



CITY OF COLUMBIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011
6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1737 MAIN STREET

The Columbia City Council conducted a Regular Meeting, a Sidewalk Vending Public Hearing, a Business Improvement District Renewal Public Hearing and Zoning Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:17 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 Leona K. Plough and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman. The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel arrived at 6:17 p.m. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Chaplain Byron Powers, Columbia Police Department offered the Invocation.

APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC WITH COMMENTS RELATED TO THE AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2011 – *Approved as presented.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2011.

2. Work Session Minutes of June 28, 2011 - *Approved as presented.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve the Work Session Minutes of June 28, 2011.

PRESENTATIONS

3. ****Introduction of Mr. Tyrone Corbin Head Coach of the Utah Jazz – The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine**

Mayor Benjamin and the Members of Council presented a Proclamation and a Key to the City to Mr. Tyrone Corbin for being appointed as the Head Coach of the Utah Jazz NBA Team. Mr. Corbin is a Columbia native, a local sports star and a model for the young people in our community.

4. 2011 Municipal Association of South Carolina Achievement Award (*Revitalization of the Historic Waverly Community*) – The Honorable Sam Davis and The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine

Councilor Devine said that it was a great honor to accept this award and looking at the projects that were awarded, I know that there are a lot of other opportunities that we have to be recognized and I've talked to Ms. Wilson already about making sure that we submit the other things that we're doing. I want to thank the community, because this is truly a community award.

Councilor Davis read the Municipal Association's statement: This is the Achievement Award in recognition of Columbia's superior performance and innovative programs leading to an improved quality of life for its citizens. That says a lot; it says a lot about partnerships; it says a lot about where we are as a city and what we do for one another; and that's what makes us a great capital city.

The Mayor and members of Council presented the 2011 Municipal Association of South Carolina Achievement Award for Public Service to the members of Council, the citizens of Columbia and the Community Development Department for the revitalization of the Waverly Neighborhood.

5. Economic Development Marketing Trip (*Paris Air Show*) Update – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin reported that he had a chance to partner with delegates of the Central SC Alliance, the Governor's Office and the Department of Commerce at the 49th Annual Paris Air Show. It was a significant event with over 300,000 people in attendance and millions of dollars worth of economic impact in that one week. We had a chance to present to fifteen corporations from around the world and we met with existing industries from Columbia. The impact of Tyrone Corbin's efforts on one prospect cannot be overstated. Because of the Central SC Alliance, we had more rearranged meetings than any other regional alliance in the State. Our goal was to seek out and establish new relationships with aviation companies utilizing the Boeing 787 Dreamliner Plant in North Charleston as a tremendous opportunity to attract second tier and third tier suppliers to this region. We also participated in the US International Pavilion; one of several large exhibit halls in which we were able to meet and dialog with several of the worlds best known aviation companies. Governor Niki Haley and Secretary of Commerce Hitt sponsored a reception that was co-hosted by Michelin, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and the French-American Foundation of France. We had 153 attendees. He recalled that Council voted to appropriate a budget not to exceed \$6,000 for the trip; we turned in receipts for under \$4,000.

6. **Introduction of Participants of the Mayor's Fellows Program – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin introduced the following participants of the Mayor's Fellows Program:

Miss LiDrella Kinyania Hamlin (Hartsville, SC) is currently a senior at South University majoring in Accounting. Upon graduation, she hopes to pursue a graduate degree in Taxation at the University of South Carolina. Her hobbies include writing poetry and novels, dancing, and reading. Her interests include promoting education, making the city more efficient, assisting disabled residents in the workplace, and making Columbia more eco-friendly.

Miss Ebony Sumpter (Beaufort, SC) is a senior Political Science major at the University of South Carolina with plans to pursue a Master's degree in Public Health in the fall of 2012. Her hobbies include reading, kayaking, volunteering with local public health organizations, donating to charities, educating others as a Changing Carolina peer health educator, and researching as a Ronald E. McNair scholar.

Miss Briana Lockart (Columbia, SC) is Sociology major with a concentration in Human Services at the University of South Carolina Aiken. She enjoys reading, volunteer work, fashion, and cooking. She is interested in social work and helping children and families in communities that need special assistance.

Mr. Riggs Brown (Columbia, SC) is a freshman at Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts. He is a member of an a cappella group called the Amherst College Zumbyes and enjoys playing tennis, piano, and guitar. He is interested in traffic safety and helping the homeless community.

Miss Rachel Ford (Columbia, SC) is a sophomore at the University of South Carolina Honors College majoring in Political Science on the pre-law track. She enjoys ballroom dancing, reading, volunteer work, and public speaking. She is interested in researching policies surrounding pediatric oncology treatment and human trafficking issues.

Miss Erin Davis (Columbia, SC) is a senior at Winthrop University majoring in Political Science. She is the vice president of her sorority, and plans to attend law school. She is interested in public safety and parking issues.

Miss Ashley Jenkins (Columbia, SC) is a recent graduate of the University of South Carolina with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Business Administration. She plans to attend law school in the fall and is interested in corporate law and finance. She is interested in bringing more businesses to South Carolina and increasing economic opportunities for the state.

Miss Courtney Cooper-Lewter (St. Paul, MN) is a recent graduate of Richland Northeast High School and is planning to attend the University of South Carolina in the fall. She enjoys creative writing and studying Spanish. Her interests include immigration reform, and policies concerning poverty.

Miss Valery Levitt (Chattanooga, TN) is currently a senior Psychology major at the University of South Carolina. She enjoys playing soccer, skiing, cooking, traveling, and reading. She is interested in healthcare issues related to obesity, exercise, and nutrition. She is also interested in public safety issues, transportation, assisting the impoverished, and projects pertaining to Columbia's national reputation.

Miss Elena Faria (Milledgeville, GA) is a Broadcast Journalism major and Political Science minor at the University of South Carolina. She enjoys traveling, politics, government, writing, and advocacy. At USC, she is involved in the Carolina Judicial Council, Student Government, Student Gamecock Television, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Street Team, and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Mr. Toney Thompson (Columbia, SC) is a junior at Duke University, majoring in Public Policy. His hobbies include reading and sports. He is interested in the formation of government policy at all levels.

Mr. Nelson Weston (Greenville, SC) is a senior Political Science major and theater minor at the University of South Carolina. His hobbies include exercise, acting, and politics. He is interested in public safety, transportation, education, and economics.

Miss Rebecca MacCormack (Myrtle Beach, SC) is a History major at the University of South Carolina. She is interested in community development and education.

7. Congaree Land Trust Update – Mr. Billy Cate, Executive Director of the Congaree Land Trust

Mr. Billy Cate, Executive Director of the Congaree Land Trust stated that the Land Trust was founded in 1992; it is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization; and our purpose is to assist private land owners who would like to voluntarily protect their land with some type of conservation easement. Our Land Trust would hold the easement and we would be responsible for enforcing it permanently. Our mission is land protection in the Midlands. We have a staff of three and we serve an 11-county region. We are supported by a strong board and a former member of this body, Mrs. Anne Sinclair is one of the members. Our flagship project is the COWASEE Basin, which is an acronym for Congaree, Wateree, and Santee Rivers; it's a 215-acre river basin. The Land Trust is in the process of publishing a book about the COWASEE Basin, written by John Sealy, a noted naturalist and member of our staff. He announced that the MAST General Store has partnered with the Congaree Land Trust to sponsor Land Trust Day during the first weekend of June of each year. As a result of Land Trust Day, MAST donated 20% of their gross earnings to the Congaree Land Trust.

8. Truancy Program and Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant – Dr. Germon Miller, Akeru Legacy Council

Dr. Germon Miller, Akeru Legacy Council said that she researched the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant and found out that no one was addressing truancy. Our young people are not going to school and walking the streets. I am working with 30 students at Lorick Park that they might attempt to go back to school this year. This is a good thing. We are going to have a campaign called the Council in Training Program. I am going to take them through the political process of reaching where you are. We will conduct a needs assessment and asset mapping. It is in that effort that they will understand that it is important for them to go to school. We always talk about those imaginary creatures in the middle of the room that no one talks about; there are words right now such as bullying that's a very polite term for harassment. Rather than having truancy be the criminal act, maybe we can look at some of the other things that cause children to leave school and not go back. When elephants fight it is the grass that gets trampled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Councilor Devine announced the inaugural Capital City Safe 5k Mile Run/Walk that will be hosted by the Police Municipal League on Friday, July 22, 2011 at 7:45 p.m. The cost is \$25 to register in advance and \$30 on the day of the event. A free Family Fun Walk will follow as part of the *Lets Move!* Initiative will be led by Chief Scott.

**Mayor Benjamin announced the Annual National Night Out Kick-Off Event on Monday, August 1, 2011 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Convention Center. National Night Out is Tuesday, August 2, 2011.

**Councilor Gergel stated that residents in Rosewood and Shandon Neighborhoods are concerned about the tree cutting that's underway by SCE&G and she urged residents to contact members of our State Delegation in this regard.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

9. Council is asked to approve the appointment of The Honorable Leona K. Plaugh as Mayor Pro-Tempore for Fiscal Year 2011/2012.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Leona K. Plaugh as Mayor Pro-Tempore for Fiscal Year 2011/2012.

PUBLIC HEARING

10. City Center Business Improvement District 10 Year Improvement Plan

Mr. David Lockwood, Chairman of the City Center Partnership expressed their appreciation to Council for conducting the Public Hearing for the renewal of the Business Improvement District (BID), which is administered by the City Center Partnership. We are asking Council to reauthorize the BID under an amended plan for a ten (10) year period from January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2021. The BID will continue to supplement the services that are provided by City of Columbia to make our downtown area a better area to live, work, do business in, play and visit. The boundaries of the BID will remain the same. The assessment rate for property owners will remain the same; there is no additional assessment; the assessment will remain the same for this period. The key services incorporated into the plan include cleaning and security services; our signature Yellow Shirt Programs; retail and office recruitment and retention; being a liaison to local governments; help homeless outreach and management programs; special events planning; landscape services; and marketing the downtown area all for the benefit of the businesses and property owners in downtown Columbia and the visitors and tourists that visit our City. We have been working to gather letters of support to provide to you.

Councilor Rickenmann said that he has been hounding Mr. Kennell about moving back to Main Street; it's key for the City Center Partnership to be on Main Street. It has been such a positive improvement and being tucked away in a building on the corner doesn't do it justice. I am looking for a commitment.

Mr. Matt Kennell, President and CEO of the City Center Partnership said that they have a great love for Main Street and hope to be on Main Street again some day. We have three (3) years remaining on our current lease in the Capital Center, but we will scrutinize that when it's up for renewal. We will work with all of our partners including the City to get the best location.

Mr. David Lockwood, Chairman of the City Center Partnership said that it is the board's goal that we have no space available on Main Street for them to move into in three (3) years. We do need to have a very visible presence on Main Street; that is important for the future.

Mr. Matt Kennell, President and CEO of the City Center Partnership said that they will commit to take the last space available on Main Street.

Councilor Plaugh asked Mr. Kennell to share what the assessment rate is.

Mr. Matt Kennell, President and CEO of the City Center Partnership said that the assessment rate is .00184 per dollar of far market value as determined by the Richland County Assessor plus the property owners on Main Street pay an additional \$4.01 per linear foot of street frontage, because we provide a higher level of services to include daily street sweeping.

Councilor Plough asked why the Bull Street property wasn't included in the boundaries.

Mr. Matt Kennell, President and CEO of the City Center Partnership we looked at expanding into other areas, but after some discussion the thought was that we could do more by contracting or working with them when needed. A BID at this time may not be the way to go, because of the question of ownership.

▪ **Council opened the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.**

Mr. Fred Martin, MAST General appeared before the Council in support of the renewal of the Business Improvement District. I am one of the newest owners of a four-story building that we put a tremendous investment in. I am also working with staff that had launched six stores like the Columbia store over the last 18 years in regional markets; by far an internal rating gives the City Center Partnership the highest level of service not only before we opened the store, but afterwards, it continued.

Mr. Harry Mashburn, 1820 Sumter Street appeared before the Council in support of the renewal of the Business Improvement District. We believe in downtown; I was on the first board of the Business Improvement District; I was on the search committee that hired Matt Kennell; and we own a small building downtown with vacant space. There has been a tremendous difference in downtown Main Street in the ten years that the BID has been in existence and certainly we need to continue that progress.

Ms. Catherine Kelly, 1209 Blanding Street / Cats Barber Shop appeared before the Council in opposition of the renewal of the Business Improvement District, because nothing has been done in the past. They did not contact me; I have been a property owner for 21 years. I tried to use the City's water to keep my windows and sidewalk clean and I was approached by a Police Officer on Saturday and told that I was using the water illegally. It needs to be addressed and investigated, because there is some problems going on and I don't politic too well until everything is put on the table. What do you have to offer the merchants that are downtown? Why are you renewing for ten years, when you haven't done anything in five years?

It was noted that Ms. Susan Walker, 1710 Main Street / Macs on Main signed up in support of the renewal of the Business Improvement District.

▪ **Closed Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m.**

Mayor Benjamin said that he had the pleasure of serving on the City Center Partnership's Board of Directors for several years including serving as Vice Chairman and I am very proud of what has been achieved over these last several years. With the renaissance that we will be experiencing over the next several years on Main Street, I think their role is even more important than the last ten years. I strongly support reauthorization of the BID for ten years.

SIDEWALK VENDING PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Brenda Kyzer, Business License Administrator explained that the applicant is currently located at the Assembly Street location, but has requested to move to the NE corner of Lady and Main Streets. We are modifying the merchandise that can be sold at this location.

- **Council opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.**

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Items 11** and **12**.

- **Council closed the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.**

RESOLUTION

11. Resolution No.: R-2011-046 – Amending Sidewalk Vending Locations and Authorized Merchandise - *Approved*

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

12. **NE Corner of Lady and Main Streets**

Ordinance No.: 2011-052 – Granting a Franchise to Doggie Dogs NY Style Hot Dogs for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart on the northeast corner of Lady Street and Main Street – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve **Item 11** Resolution No.: R-2011-046 – Amending Sidewalk Vending Locations and Authorized Merchandise **and** to give first reading approval to **Item 12** Ordinance No.: 2011-052 – Granting a Franchise to Doggie Dogs NY Style Hot Dogs for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart on the northeast corner of Lady Street and Main Street.

ZONING PUBLIC HEARING

- **Council opened the Zoning Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.**

MAP AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

13. **Hollywood/Rose Hill**, TMS# TMS# 11208-04-01 thru -02, 11208-04-05 thru -06, 11305-03-05 thru -12, 11305-04-01 thru -17, 11305-05-01 thru -11, 11305-06-01 thru -06, 11305-07-01 thru -16, 11305-08-01 thru -14, 11305-09-01 thru -13, 11305-10-01 thru -16, 11305-11-01 thru -08, 11305-11-11 thru -12, 11305-11-14 thru -16, 11305-12-01 thru -24, 11305-13-01, 11305-13-03 thru -18, 11305-14-11 thru -13, 11305-14-17, 11305-14-23 thru -29, 11306-09-01 thru -11, 11306-18-01 thru -12, 11309-01-01, 11309-01-03 thru -07, 11309-02-01 thru -08, 11309-03-01 thru -07, 11309-04-01 thru -06, 11309-04-11 thru -12, 11309-05-01 thru -05, 11309-05-07, 11309-06-01 thru -08, 11309-07-01 thru -17, 11309-08-01 thru -14, 11309-08-19 thru -29, 11309-09-01, 11309-09-03 thru -13, 11309-10-01 thru -06, 11309-10-08 thru -10, 11309-10-12 thru -15, 11309-10-17 thru -22, 11309-17-01 thru -07, 11309-17-10, 11309-18-01 thru -09, 11309-18-13, 11309-19-01 thru -27, 11309-20-01 thru -21, 11310-11-01 thru -04, 11310-12-01 thru -24, 11310-13-01 thru -13, 11310-14-01 thru -03, 11310-14-05 thru -17, 11310-15-01 thru -16, 11310-16-01 thru -03, 11310-16-05 thru -18, 11310-17-01 thru -07, 11310-18-01 thru -

03, 11310-19-01 thru -17, 11310-20-01 thru -06, 11310-21-01 thru -11, 11313-01-01 thru -03; request to rezone add –CC1 (Community Character Permanent) overlay to existing zoning classifications. – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this is a map amendment in the Hollywood Rose Hill Neighborhood including multiple tax map numbers. It is a request to rezone and add CC-1, permanent Community Character Protection to the existing zoning classifications. It affects demolition and relocation of structures that are considered contributing to the district. A structure that is considered contributing to the district is 50-years or older, built within the period of significance of that district and has retained the characteristics of that building that are unique to that area. In newly subdivided lots we will review the setbacks and the height of the structures. If you have an existing vacant lot and you are constructing a building, nothing is reviewed. If you are creating a new lot on the interior or corner, the construction on that lot will be reviewed, but only for setbacks and height. It will not prohibit you from subdividing the lot; it may reduce the building pad to the minimum of 30' and it may reduce the height depending on what's next door. The intent is make sure we do not have a towering house next to a small house or that the houses are too close together so that you maintain that quality of life in these neighborhoods that is generally there. The only things that go to the Commission for review are demolitions of contributing structures. Everything else is administratively reviewed. This doesn't apply to any property zoned or used commercial; it is only intended for properties zoned or used residential.

Councilor Plaugh asked how many properties are affected.

Ms. Amy Moore, Historic Preservation Planner said that the majority of the properties are contributing structures.

▪ **Council opened the Zoning Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.**

Mr. W.D. Paradeses, 1031 Kinard Court appeared before the Council in opposition to **Item 13**, because it is another law that hinders the public. It is hindering the people that are living in this area; they don't want to destroy buildings.

Mr. Guy Jones, 103 S. Edisto Avenue / President of the Hollywood Rose Hill Neighborhood Association appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**, noting that the Neighborhood Association has also endorsed the designation along with previous Neighborhood Presidents.

Ms. Pat Gilmartin, 232 S. Edisto Avenue appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**, because they deserve to be protected just as other neighborhoods have been; we are very vulnerable without it.

Ms. Ann Timberlake, Resident of Hollywood Rose Hill and Executive Director of the Conservation Voters appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**, because it is a fair and reasonable middle ground that will protect our property values and the character of our neighborhood. I have neighbors and friends that were apprehensive about the more restrictive designation.

Ms. Georgiana Graham, Resident of Hollywood Rose Hill appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. I was the unfortunate person to help organize the meetings and the vote for historic designation in 2009. Over 50% of the property owners participated in that vote and while it was not a majority, 116 of the property owners wanted historic designation, which is a much more restrictive overlay. The owners of 25 to 30 other properties submitted a petition to the City at that time saying that they also wanted protection for the neighborhood, but they wanted something in a less restrictive form than historic designation. At that time a permanent –CC1 designation was not available. There are people that oppose –CC1. I would ask you for approval of –CC1 for our neighborhood.

Ms. Mary Bull, Resident of Hollywood Rose Hill (S. Waccamaw Avenue) appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. She distributed documentation to demonstrate the strong support for –CC1 protection in Hollywood Rose Hill. Shortly after our interim community character protection expired last year, 23 residents asked our Neighborhood Council to sponsor an informational meeting for residents to learn more about the option for the permanent community character protection. We announced the meeting; it was well attended; and it concluded with a strong show of support for proceeding with community character protection. The subsequent process was guided by the City’s Planning Department staff and was to include a City conducted advisory vote of Hollywood Rose Hill property owners that would’ve provided City Council with an indication of the level of neighborhood support for the –CC1 overlay. As you know, that vote was canceled by the City in response to a lawsuit challenging the legality of such a vote. We were denied the opportunity to demonstrate our support in that manner as all of the other neighborhoods have been able to do. We know that large support exists for –CC1 in our neighborhood and we urge Council to approve our request for –CC1 protection.

Ms. Robin Waites, 3405 Monroe Street / Executive Director of the Historic Columbia Foundation appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. The overlay was implemented in 2010 to minimize the possibility that demolition and construction activity within our residential community would drastically or negatively affect the existing character of a community. This zoning change will provide important protections of the character of this neighborhood. In 1993, the citywide architectural survey and historic preservation plan that was commissioned by the City, Dr. John Bryan strongly recommended that Hollywood Rose Hill be designated as a local landmark district. At that time Dr. Bryan indicated that 83% of the structures were eligible for designation and that was an area that remained largely unchanged since its major period of development. Almost 20 years later, the neighborhood retains its historic integrity, which is evident in the self-guided walking tour brochures that we distributed. You will find that the unique character defined by common architectural forms remains. By adopting the –CC1 overlay you provide the residents with the tools they need to ensure that this unique community character is protected for future generations.

Mr. Chuck Lesser, Hollywood Rose Hill Neighborhood Resident appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. He said that Rose Hill and Hollywood have different origins, but since 1982, when the Hollywood-Rose Hill Neighborhood Association was formed, we have come to be regarded as a single entity. Our neighborhood association is one of the most active in the entire County. Rose Hill was established in 1914 and developed with smaller lots, bungalows and kit houses. Hollywood was established in 1921 and is characterized by larger architect design forms. The 1993 Historic Preservation Survey determined that Hollywood Rose Hill has one of the best preserved housing cityscapes in the entire city. As a historian, I am convinced that our history has a profound influence on our lives. I also believe that scale and diversity are key elements in the character of the places in which we live. The large architect design homes are at less risk of being lost than the bungalows and kit homes. I would hate to think that in the future other persons

would be priced out of our neighborhood, because smaller homes would not be available. I also think the essential character of the neighborhood would be greatly harmed if the City does not act to preserve its historic structures.

Ms. Jeannie Eidson Hollywood Rose Hill Resident / Environmentalist appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**, because her family is most impacted in the neighborhood by the lack of restrictions. In 2007, we downsized from a 3,000 square foot home in Elmwood Park to a 1.5 story house, 1,500 square foot home. We love the architecture of the house, but when you down size the consideration of what is on the outside of the house plays a significant role. You no longer have the large expansive greens to gaze out upon and what is outside your kitchen window has a much greater impact on your life. She distributed photos of her property and adjacent properties. Without these restrictions no one is protected and just because it hasn't happened to them doesn't mean that it couldn't. It is going from what we consider to be an ideal environment for our lifestyle to being completely dependent on the desires of a developer whose properties could play more of a role in the decision of my definition of quality of life.

Ms. Ryan Nevius, 1620 Crestwood Drive / Hollywood Rose Hill Neighborhood Council Member appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. We have many characters worth preserving in Hollywood Rose Hill. We've had a very spirited and exciting time in debating this and coming to the conclusions that you hear today. The map was available and anyone could have sent an e-mail to the City to determine if their house was designated or not. She reiterated the fact that surrounding neighborhoods have been given this protection. I do believe that we have come to an agreement in the neighborhood, as you can see today many people have resolved their issues and have a better understanding that -CC1 has minimal effect upon residents and what they want to do with their homes. I urge you to please support our request.

Ms. Catherine Luchok, 325 Southwood Drive appeared before the members of Council in support of **Item 13**. She thanked the Council for providing -CC1 protection for the other neighborhoods that have asked for it. I hope that you will do the same for us. When I moved to Columbia, I was looking for an affordable in town neighborhood. I was also looking for a place that had a sense of strong community character and I found that in Hollywood Rose Hill. Both of the bungalows on either side of me are up for sale and I worry everyday that they are going to be sold without protection and changed drastically. That would be disturbing to me. We are vulnerable to careless redevelopment. We want smart development and green development, retaining what's good; restoring when possible; preserving a sense of place; and putting in new things that are more amenable to what the character of the neighborhood is.

Mr. Cliff Judy, 1705 Crestwood Drive appeared before the members of Council in opposition to **Item 13**. I arrived on the scene in 1945; I've been around longer than most after moving into my parent's home at age 6 and then moving back in after they died. I am a real estate developer and I was on the City's Zoning Board of Adjustments for 15 years. He presented one of the old zoning books. We don't need this; the zoning ordinance has big teeth in it, if you enforce it. There was one vote in May with 116 for the overlay. Since then, we had a Public Hearing with the Planning Commission and the vote was against this move. I am not sure how many people live in this neighborhood, but there are 518 properties in the neighborhood and if you assume that each property has 2 people that is 1,250 people and another string of 150 properties that are owned by investors that I can't imagine were all notified. In my mind, 50 or 60 people shouldn't control what 1,250 people do. It is contrary to what we do as a public.

Mr. William Graf, 320 Southwood Drive appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. I wasn't born in Hollywood-Rose Hill; I made a choice to live there primarily because of its community character and I would like to ask you tonight to preserve that community character. It is important to the people who live there, because they depend on that as a sense of community to build Columbia. Columbia is made of its neighborhoods. Earlier this evening we heard business people explain why downtown is important. My house is 1.25 miles from downtown; my neighborhood is important, too. It is also a case that when you wade through all of the discussions about –CC1 provisions, you find that they are mild in terms of the application; they do not represent extremist positions; and they represent something that can contribute to the building of the strength of our community. I am asking you to provide protection for us, who are residents here and now. We are here because we want to be here and in the end we are a part of this community and we make it work. We also pay taxes and we vote. Thank you for considering this proposition.

Ms. Beth Bilderback, 1724 Pinewood Drive appeared before the Council in support of **Item 13**. I have lived there for 11 years with my family and we have a wonderful 70+ year old home. My first involvement with the Hollywood-Rose Hill Council was in 2004 when I was asked to join a committee to investigate application for City historic designation or a national registry nomination for the neighborhood. The Neighborhood Council voted in 2005 to place the neighborhood on the waiting list for the City's historic designation. We finally went through that process and held a vote in 2009, which was defeated although a majority of the residents of the neighborhood preferred it. We are now approaching you with the Community Character overlay. It has been a very long process for our neighborhood, which has wanted some sort of protection since 2005. I have spoken to this body and the Planning Commission as the president of the Neighborhood Association where I served two terms. I have been very active, involved and concerned about my neighborhood. I am here to ask you to help me protect my investment and my rights as a property owner. I believe the Community Character overlay will provide a minimal, but much needed level of protection from unsympathetic development. It will help protect a lot of Columbia's best kept secrets. With development comes the loss of trees and older architectural styles, which cannot be replaced. She asked other supporters to stand.

Mr. Andrew Marion, 1801 Seneca Avenue / President of the Wales Garden Neighborhood Association appeared before the members of Council in support of **Item 13**. I believe that the character of the neighborhood is very important. While the character is hard to precisely define, you know it when you see it. It affects our quality of life and it affects our property values. Wales Garden received the historic preservation district designation several years ago, which is much more restrictive than –CC1.

Mr. John McDermott, 1700 Crestwood Drive appeared before the members of Council in opposition to **Item 13**, because I find this exclusive, restrictive and protective. I don't see the reason for it and I don't think it's the right way to build this City. It's not necessary. It was created at the height of the housing bubble in one particular neighborhood; that particular bubble has long burst. It seems like adding rules, regulations and restrictions that require monitoring costs is not the way to go for local government. We should have the same sets of rules for everybody; I don't like to see us as protective islands and enclaves with overlays and different restrictions. It is vitality, progress, diversity and harmony that are more promoted by a simple, transparent and uniform set of regulations. The City of Columbia already has very strong values and rules.

Ms. Marilyn Edelhoch, 102 Southwood Drive appeared before the members of Council in support of **Item 13**. We bought the J. Carroll Johnson house 13 years ago. I feel that you own it; I feel that everybody here owns it; everybody has a stake in preserving this house and houses like it. There are areas where houses are out of character and inappropriate. That's not vitality and that's not progress. I would urge you to support the –CC1 overlay.

Representative James Smith, Resident of Hollywood Rose Hill appeared before the members of Council in support of **Item 13**. This is a modest step in the right direction. I would urge every member of Council to support this important step. I wasn't there in the 1940's, but my family was. We have 4 generations that have lived within two blocks of the area we live in now. It is a special area and this is a modest step to make sure that what we all love and appreciate continues for the next generations.

▪ **Council closed the Public Hearing at 8:14 p.m.**

Councilor Rickenmann said that this Council has proved time after time that we support –CC1. In supporting that, it makes some people happy and some unhappy. We have to remember that this doesn't stop progress; this doesn't prevent someone from building a house next to you that you may not like. I am glad to support this today, but I hope it brings the neighborhood back together to work hand in hand to bring new and creative diversity to your neighborhood, but also keep the character that attracted everybody there.

Councilor Plough said that she doesn't tend to be interested in layering additional requirements upon development, but I also think that our zoning ordinance is not what it needs to be. It has been way too long since we reviewed it. I talked to the City Manager about the cost of updating our ordinance. As a result of that, neighborhoods and the business community are put through this pattern of designations when there might be a different way to approach it. Since this is the only available option, I don't see these as significant restrictions. I think it does give an ability to guide development, which is exactly what a zoning ordinance is supposed to do. It's not supposed to restrict development. I am going to support this as I supported a –CC1 overlay in the Heathwood neighborhood.

Councilor Newman said that history shows that he supports measures like these, because we have beautiful neighborhoods in the City that do need to be protected. This is not the end-all, be-all to any sort of construction that is done. If we can protect beautiful neighborhoods and channel resources to bring other areas of the City up to par, then this is a good step in the right direction to make sure we accomplish that. I will be voting in favor of this.

Councilor Devine said that she has always support the –CC1 designation and historic designations, because they are needed in some neighborhoods. The neighborhoods know best as to how they want things to go and that is why I like the public hearing process. I plan to support it again, but I did want to hear what people had to say. I have heard from those in opposition to it. This is needed to protect the character of the neighborhood, but it doesn't limit people from subdividing their lots and building on it as long as it stays within scale and character. That's what I would want if I lived in the neighborhood. I would expect my elected officials to want to support that as well. This is a modest step and it certainly fits within this neighborhood. I commend the neighborhood for having the spirit to dialog. Hopefully, some of the hurt feelings that came through this process can be amended and this neighborhood can move forward.

Councilor Gergel said thank you to those neighborhood folks that have worked so long and so hard to build a very special place in our City. Public input is critical. We have heard from more residents on this one issue than any other issue during the time I've been on Council. That's just one piece that we use to make our decisions. The most important job we do is to build a City for the future; to build a City that will continue to attract residents; that will continue to draw new people to experience that very special thing that is Columbia, South Carolina. This is a step in the right direction. I was proud to sign the application and I look forward to the vote.

Mayor Benjamin thanked everyone for the well prepared and thoughtful presentations. I did have an opportunity to spend some time on July 4th with many of you in Hollywood-Rose Hill at the parade. I had a chance to briefly thank many of you on both sides of this issue for your active participation in civic debate; it helps us make very good decisions. I'd ask you to continue to be as involved as you had been in the past.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the **Map Amendment** for **Hollywood/Rose Hill**, TMS# TMS# 11208-04-01 thru -02, 11208-04-05 thru -06, 11305-03-05 thru -12, 11305-04-01 thru -17, 11305-05-01 thru -11, 11305-06-01 thru -06, 11305-07-01 thru -16, 11305-08-01 thru -14, 11305-09-01 thru -13, 11305-10-01 thru -16, 11305-11-01 thru -08, 11305-11-11 thru -12, 11305-11-14 thru -16, 11305-12-01 thru -24, 11305-13-01, 11305-13-03 thru -18, 11305-14-11 thru -13, 11305-14-17, 11305-14-23 thru -29, 11306-09-01 thru -11, 11306-18-01 thru -12, 11309-01-01, 11309-01-03 thru -07, 11309-02-01 thru -08, 11309-03-01 thru -07, 11309-04-01 thru -06, 11309-04-11 thru -12, 11309-05-01 thru -05, 11309-05-07, 11309-06-01 thru -08, 11309-07-01 thru -17, 11309-08-01 thru -14, 11309-08-19 thru -29, 11309-09-01, 11309-09-03 thru -13, 11309-10-01 thru -06, 11309-10-08 thru -10, 11309-10-12 thru -15, 11309-10-17 thru -22, 11309-17-01 thru -07, 11309-17-10, 11309-18-01 thru -09, 11309-18-13, 11309-19-01 thru -27, 11309-20-01 thru -21, 11310-11-01 thru -04, 11310-12-01 thru -24, 11310-13-01 thru -13, 11310-14-01 thru -03, 11310-14-05 thru -17, 11310-15-01 thru -16, 11310-16-01 thru -03, 11310-16-05 thru -18, 11310-17-01 thru -07, 11310-18-01 thru -03, 11310-19-01 thru -17, 11310-20-01 thru -06, 11310-21-01 thru -11, 11313-01-01 thru -03; request to rezone add -CC1 (Community Character Permanent) overlay to existing zoning classifications.

14. **4519 Monticello Road**; TMS# 09211-05-04; request to rezone from RS-3 (Single-Family Residential) to C-1 (Office and Institutional). – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services recalled that the adjacent parcel came before Council at the last Zoning Public Hearing. The Eau Claire Health Cooperative was able to acquire another parcel in order to expand their mission. This is the request to rezone this parcel from RS-3 to C-1.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 14**.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the **Map Amendment** for **4519 Monticello Road**; TMS# 09211-05-04; request to rezone from RS-3 (Single-Family Residential) to C-1 (Office and Institutional).

15. **5817 and 5819 Colonial Drive;** TMS# 11710-14-19 (portion); request to rezone from RS-3 (Single-Family Residential) to C-3A (General Commercial) – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this is a request to rezone a portion of the parcel from RS-3 to C-3A. The South Carolina Department of Transportation expanded the right-of-way leaving a parcel that wasn't viable. This will make that parcel viable for commercial development.

Councilor Plough inquired about the location of the parcel.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services further explained that the survey will be done and it will be combined with the adjacent parcel. The sliver that you see, will be subdivided and combined with the corner parcel that was also zoned C-3A.

Councilor Newman asked exactly where the parcel is located on Colonial Drive.

Mayor Benjamin explained that it is at the Eckerd's.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 15.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the **Map Amendment** for **5817 and 5819 Colonial Drive;** TMS# 11710-14-19 (portion); request to rezone from RS-3 (Single-Family Residential) to C-3A (General Commercial).

16. **301 Greystone Boulevard,** TMS# 07309-02-11; request to rezone from PUD-C (Commercial Planned Unit Development) to M-1 (Light Commercial) – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that the header was incorrect; it is a request to rezone from PUD-C to M-1. This was scheduled previously, but the owner had asked to withdraw, because the request for rezoning would have made the existing facility non-conforming. The PUD-C was applied so that it would become a conforming facility. In a C-3 zoning district you can only have up to 12,000 square feet in warehouse or distribution. Obviously, this facility exceeds that. We met with the owners and the possible developers of a personal based parcel and discussed M-1. It is a parcel that is large enough to have a singular M-1 zoning. Additionally, you have M-1 zonings nearby at the Stephenson Center.

Councilor Plough asked Ms. Hampton to further explain where other M-1 zoning is located in the area, because it comes across as spot zoning. How does this blend in with the overall plan.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that spot zoning would be something far smaller than this. The use has been in operation for many years. The Stephenson Center is near I-26, near the river.

Councilor Plough said that it makes her pause to take property on Greystone Boulevard and make it manufacturing. I realize that their printing business is an industrial type use.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that it is light industrial. We would not have proposed this; we take zoning very seriously and we approach them very cautiously. Given all of the surrounding land uses, the lack of adjacent residential zoning and the nature of Greystone Boulevard, M-1 makes sense. Under M-1, we saw it as posing no adverse impacts on this corridor.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 16**.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the **Map Amendment** for **301 Greystone Boulevard**, TMS# 07309-02-11; request to rezone from PUD-C (Commercial Planned Unit Development) to M-1 (Light Commercial).

ANNEXATION WITH MAP AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

17. **NE/S Kinley Road**; TMS# 05000-04-11, -12; request recommendation concerning application to annex and rezone the property C-3 (General Commercial). The property is zoned RU (Rural) in Richland County). – *Approved on first reading.*

Ordinance No.: 2011-050 – Annexing Parcel A (1.13 acres) and Parcel B (1.09 acres) NE/S Kinley Road, Richland County TMS #05000-04-11 and 05000-04-12 – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this is a request for recommendation to annex and rezone the property C-3. Currently, this is a Rural Zoning District in Richland County, which is highly inappropriate. It is adjacent to PUD-RS; however, we prefer that it be C-3 zoning in this location.

Mr. Bouknight, 1041 Kinley Road said that he is not against this, but the property is land locked. I would like to know how they would get into that property.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that they would not be able to develop the property until they are able to access it; however, it doesn't preclude its annexation and rezoning.

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the **Map Amendment** for **NE/S Kinley Road**; TMS# 05000-04-11, -12; request recommendation concerning application to annex and rezone the property C-3 (General Commercial). The property is zoned RU (Rural) in Richland County) **and** Ordinance No.: 2011-050 – Annexing Parcel A (1.13 acres) and Parcel B (1.09 acres) NE/S Kinley Road, Richland County TMS #05000-04-11 and 05000-04-12.

CASES WITH MAP AND TEXT AMENDMENT

18. **Penitentiary Cemetery (Text Amendment), Amend Section 17-691(d) to add structure as a Group III Landmark**

Lower Cemetery (Text Amendment), Amend Section 17-691(d) to add structure as a Group III Landmark

Ordinance No.: 2011-049 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article V, Historic Preservation and Architectural Review, Division 4, Landmarks, Sec. 17-691 Buildings and sites list, (d) to add Lower Cemetery, TMS # 07314-02-05 and 09007-01-04 (p) and Penitentiary Cemetery, TMS # 09008-01-05 – *Approved on first reading.*

19. **Penitentiary Cemetery (Map Amendment), TMS# 09008-01-05; Rezone to add –DP overlay to designate structure as a Landmark.** – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Plaugh asked if the City owned all of the parcels.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said yes.

Mayor Benjamin asked if we are being good stewards with this land.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said we are. She commended the Public Works Department and the Forestry & Beautification Department for all of the work they did to reclaim these areas. It's remarkable.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Items 18 and 19.**

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-049 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article V, Historic Preservation and Architectural Review, Division 4, Landmarks, Sec. 17-691 Buildings and sites list, (d) to add Lower Cemetery, TMS # 07314-02-05 and 09007-01-04 (p) and Penitentiary Cemetery, TMS # 09008-01-05 **and the Map Amendments for Penitentiary Cemetery, TMS# 09008-01-05; Rezone to add –DP overlay to designate structure as a Landmark and Lower Cemetery, TMS# 08912-02-04(portion) and 07314-02-05; Rezone to add –DP overlay to designate structure as a Landmark.**

TEXT AMENDMENTS – FIRST READING

20. **Amend §17-258 to create classification for Tailors and Alteration Shops (SIC # 7219.1)**

Ordinance No.: 2011-047 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses, SIC 721 Laundry cleaning and garment services to add 7219.1 Tailors and alteration shops – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that these text amendments are an attempt to get businesses in locations where they are appropriate. The first is to create classifications for tailors and alteration shops. They were lumped in with a greater category that was not permitted in our service districts.

Councilor Plaugh said that she would like to use these as examples of staff having to piece-meal through our zoning ordinance to rectify situations. We must address that.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 20.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-047 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses, SIC 721 Laundry cleaning and garment services to add 7219.1 Tailors and alteration shops.

21. Amend 17-258 to modify permissions for Veterinary Services (SIC # 74).

Ordinance No.: 2011-048 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-259 Veterinary services (SIC 74) to add (c) and Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses SIC 74 Veterinary services – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this is to modify permissions for veterinary services to allow them in industrial districts.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 21.**

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-048 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-259 Veterinary services (SIC 74) to add (c) and Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses SIC 74 Veterinary services.

22. Amend §17-55 Definitions and 17-258 to establish regulations for Temporary Vendors

Ordinance No.: 2010-119 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 1, Generally, Sec.17-55 Definitions to add Temporary vendor and Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses to add (7) – *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this is an amendment to establish regulations for temporary vendors. This will permit vendors to operate year-round within certain time parameters. They must remove all of their equipment every evening between the hours that they are not permitted. The temporary vendor must have a permit and the owner's permission. They can't take up any required parking and they must remove all of their materials at night. This takes effect for all vendors, 180-days after second reading.

Councilor Plough sought clarification on the hours of operation. Will that be specified in the permit?

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services confirmed that the hours of operation will be specified in the zoning permit. The vendor can't operate for more than 10 consecutive hours. The permit must be posted.

Councilor Davis said that they agreed to see how this operates. There are some specific locations with vendors that are not compatible with existing businesses.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that they will monitor it. They are hoping that the requirement to remove all materials each evening will limit some of the materials they bring. We will certainly take a look at this at least 6-months in.

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 22**.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-119 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Zoning, Division 1, Generally, Sec.17-55 Definitions to add Temporary vendor and Division 8, District Descriptions; Use and Dimensional Regulations, Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses to add (7).

- **Council adjourned the Zoning Public Hearing at 8:37 p.m.**

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

23. Neighborhood Traffic Control

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve the Installation of Speed Humps in the Hollywood/Rose Hill Neighborhood at the 100 block of S. Bull Street, 200 block of S. Edisto Avenue and the 300 block of S. Waccamaw Avenue.

24. Council is asked to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for the use of the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center for Richland School District One's Elementary School Water Safety and Swimming Instruction Program.

Councilor Devine explained that the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center Program and Advisory Committee discussed this agreement and requested additional information from Mr. Baker that will be considered during their meeting in August. She recommended that we extend the contract for another year with no pay and that gives us the opportunity to discuss whether we will require the school district to pay for this service. It would be unfair to ask them to pay now since they've started their budget year. They also use Columbia College at no cost. They do not pay for this service; however, they do have costs for transporting the students, providing supervision and paying for insurance. This is a partnership we entered into over five (5) years ago and they need an answer from us tonight.

Ms. Devine made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for the use of the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center for Richland School District One's Elementary School Water Safety and Swimming Instruction Program effective September 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012 at no cost to Richland School District One and it was seconded by Mr. Newman.

Councilor Rickenmann said that this is a five-year contract. There should be a minimal fee, because there is a cost associated. We have two other school districts within the City limits, other schools, private entities and organized groups. Are we affording them the same deal?

Councilor Devine stated that she is requesting a one-year extension of the contract. She said that no other school district has approached us about doing this. This is happening during the day and the school district transports the children there. If we can provide this instruction and prevent one child from having a water related accident then it is worth the money we are gifting to the school district. For budgeting purposes, we should give them notice once we decide to charge them.

Councilor Davis said that he can support the motion that is on the table now given the fact that the committee did not make a specific recommendation considering the charges. I can appreciate the fact that we are being considerate to the School Board since this would be inserting a charge after they have approved their budget. I am supportive of the concept in terms of what we've been trying to do through the Wellness Center given the fact that national statistics show that drowning incidents are very high for certain demographics. Everybody around the country has been trying to put a dent in that by providing opportunities for kids to receive training in swimming. That is one of the most deadly activities for kids during the summer.

Councilor Plough said that she realizes that it is important to provide swimming opportunities, particularly for young children in the African-American community; for all young children, but there is a particular predominance of drowning in the African-American community. Many don't know how to swim and their parents don't know how to swim. I am sympathetic and I really would like to continue to provide a program such as this, but it gets back to the issue of us having a \$600,000 deficit in the operation of the Drew Wellness Center. I am interested in knowing how this program impacts that deficit. It takes away hours from paid participants.

Mayor Benjamin stated that this program has no fiscal impact. I assume that it could have an impact if you tried to turn it into a profit center.

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager said that the program is from 8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.; 4-days per week; for 112 days.

Mayor Benjamin asked how much revenue is lost from potential swimmers during those time periods; it's nominal at best.

Councilor Gergel said that she looked at the recommendation that Mr. Baker made and the Council talked about issues with Drew Wellness Center for much of the spring. I am concerned that we give children every opportunity to learn how to swim. We have to move to system that will enable us to begin to recoup some of the significant opportunities we have to market Drew.

Councilor Gergel made a substitute motion to support a one-year contract for \$1 per child. It was seconded by Mr. Rickenmann.

Mayor Benjamin said that these are not Richland One's kids; these are our children. They are providing the transportation and the instruction. We are looking at this the wrong way. We are not doing any favors for the School District. I am glad that they have chosen to make this a priority issue. I don't think we need to charge them one dime. I don't want to do a one year contract. Let's do a multi-year contract. I don't think that we need to charge our kids to learn how to swim. Dr. Gergel, with all due respect, I'm going to vote against your motion. I don't think that our kids need to be a profit center. We have proposals for a number of different profit and non-profit entities on how we can more effectively use the Drew Wellness Center in order to close that deficit; I don't think that this is one of those examples. I will offer a friendly amendment to make that a 3-year deal.

Councilor Plough asked for some idea of the use of the pool during the time the School District is there.

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager said that is not a peak time for private swimmers. The peak times are from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. There is a lost opportunity of cost, but we can't tell you exactly what that is. Our ordinance allows us to charge \$3 per child, which would amount to \$28,800 based on 112 days used during the past year. It would be unfair at this juncture to ask them to pay. You would have to give them notice. It is a great program and I have trouble saying no to it.

A substitute motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for the use of the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center for Richland School District One's Elementary School Water Safety and Swimming Instruction Program for one year at the cost of \$1.00 per student, failed by a vote of two (2) to five (5). Voting aye were Mr. Rickenmann and Dr. Gergel. Voting nay were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Ms. Plough, Mr. Newman and Mayor Benjamin.

Mayor Benjamin offered an amendment to Ms. Devine's motion to enter into the agreement for three years from September 1, 2011 through May 31, 2014 at no charge. The amendment was accepted by Ms. Devine.

Upon an amended motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted four (4) to three (3) to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for the use of the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center for Richland School District One's Elementary School Water Safety and Swimming Instruction Program effective September 1, 2011 through May 31, 2014 at no cost to Richland School District One. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Newman and Mayor Benjamin. Voting nay were Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel and Ms. Plough.

25. ****2011 First Day of School Initiative – Ms. Teresa Wilson, Assistant City Manager**

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to endorse the 2011 First Day of School Initiative. All city employees with children in school will have two (2) hours off to take their children to school on the first day. This initiative is to be shared with the business community as a challenge and with the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Newman was not present for the vote.

26. **Appointments to the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council Board of Directors – The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine**

Councilor Devine explained that the City of Columbia has ten (10) appointees on the Community Relations Council Board of Directors. Currently, all of our positions aren't filled. We need to decide whether to move forward with those appointments. We should direct Ms. Gober to advertise the vacancies and we could actively recruit individuals. The Community Relations Council's Executive Director retired; some board members retired; and some board members are inactive. They aren't operating within their bylaws, because they need more members and they need to start searching for a new Executive Director. We have nominations from the Board of Directors for three (3) individuals they would like to appoint.

A motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the appointment of Lynn Hutto, Jennifer Powers and Ronald Thompson, was not voted upon.

There was consensus of Council to obtain applications from the three (3) nominees for consideration of an appointment on August 2, 2011 and to direct Ms. Libby Gober to advertise the remaining vacancies.

27. Neighborhood Street Lighting Request – Mr. Dave Brewer, Director of Traffic Engineering

Neighborhoods Listed by Priority	Existing Lights	Requested Lights	Current Lease Cost / Annually	Increased Amount
Pacific Park	2	3	\$662.88	\$543.96

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve a Neighborhood Street Lighting Request for three (3) additional Lights in Pacific Park for an increased amount of \$543.96.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 28 through 50.**

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

28. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Playground Equipment for Emily Douglas Park to include Design and Installation, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department. Award to Playworld Preferred Equipment in the amount of \$33,986.48. This vendor is located in Charlotte, NC. *Funding Source: General Capital Projects-Special Projects; 4039999-638500 & Emily Douglas Playground-Special Projects; PK008303-638500 - Approved*
29. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Lighting for Maxcy Gregg Park, as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department. Award to HD Supply Electrical, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$44,580.48. This vendor is located Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: General Capital Projects-Professional Services/Maxcy Gregg Park Improvement-Professional Services; 403999-636600/PK007201-636600 - Approved*
30. Council is asked to approve Project #WM7193; Agreement to Prepare a Contingency and Emergency Response Plan for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection System, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to URS / B.P Barber in the amount of \$46,650.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Water Improvement Fund, 5516210-WM719301-636600 - Approved*
31. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS7058; Contract Amendment #1 for Disinfection Improvements for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation (B&V) in the amount of \$62,000.00. This vendor is located in Greenville, SC. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Improvements Fund; 5529999-SS705801-658660 - Approved*

32. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS7188; Agreement for Miscellaneous Instrumentation Control Services, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to M.R. Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$75,000.00. This vendor is located in Norcross, GA. *Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Improvements Funds; 5516212-SS718801-636600 – **Note:** This contract will provide an on-call service that will remotely monitor water and sewer system from water plants and wastewater plant. - Approved*
33. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SD8360; Agreement for Miscellaneous Stormwater Engineering Services, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Brown & Caldwell in the amount of \$75,000.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Stormwater Utility Fund, 5534210-SD8360-636600 – **Note:** This is an annual agreement for on call assistance which helps assist staff with program compliance and review of annual reports. - Approved*
34. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS7187 & WM4234; Agreement for Miscellaneous Water & Sewer Civil Engineering Services, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Brown & Caldwell in the amount of \$75,000.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Water and Sewer Improvement Fund, 5516210-WM4234-636600 & 5516212-SS7187-636600 – **Note:** This is an annual agreement for on call assistance with water and sewer modeling of water distribution and sewer collection systems. - Approved*
35. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SS7186 an Agreement for Pretreatment and Process Consulting at the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Black & Veatch in the amount of \$75,000.00. This vendor is located in Greenville, SC. *Funding Source: 5516212-SS7186-636600 – Approved*
36. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Wastewater Maintenance Repair Materials for FY2011/2012, as requested by the Wastewater Maintenance Division. Award to the lowest bidder of each lot in the amount of \$97,988.60. *Funding Source: 5516205-625700 - Approved*

Lot 1	Manhole Frames, U.S. Foundry , Columbia, SC	\$41,033.00
Lot 2	Meter Boxes-HD Supply, West Columbia, SC	\$1,227.00
Lot 3	Repair Clamps-Ferguson Water Works, Elgin, SC	\$9,801.00
Lot 4	Sewer Pipe-HD Supply West Columbia, SC	\$9,560.00
Lot 5	PVC Fittings-HD Supply, West Columbia, SC	\$29,957.00
	Total	\$91,578.00
	Tax	\$6,410.46
	Grand Total	\$97,988.46

37. Council is asked to approve the Annual Renewal for Utility Billing Software for FY 2011/2012, as requested by the Information Technology Department. Award to Ventyx in the amount of \$104,871.77. This vendor is located in Atlanta, GA. *Funding Source: General Admin Information Tech/Maintenance and Service Contract - Approved*

38. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #WM4165; Contract Amendment #1 to Agreement for Winterwood Pump Station Improvements, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation in the amount of \$130,000.00. This vendor is located in Greenville, SC. *Funding Source: Water Improvements Fund, 5529999-WM416501-658660 – **Note:** The Contract Amendment provides for modifications to the electrical service, HVAC system, and includes a new diesel generator and associated appurtenances capable of running two (2) 400 HP pumps. - Approved*
39. ******Council is asked to approve the Annual Renewal for Physical and Health Screenings for Firefighters, as requested by the Fire Department. Award to North Greenville Fitness and Cardiac Rehab in the amount of \$170,000.00. This vendor is located in Travelers Rest, SC. *Funding Source: (Fire Suppression/Medical Services; GL 101230-636900 \$85,000.00) and (County Fire: Administration/Medical Service; GL2082306-636900 \$85,000.00) - Approved*
40. Council is asked to approve the Purchase for Landfill Disposal Services of Ash, Grit and Sludge, as requested by the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant. Award to Northeast Landfill in the amount of \$181,420.00. This vendor is located in Eastover, SC. *Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant/Special Contract, 5516208-638300 - Approved*
41. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #WM3803; Contract Amendment #4 to Agreement for Professional Services for Renovation, Painting and Preventive Maintenance Services for St. Andrews, Horseshoe, St. James, Lake Murray and Columbia Canal Water Storage Facilities, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Utility Service Company, Inc (USC) for a fourth three-year renewal period in the amount of \$96,896.64 for a total of \$290,689.92. This vendor is located in Irmo, SC. *Funding Source: Water Improvements Program Budget; 5529999-WM380304-658660 – **Note:** This is the 4th three-year renewal period which was effective April 1999 with provisions to renew for additional three year periods. - Approved*
42. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Water Distribution Repair Materials for FY 2011/2012, as requested by the Water Distribution Division. Award to the lowest bidder of each lot in the amount of \$362,492.49. *Funding Source: 5516203-625700 – **Note:** Lots 10, 12, 19 and 21 are awarded based upon the Local Business Enterprise Preference Policy. - Approved*

Lots 6, 22	Ferguson Water Works, Elgin, SC	\$16,608.60
Lots 7,9,18,23	MSC Supply, Columbia, SC	\$75,015.28
Lots 1, 2,4,5,15,20,24	HD Supply, W. Columbia, SC	\$139,662.60
Lots 13	Gibson Supply, Simpsonville, SC	\$4,475.35
Lots 3,14,16	Tec Utilities, Greenville, SC	\$50,946.00
Lots 8,11,17,10,12,19,21	Independent Water Works, Lexington, SC	\$52,070.20
	Sub Total	\$338,778.03
	Tax	\$23,714.46
	Grand Total	\$362,492.49

43. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #SD8059-A1; Northwood Hills / Delverton Drainage Channel Improvements Phase II, as requested by Utilities Engineering. Award to L-J Incorporated, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$410,896.25. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Storm Drain Improvement Fund, SD8059A2-658650 – This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and Lake Murray Utility of Chapin, SC is the Protégé. - Approved*
44. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project #WM3717; 12” Water Main Along Murray Lindler Road from Lexington Highway to Old Bush River Road; 6” Water Main Along Lake Shore Drive and 6” Water Main Along Lakeside Road, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to LAD Corporation of West Columbia, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$423,403.40. This vendor is located in Swansea, SC. *Funding Source: Water Maintenance Improvement Fund; WM371701-658650 – This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and AOS Specialty Contractors of Columbia, SC is the Protégé. - Approved*
45. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Grit, Ash, Sludge Hauling and Container Rental for FY 2011/2012, as requested by the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Award to Palmetto Environmental Solutions, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$546,200.00. This vendor is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5516208-638300 - Approved*
46. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Water Meters for FY 2011/2012, as requested by the Water Distribution Division. Award to the lowest bidder of each lot in the amount of \$625,128.86. *Funding Source: 5516203-625600 - Approved*

Lot 1	5/8” & 1” Meters-MSW Waterworks, Columbia SC	\$177,660.00
Lot 2	1 1/2” & 2” Meters-HD Supply, Sumter SC	\$72,618.00
Lot 3	Fire Service Meters-MSW Waterworks, Columbia SC	\$333,954.58
	Total	\$584,232.58
	Tax	\$40,896.28
	Grand Total	\$625,128.86

47. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Wastewater Treatment Plant Chemicals-Polymer for FY 2011/2012, as requested by the Wastewater Treatment Plant Division. Award to 3F Chimica Americas, the lowest bidder in the amount of \$839,419.00. This vendor is located in Charlotte, NC. *Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Plant/Special Contracts, 5516208-638300 - Approved*
48. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of the Annual Chemical Bid for Lake Murray and Columbia Canal Water Plants for FY 2011/2012. Award to the lowest bidder of each lot in the amount of \$3,147,067.40. *Funding Source: (5516206-624800; \$1,608,916.50) & (55160207-624800; \$1,538,150.90) - Approved*

Lot 1	Carbon-Standard Purification, Dunnellon, FL	\$425,750.00
Lot 2	Alum-General Chemical Parsippany, NJ	\$843,640.00
Lot 3	Ammonia-Brenntag SE, Duncan, SC	\$165,600.00
Lot 4	Chlorine-Jones Chemical, Charlotte, NC	\$240,000.00
Lot 5	Fluoride-Key Chemical, Waxhaw, NC	\$238,873.40
Lot 6	Lime-Polytec Mooresville, NC	\$313,470.00
Lot 7	Caustic Soda-Jones Chemical, Charlotte, NC	\$47,880.00
Lot 8	Blended Phosphate-Brenntag SE., Duncan, SC	\$177,100.00
Lot 9	Chlorite-Siemens Water Tech, Sarasota, FL	\$641,754.00
Lot 10	Polymer-3F Chimica America Charlotte, NC	\$53,000.00
	Total	\$3,147,067.40

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

49. Ordinance No.: 2011-019 – Granting an encroachment to Drip for placement and maintenance of two (2) tables and four (4) chairs within the sidewalk right of way adjacent to 729 Saluda Avenue for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours – *First reading approval was given on June 21, 2011. – Approved on second reading.*
50. Ordinance No.: 2011-046 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 12, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, generally, Sec. 12-42 Storage of commercial vehicles – *First reading approval was given on June 21, 2011. – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCE –FIRST READING

51. Ordinance No.:2011-013 – Amending Ordinance 2009-015 granting encroachment to Michael Drennan for installation and maintenance of landscaping, an irrigation system, two flagstone pavers walking paths, an arbor and a bench to include a wooden privacy fence, brick pillars and a walk gate within the right of way area of the 2300 block of Blossom Street adjacent to his property at 2227 Terrace Way, Richland County TMS #11312-11-05 – *Approved on first reading.*
52. Ordinance No.: 2011-041 - Granting encroachment to Brian Truluck and Dianne Poston for installation and maintenance of landscaping, brick and mortar wall, steps and six piers with concrete caps within the right of way area of the 600 block of Waccamaw Avenue adjacent to 601 and 603 Waccamaw Avenue, Richland County TMS #11307-05-03 – *Approved on first reading.*
53. Ordinance No.: 2011-042 - Granting an encroachment to Mezza Bistro for placement and maintenance of five (5) tables; ten (10) chairs; two (2) umbrellas and two (2) planters within the sidewalk right of way adjacent to 701 Gervais Street, Suite 110 for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to **Item 51** Ordinance No.:2011-013 – Amending Ordinance 2009-015 granting encroachment to Michael Drennan for installation and maintenance of landscaping, an irrigation system, two flagstone pavers walking paths, an arbor and a bench to include a wooden privacy fence, brick pillars and a walk gate within the right of way area of the 2300 block of Blossom Street adjacent to his property at 2227 Terrace Way, Richland County TMS #11312-11-05; **Item 52** Ordinance No.: 2011-041 - Granting encroachment to Brian Truluck and Dianne Poston for installation and maintenance of landscaping, brick and mortar wall, steps and six piers with concrete caps within the right of way area of the 600 block of Waccamaw Avenue adjacent to 601 and 603 Waccamaw Avenue, Richland County TMS #11307-05-03; and **Item 53** Ordinance No.: 2011-042 - Granting an encroachment to Mezza Bistro for placement and maintenance of five (5) tables; ten (10) chairs; two (2) umbrellas and two (2) planters within the sidewalk right of way adjacent to 701 Gervais Street, Suite 110 for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours.

54. Ordinance No.: 2011-044 – Authorizing the Issuance and Sale by the City of Columbia, South Carolina, of its not exceeding \$6,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011C for the purpose of funding certain Capital Projects; Fixing the form and details of the Bonds; Authorizing the Mayor, The City Manager, The Finance Director and the Treasurer, of Any Two of Them Acting Together to Determine certain matters relating to the Bonds; Providing for the Payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2011-044 – Authorizing the Issuance and Sale by the City of Columbia, South Carolina, of its not exceeding \$6,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011C for the purpose of funding certain Capital Projects; Fixing the form and details of the Bonds; Authorizing the Mayor, The City Manager, The Finance Director and the Treasurer, of Any Two of Them Acting Together to Determine certain matters relating to the Bonds; Providing for the Payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto.

RESOLUTION

55. Resolution No.: R-2011-041 - Authorizing the City Manager to commence termination of the Lease Agreement between the City of Columbia and Open Living Community, LLC for 5406 Farrow Road, Richland County TMS #R11612-04-01 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2011-041 - Authorizing the City Manager to commence termination of the Lease Agreement between the City of Columbia and Open Living Community, LLC for 5406 Farrow Road, Richland County TMS #R11612-04-01.

56. Resolution No.: R-2011-045 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine at 9/11 Memorial and Local Fire Department Fundraiser - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted six (6) to one (1) to approve Resolution No.: R-2011-045 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine at 9/11 Memorial and Local Fire Department Fundraiser. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Mr. Rickenmann, Dr. Gergel, Mr. Newman and Mayor Benjamin. Ms. Plough voted nay.

APPOINTMENTS

57. Business Friendly Taskforce

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Sam Davis, Ms. Dana Higgins, Assistant City Engineer and Ms. Ryan Nevius, Executive Director of Sustainable Midlands to the ad-hoc Business Friendly Taskforce.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to approve the following committee referrals:

- I. A review of the Gang Assessment by the Public Safety Committee with Judge Abigail Rogers. The committee is asked to bring back deliverables or action items.
- II. A review of the state statute prohibiting parking in the opposite direction on the street by the Public Safety Committee.
- III. The discussion of privatization of solid waste services by the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.
- IV. A review of the Water Efficiency Audit and revenue recovery by the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Gergel and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to refer the review of power lines and the issues they are causing in our neighborhoods to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Councilor Devine reported that the Environment and Infrastructure Committee met in June. Staff provided an update on parking meters and there is a Request for Proposals out. The responses should be coming to Council shortly. We talked about the Efficiency Study done by Ameresco and further implementing energy efficiency initiatives. We also talked about lighting and asked staff to draft a Request for Qualifications for energy efficiency lighting throughout our park system. We also asked Ameresco to prepare a report on how we start that.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to refer the evaluation of cost savings and providing better efficiencies to meet business needs, residential needs and privatization to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee. This will include a review of private and public solutions that may offer benefits in technology and innovation.

Councilor Devine continued to report that the Drew Wellness Committee has met twice since its reconstitution. We toured the facility to ensure that members knew what our challenges are as far as space and what our opportunities were. They requested additional information and we provided the full budget for the Wellness Center as well as the existing marketing plan that is being updated and a list of the programs that the Wellness Center provides. Some members expressed concerns about the Resolution that constituted the committee. Mr. Baker and I agree that the language is broad enough to allow the committee to look at various things and to make recommendations back to Council; however, some members clearly believe that their role is to look at the deficit that we talked about and make decisions regarding the operations of Drew. They asked that City Council clarify what role we want them to have. I made it clear to them that they have an advisory role, but some appointees may not understand that. The Insurance Committee met with this committee to discuss the overall Employee Wellness Program and how that will help shorten the gap. We are talking with a partner to finalize the numbers on the proposal and a presentation will be made to the committee. A recommendation will be made to this Council as far as other partnerships to help us address the deficit that we are all concerned about.

Councilor Plough reported that the Administrative Policy Committee met, but they did not take any specific action. We talked about the Ethics Policy and a Residency Requirement. We would request that Mayor Benjamin be a part of the next discussion on ethics. We also need to discuss procurement. We've given some authority to the City Manager, but we may want to look at additional authority.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to refer a review of the Columbia Fire Department attrition rate and costs for training and certifications by the Public Safety Committee. How do our rates compare to our peers. If the attrition rate is high, what steps can we take to lower it?

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to direct the City Manager in conjunction with the Finance Director to proceed with a Request for Proposals for an audit of all revenue streams from Richland County.

APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC HAVING BUSINESS WITH CITY COUNCIL

No one appeared at this time.

- **Council adjourned the regular meeting and reconvened the Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.**
- **Council adjourned the Executive Session at 11:50 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley
City Clerk