec. 24-215 Towing and storage charges.

34b. **\*\*Intergovernmental Agreement Relating to the Interim Financing for the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority**

Mr. Kenneth E. Gaines, City Attorney reviewed each revision to the Intergovernmental Agreement. He stated that the CMRTA is in need of its October contribution, but the City Council doesn't meet again until November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Councilor Plough expressed concerns about there not being sufficient revenues to operate a transit system.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Relating to the Interim Financing for the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority, subject to approval by the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority, Lexington County and Richland County. Mr. Newman was not present for the vote.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

35. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) – *Consideration of this item was deferred.*
36. Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. Marvin Heller to the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development, as requested by Dr. Gergel. Mr. Newman was not present for the vote.

## **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilor Gergel reported that the Public Safety Committee, chaired by Mr. Newman met today to discuss the effectiveness of the curfew; to review a comprehensive security plan and recommendations by the Police Department; and to discuss a timeline for the firefighter attrition review. We recommend that staff expedite the completion of the questionnaires for the curfew and that staff also continue to review high crime areas for public/private partnerships for the security cameras.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to direct staff to expedite the completion of the questionnaires for the curfew; to continue to review high crime areas for public/private partnerships for the security cameras; and expedite the review of the firefighter attrition rates.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to direct the City Manager to notify Richland County in writing that we would like a response to the Fire Contract by January 1, 2012.

## **APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC HAVING BUSINESS WITH CITY COUNCIL**

No one appeared at this time.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley  
City Clerk