

**CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MAY 21, 2013 – 2:00 P.M.
EAU CLAIRE PRINT BUILDING
3907 ENSOR AVENUE**



The Columbia City Council met for a Work Session on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the Eau Claire Print Building located at 3907 Ensor Avenue, Columbia South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Leona K. Plough, The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. Also present were Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**Councilor Davis introduced James Anderson as his guest. He is studying Political Science at the University of South Carolina and he recently served in the military.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. [Parks and Recreation Master Plan](#) – Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group

Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group presented the City of Columbia Five Year Leisure Services Master Plan that was completed in partnership with Ken Simmons. He reported that public input was provided through six (6) sessions and 5,000 random survey samples. He presented specific recommendations that were developed through community input, peer community evaluation, assessment surveys and their professional experience.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Parks and Recreation Director gave a brief overview of the Parks and Facilities Inventory and Planning Document that was produced in concert with the Master Plan process. He said they took a snapshot of the park system, to identify all facilities and assets; they assigned condition codes to the facilities; and developed a maintenance management plan.

Ms. Lucinda Statler, Park Planner for the Parks and Recreation Department presented the 2013 Parks and Facilities Inventory and Planning Document, which provides details on the condition of each park and structure managed by Parks and Recreation. She said it also helps to identify the challenges we face and to look at opportunities that we might have for improvement and growth.

Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group provided an overview of the recommendations that were separated into the following categories: developing a department mission, facility needs, levels of service, programming, staffing, financial and communication. He encouraged Council to review the recommendations.

Councilor Devine asked if there is an opportunity for additional public comment from the community after they review this document.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Parks and Recreation Director said individuals will be able to provide online feedback for one (1) year.

Councilor Devine asked about the desired maintenance schedule. She asked how we can ensure that the desired schedule meets the needs and stays in line with the budget as we start planning.

Mr. Jeff Caton, Parks and Recreation Director said we have a desired maintenance schedule for the parks based on usage, but the budget may predict a different level of maintenance.

Councilor Devine asked how do you tailor a budget to make it more reality driven than concern driven.

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager recalled that as they began to look at Build Columbia, the breakdown and usage of funding was very telling; it will help us better determine where the revenue can be placed and what will take priority. He said this document clearly prioritizes the needs as they are; we know the condition of buildings and equipment; and we can use this tool to determine what needs should come first.

Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager added that as we continue to unveil Build Columbia, we begin to build the departments' projects, programs and portfolios; and the department should be dedicated to the identified priorities.

Councilor Davis asked that the senior citizens be kept in mind when discussing the fee structure. He said the partnerships with the schools are very important. He urged Council and staff to replace old equipment with equipment that has low maintenance costs.

Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group encouraged Council to close underutilized amenities.

Councilor Plough said that the park system is a tremendous asset for this community and it is too easy to take for granted. She said there are hard decisions ahead of us; you see generations change; our parks and staff have tried to accommodate that; and it's a time for reflection. She said this provides the tool to begin that process. She asked if they would close underutilized facilities or preserve them for another day. She suggested that they put everything on operations and management. She recalled a meeting at Mays Park and the needs that are associated with it. She asked what the operation and maintenance budget should be.

Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group said they can provide that information, but they are still reviewing the budgets. He said they will recommend a number; Council will have to decide how to get there; and it will be up to staff to determine how they can do what needs to be done and within budget.

Councilor Plough referred to the recommendation on user fees, noting that these increases will generate some funds, but it is insignificant in addressing the maintenance needs of our system. She said when you compare us to other communities please keep in mind our per capita income so we are not pushing folks to pay more than needed.

Councilor Runyan asked how our peers have gone about objectively scoring the use characteristics of their assets and closing parks.

Mr. David Brandes, P.E., Principal and Co-Founder of the Genesis Consulting Group answered they have not delved into that, but it is something they can look into. He noted that the city doesn't have a mechanism to track usage and will need at least one year's data and staff input.

2. [ULI Midlands Reality Check](#) – Ms. Meghan Hughes, Project Manager of Engenuity SC; Mr. Leighton Lord, Nexsen Pruet; Mr. Bob Mundy, Estates, Inc.; and Ms. Irene Dumas Tyson, The Boudreaux Group

Ms. Irene Dumas Tyson, The Boudreaux Group reported that the Midlands Reality Check Region will have 450,000 new residents by 2040. She said the group promotes growing by choice, not by chance. She stated that Reality Check is a national program of the Urban Land Institute, which is an international organization, focused on sustainable and wise use of land development. The mission of Reality Check is to create a collective and enduring roadmap for the Midlands Region of South Carolina that will establish our community as a prosperous and sustainable place to live, work and play and that will inspire us to strive for excellence and innovation in how we grow as a region for the next 30 years. On Game Day in October 22, 2013, 300 community leaders will meet to envision how the region should be developed.

Mr. Leighton Lord Esq., Nexsen Pruet said that the private sector has already contributed \$150,000 and the City of Columbia is the first government being asked for funding. He stated that our region needs to come together to do this; it will become our plan and our vision.

Ms. Irene Dumas Tyson, The Boudreaux Group stated that Richmond, Virginia sees Columbia as competition and that "Charlanta" is one of the fastest growing regions in the country; we are in the middle of it.

Mr. Bob Mundy, Estates, Inc. stated that we have two years to sustain this program and if we do this right we will have an educated community.

Councilor Davis agreed with the concept. He said that we would attract new talent; it's important not to let the talent leave. He is impressed with the potential outcome.

Councilor Devine asked the group to expound on the results of the other regions in this state and how successful they have been with pursuing the ideas.

Ms. Irene Dumas Tyson, The Boudreaux Group reported that the Upstate has had good success and they have built it into the budget for implementation. He noted that Charleston primarily focused on the Game Day, but not on implementation.

Mr. Leighton Lord Esq., Nexsen Pruet added that in Raleigh/Durham it was a catalyst to have the zoning codes redone and they are going to do another Reality Check to see what else can be done.

Councilor Plough stated that this is an incredible opportunity for the City of Columbia, our citizens and this entire region; we have the business communities involved across this region; they will be focused on the common good and how we can be a World Class city; and this shows that the business community and this Council understands the importance of it.

Mayor Benjamin asked Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services what her thoughts were on this and how this works with her plans.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that this information will be very valuable in the rewrite of our zoning ordinance and it will give us a regional perspective on land use.

Councilor Plough asked if this request is coming out of next year's budget.

Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager replied yes.

3. Fiscal Year 2013 / 2014 Budget – Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director

- [Hospitality Tax Fund](#)

Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager explained that the Hospitality Tax budget was previously presented to Council.

Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director presented the Hospitality Tax budget in the amount of \$9,444,232.

Councilor Devine said that funding requested for the Columbia Museum of Art should be \$775,000 instead of \$575,000.

Councilor Plough requested copies of the requests for operating funds from organizations included in our budget as line items.

Mayor Benjamin asked about funding for security cameras.

Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager said that \$100,000 from the Hospitality Tax Fund will be a part of the funding for the overall plan for security cameras.

Mayor Benjamin asked if the reserves are included in this budget.

Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director said yes.

A motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, to allocate a minimum of \$2,370,000 from the Hospitality Tax Fund to the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee, was withdrawn.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to allocate \$2,370,000 from the Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Hospitality Tax Fund to the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee, with the understanding that Council can allocate additional funds.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to accept staff's proposed budget allocations for the remaining balance of the Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Hospitality Tax Fund in the amount of \$2,891,300.

Councilor Devine suggested that in September, Council entertain allocating additional funds to the committee for the quarterly review of applications or consider a reserve for Council allocations.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to refer the development of an application for all funding requests to the Arts and Historic Preservation Committee.

- Funding Requests for External Organizations

Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director recalled that \$100,000 was allocated by Council for outside agencies and applications were due by Friday, May 17, 2013. She reported that the total amount of funding requested is \$1,677,172.

Councilor Plough asked if the funding should be allocated for purposes that help the city carry out its strategic plan.

Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director explained that since funding became available at a late notice, they asked requestors submit a one page request for a non-profit or service type agency. She noted that the funding is not for a specific event.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recalled that this was an effort to allow everyone to submit their requests.

Mayor Benjamin said that several of the requests are for youth programs. He suggested that we look at way to deal with that need in the future.

There was a consensus of Council to direct staff to use criteria to categorize the pool of applicants; line up the requests against the city's strategic plan; remove all non-profits without a 501(c)3 designation; only consider organizations within the city limits; and determine which requests are scalable. Staff is to report back prior to June 30, 2013.

Councilor Plaugh asked about Midlands Realty Check's funding request to Richland County.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:33 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 4** through **8** as outlined.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

4. Receipt of legal advice which relates to a matter covered by attorney-client privilege - *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
5. Discussion of negotiations incident to the settlement of legal claims- *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
6. Discussion of appointment of an employee- *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
7. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements - *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
8. ****Discussion of employment of an employee - *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.***

▪ **Council adjourned the Executive Session at 6:10 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk



CITY OF COLUMBIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013
6:00 P.M.
EAU CLAIRE PRINT BUILDING
3907 ENSOR AVENUE

The Columbia City Council conducted a Council Meeting / Budget Public Hearing and a Zoning Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the Eau Claire Print Building, 3907 Ensor Avenue, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m. The following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Leona K. Plough, The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. Also present were Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. *Please note that the minutes are numbered to coincide with the order of the meeting and may not reflect the order of the agenda as advertised.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Little Miss Rachel Gentry led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION

Chaplain Jim Reese, Columbia Fire Department offered the invocation.

PET OF THE WEEK

Ms. Marli Drum, Superintendent of Animal Services introduced Gabby, a very sweet two-year old Walker Hound as the Pet of the Week. All animals are spay/neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated and wormed. Canines are tested for heartworms and felines are tested for feline leukemia/aids. To view other animals available for adoption, visit www.petfinder.com. For more information, visit the Columbia Animal Shelter at 127 Humane Lane or call (803)776-7387.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to approve the adoption of the agenda, subject to deferring the approval of the March 26, 2013, April 9, 2013 and 16, 2013 meeting minutes.

**Councilor Davis recognized Mr. James Jameson. James is studying Political Science at the University of South Carolina after serving in the Air Force.

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council Meeting and Work Session Minutes of March [5](#), March [19](#), April 9 and April 16, 2013 – *Approved as presented with the exception of April 9 and 16, 2013.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plaugh and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of March 5 and 19, 2013.

2. Special Called Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2013 – *Consideration of this item was deferred.*

PRESENTATIONS

**Councilor Devine recognized Ms. Libby Gober, Assistant to City Council for being named as Rotarian of the Year by the Rotary Club of Columbia.

3. [American Public Works Week Proclamation](#) – Mr. Robert Anderson, Director of Public Works

Mr. Robert Anderson, Director of Public Works / Treasurer of the SC Chapter of the American Public Works Association introduced Mr. Bill Spearman, P.E., Vice President of Woolpert, Inc.; Mr. Jim Burati, President of the SC Chapter of the American Public Works Association; and Mr. Ray Funnye, Public Services Director for Georgetown County and a Delegate for the SC Chapter of the American Public Works Association. He reminded us of the amazing things that happen in the City of Columbia “Because of Public Works” and the employees that provide essential services.

Mayor Benjamin and the members of Council proclaimed May 19 – 25, 2013 as Public Works Week in the City of Columbia.

4. Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award Recipient, *Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager of Operations* – Ms. Elizabeth Treadway, President of the American Public Works Association

Mr. Robert Anderson, Director of Public Works introduced the family of Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager of Operations. He said that during National Public Works Week they take time to recognize the high quality of employees and the outstanding work they do for our city and its citizens, businesses and visitors. He introduced Ms. Elizabeth Treadway, as a 1997 recipient of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award.

Ms. Elizabeth Treadway, President of the American Public Works Association said the recognition of Public Work’s top ten leaders is the highest individual award granted by the American Public Works Association. The association represents 29,000 professionals and less than 550 individuals have been honored by the association. She presented Ms. Melissa Gentry with a plaque recognizing her as one of the top ten Public Works Leaders of the Year. She invited Ms. Gentry to Chicago, where she will be recognized during the annual conference.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager regarded Ms. Gentry as a colleague and a dear friend. She presented Ms. Gentry with a specially designed token of appreciation from Something Special.

5. [National Small Business Week Proclamation](#) – Ms. Tina Herbert, Executive Director of the Office of Business Opportunities

Ms. Tina Herbert, Executive Director of the Office of Business Opportunities announced that this is Small Business Week and the Office of Business Opportunities will host its first annual Small Business Week Conference on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 with 230 attendees.

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed May 20-26, 2013 as Small Business Week in the City of Columbia.

OTHER MATTERS

6. [Four-Way Stop Request](#) - *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of a Four-Way Stop Control at the intersection of Waverly Street and Richland Street, as requested by Trinity Baptist Church.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 7 through 12**.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

7. Council is asked to approve [Capital Improvement WM4280](#); Water Main Construction on Wheat Street, Amherst Avenue, Maple Street and Wilmot Avenue, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering. Award to Shady Grove Construction, the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$422,470.05 with a project contingency of \$50,000 for a total amount of \$472,470.05. This vendor is located in White Rock, SC. *Funding Source: Water Main Improvement Fund, 5529999-658650/WM428001-658650 – **Note:** The original budgeted amount for this project is \$487,665.00 – [Map](#) – Approved*
8. Council is asked to approve [Amendment #2 for Capital Improvement Project SS7148](#); An Agreement for Engineering Services to Rehabilitate Saluda River Basin #11, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to WK Dickson & Company (Mentor) in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Sewer Maintenance Fund, 5516212-SS714801-636600 – **Note:** The contract amendment provides for subsurface utility engineering; pipe bursting at the intersection of Blossom and Huger Streets; alternative analysis including cost estimates of providing sewer and abandoning the existing sewer line; construction observation and monitoring and other tasks associated with the rehabilitation. This*

project will be performed using the following sub-consultants: Palmetto Consulting Engineers, (Protégé) an FBE firm located in Chapin, SC, will perform Constructability Review & Flow Monitoring at 11.54% of the contract value and Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., a DBE/WBE firm located in Columbia, SC, will perform Subsurface Utility Engineering at 14.62% of the contract value.–
Map – Approved

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

9. [Ordinance No.: 2013-034](#) – Granting an encroachment to Allsouth Federal Credit Union for installation and maintenance of ADA compliant sidewalks, underground utilities and driveways within the right of way areas of the 700 block of Elmwood Avenue, 2000 block of Gadsden Street, 700 block of Calhoun Street and 2000 block of Wayne Street adjacent to 730 Elmwood Avenue, Richland County TMS #09011-12-01, 09011-12-03 and 09011-12-04 – *First reading approval was given on May 7, 2013 – Approved on second reading.*
10. [Ordinance No.: 2013-043](#) – Amending Ordinance 2012-090, 2011-045 and 83-99 to grant additional encroachments to Parkside Center, LLC for installation and maintenance of an egress door and handicap ramp within the 1100 block of Lady Street adjacent to 1301 Main Street – *First reading approval was given on May 7, 2013 – Approved on second reading.*
11. [Ordinance No.: 2013-062 \(Revised\)](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Easement for Exterior Stairway and Improvements for the Core Campus Amenity Level of the Sumter Street Parking Garage, 1400 Sumter Street, Richland County TMS #09014-08-09, CF #326-06 to Core Campus Columbia I, LLC – *First reading approval was given on May 7, 2013. – Approved on second reading with the amended easement.*
12. [Ordinance No.: 2013-064](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Second Amendment to Lease between the City of Columbia and Old Boy Properties, LLC for property consisting of 100 ± acres in Richland County, South Carolina being a portion of the property formerly owned by Columbia Venture, LLC and Sunday School, LLC – *First reading approval was given on May 7, 2013– Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

13. [Ordinance No: 2013-047](#) – Amending Ordinance 2013-024 granting an encroachment to the State of South Carolina Budget and Control Board to include demolition and removal of an existing concrete apron and sidewalk areas, and installation and maintenance of landscaping, sod, an irrigation system, two (2) shepherd style light poles, a ground lighting system and sidewalk in the right of way area adjacent to the Calhoun Building located at 1015 Sumter Street, Richland County TMS #11304-01-01 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No: 2013-047 – Amending Ordinance 2013-024 granting an encroachment to the State of South Carolina Budget and Control Board to include demolition and removal of an existing concrete apron and sidewalk areas, and installation and maintenance of landscaping, sod, an irrigation system, two (2) shepherd style light poles, a ground lighting system and sidewalk in the right of way area adjacent to the Calhoun Building located at 1015 Sumter Street, Richland County TMS #11304-01-01.

14. [Ordinance No.: 2013-066](#) – Granting an encroachment to Wine Down for placement and maintenance of three (3) tables and six (6) chairs for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours within the sidewalk right of way between the curbed garden areas adjacent to the parking meters immediately in front of their business at 1520-B Main Street – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-066 – Granting an encroachment to Wine Down for placement and maintenance of three (3) tables and six (6) chairs for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours within the sidewalk right of way between the curbed garden areas adjacent to the parking meters immediately in front of their business at 1520-B Main Street.

15. [Ordinance No.: 2013-067](#) – Granting an encroachment to WWJ, LLC for demolition and removal of existing landscaping and pavement, relocation of existing utilities, and for the installation and maintenance of landscaping, an irrigation system, sidewalks with two (2) handicap ramps, a driveway, two (2) bike racks, HDPE pipe, one storm drainage junction box, and concrete headwall and footing within the right of way areas of the 500 block of College Street, 900 Block of Pulaski Street and 500 block of Pendleton Street adjacent to 520 Pendleton Street, Richland County TMS #08911-03-03 and 08911-03-14– *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-067 – Granting an encroachment to WWJ, LLC for demolition and removal of existing landscaping and pavement, relocation of existing utilities, and for the installation and maintenance of landscaping, an irrigation system, sidewalks with two (2) handicap ramps, a driveway, two (2) bike racks, HDPE pipe, one storm drainage junction box, and concrete headwall and footing within the right of way areas of the 500 block of College Street, 900 Block of Pulaski Street and 500 block of Pendleton Street adjacent to 520 Pendleton Street, Richland County TMS #08911-03-03 and 08911-03-14.

RESOLUTIONS

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Plaugh and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to approve **Items 16** through **19**.

16. [Resolution No.: R-2013-053](#) – Authorizing Condemnation for easement acquisition for CIP Project #WM3956-01, Phase 1-A along 10815 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS #03300-01-03 for construction of a Water Line along Broad River Road from I-26 near the Peak exit to Dutch Fork Road; CF #250-297 – *Approved*
17. [Resolution No.: R-2013-054](#) – Authorizing Condemnation for easement acquisition for CIP Project #WM3956-01, Phase 1-A along 10821 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS #03300-01-17 for construction of a Water Line along Broad River Road from I-26 near the Peak exit to Dutch Fork Road; CF #250-297 – *Approved*
18. [Resolution No.: R-2013-055 \(Revised\)](#) – Authorizing Condemnation for easement acquisition for CIP Project #WM3956-02, along 11701 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS #01700-07-02 for construction of a Water Line along Broad River Road, Chapin Road and Columbia Avenue; CF #250-297 – *Approved*
19. [Resolution No.: R-2013-056](#) – Authorizing Condemnation for easement acquisition for CIP Project #WM3956-01, Phase 1-A along 10945 Broad River Road, Richland County TMS #03400-05-09 for construction of a Water Line along Broad River Road from I-26 near the Peak exit to Dutch Fork Road; CF #250-297 – *Approved*
20. [Resolution No.: R-2013-060](#) – Endorsement, Support and Adoption of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2013-060 – Endorsement, Support and Adoption of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Bikeway Design Guide.

21. [Resolution No.: R-2013-061](#) – Authorizing Eau Claire Community Council's Eau Claire Fest and consumption of beer and wine only at Hyatt Park, Eau Claire Town Hall and the Eau Claire Print Building – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Plaugh, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2013-061 – Authorizing Eau Claire Community Council's Eau Claire Fest and consumption of beer and wine only at Hyatt Park, Eau Claire Town Hall and the Eau Claire Print Building.

22. [Resolution No.: R-2013-062](#) – Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park – [Memo](#) – *Approved*

Councilor Plaugh asked staff to briefly explain this item.

Mr. Jim Gambrell, Director of Economic Development explained that we have an economic development project that is moving into the Columbia Industrial Park; the incentive package from Richland County provides for a fee in lieu of taxes under a provision of state law; and it is required for the city to give permission for this to occur since the property is located in the City of Columbia.

Councilor Plough said that it is a little unusual that we would be designated a multi-county industrial park in the city, primarily because we don't have a lot of industrial property; this is good for the community; and we hope this will be an attraction for this industry to locate in our industrial park.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2013-062 – Consenting to the Inclusion of Property in a Multi-County Industrial/Business Park.

ZONING PUBLIC HEARING

- **Council opened the Zoning Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m.**

ANNEXATION WITH MAP AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

23. **1501 Hallbrook Drive and NX1501 Hallbrook Drive**, TMS# 19100-02-04 and -08; request to annex and zone the property RS-2 (Single Family Residential). The property is zoned RS-MD (Single Family Residential – Medium Density) in Richland County – *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 4
Proposal: Annex and zone property RS-2 (Single Family Residential). Secondary Area
Applicant: Trinity Assembly of God
PC Recommendation: Approve RS-2 zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

Ordinance No.: 2013-052 – Annexing 1501 Hallbrook Drive, Richland County TMS #19100-02-04 and 19100-02-08 – *Approved on first reading.*

Mr. Terry Roberts, Applicant / Pastor of the Trinity Assembly of God recalled that he came to meetings in the past to discuss issues with his water bill. He noted that those issues have been wonderfully resolved. He thanked the members of Council for supporting this annexation request, because it is to their advantage to be in the city and it will continue to help with their water bill.

Councilor Devine asked if there will be a change because of the single family residential zoning.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said no; churches are permitted as special exceptions in residential areas.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 1501 Hallbrook Drive and NX1501 Hallbrook Drive, TMS# 19100-02-04 and -08; request to annex and zone the property RS-2 (Single Family Residential) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-052 – Annexing 1501 Hallbrook Drive, Richland County TMS #19100-02-04 and 19100-02-08.

24. [124 and 126 S. Assembly Street](#), TMS# 11301-04-14 and -19; request to annex and zone the property M-1 (Light Manufacturing with Flood Protective Overlay). The property is zoned M-1 (Light Manufacturing) in Richland County – *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 2
Proposal: Annex and zone property M-1, -FP (Light Manufacturing with Flood Protective Overlay).
Secondary Area
Applicant: Chase Company
PC Recommendation: Approve M-1, -FP zoning, (8-0) 03/04/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-053](#) – Annexing 124 South Assembly Street and 126 South Assembly Street, Richland County TMS #11301-04-14 and 11301-04-19 – *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 24.***

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 124 and 126 S. Assembly Street, TMS# 11301-04-14 and -19; request to annex and zone the property M-1 (Light Manufacturing with Flood Protective Overlay) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-053 – Annexing 124 South Assembly Street and 126 South Assembly Street, Richland County TMS #11301-04-14 and 11301-04-19.

25. [201 South Assembly Street](#), TMS# 11301-15-03; request to annex and zone the properties M-1, FP (Light Industrial with Flood Protective Overlay). The property is zoned M-1 (Light Industrial) in Richland County – *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 2
Proposal: Annex and zone property M-1, -FP (Light Manufacturing with Flood Protective Overlay).
Secondary Area
Applicant: Chase Company
PC Recommendation: Approve M-1, -FP zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-054](#) – Annexing 201 South Assembly Street, Richland County TMS #11301-15-03 – *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 25.***

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 201 South Assembly Street, TMS# 11301-15-03; request to annex and zone the properties M-1, FP (Light Industrial with Flood Protective Overlay) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-054 – Annexing 201 South Assembly Street, Richland County TMS #11301-15-03.

26. [601 Bush River Road](#), TMS# 07304-01-10; request to annex and zone the property C-3 (General Commercial). The property is zoned GC (General Commercial) in Richland County– *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 2
Proposal: Annex and zone property C-3 (General Commercial). Secondary Area
Applicant: Michael E. Hutchins
PC Recommendation: Approve C-3 zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-055](#) – Annexing 601 Bush River Road, Richland County TMS #07304-01-10 – *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 26.***

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 601 Bush River Road, TMS# 07304-01-10; request to annex and zone the property C-3 (General Commercial) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-055 – Annexing 601 Bush River Road, Richland County TMS #07304-01-10.

27. [120 Clemson Road](#), TMS# 25608-01-38; request to annex and zone the property C-3 (General Commercial). The property is zoned GC (General Commercial) in Richland County – *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 4
Proposal: Annex and zone property C-3 (General Commercial). Primary Area
Applicant: Michael E. Hutchins
PC Recommendation: Approve C-3 zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-056](#) – Annexing 120 Clemson Road, Richland County TMS #25608-01-38– *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 27.***

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 120 Clemson Road, TMS# 25608-01-38; request to annex and zone the property C-3 (General Commercial) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-056 – Annexing 120 Clemson Road, Richland County TMS #25608-01-38.

28. [18 Dandridge Court](#), TMS# 13715-01-14; request to annex and zone the property RS-1 (Single Family Residential). The property is zoned RS-LD (Single Family Residential – Low Density) in Richland County– *Approved on first reading*.
 Council District: 4
 Proposal: Annex and zone property RS-1 (Single Family Residential). Secondary Area
 Applicant: Barbara A. Beeler and Mark R. Anderson
 PC Recommendation: Approve RS-1 zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
 Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-057](#) – Annexing 18 Dandridge Court, Richland County TMS #13715-01-14– *Approved on first reading*.

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 28**.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 18 Dandridge Court, TMS# 13715-01-14; request to annex and zone the property RS-1 (Single Family Residential) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-057 – Annexing 18 Dandridge Court, Richland County TMS #13715-01-14.

MAP AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

29. [E/S Clemson Road at N/S Earth Road](#), TMS# 25700-04-02; request to rezone from C-3 (General Commercial) to C-3 with AS (arterial street sign) overlay– *Approved on first reading by a vote of six (6) to one (1)*.
 Council District: 4
 Proposal: Rezone property from C-3 to C-3 with AS overlay (40 ft. x 40 ft.)
 Applicant: Blake Valentine, Lamar Advertising
 PC Recommendation: Approve C-3 with AS zoning (7-0) 03/04/13
 Staff Recommendation: Approve

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that an arterial street overlay is how you permit the establishment of new advertising signs also known as billboards. She further explained that the city has a cap and replace program that requires an applicant to take down billboards in other locations in order to establish a new billboard and the applicant has to apply for and be granted the sign overlay. She reported that the applicant is taking down two (2) nonconforming signs in the North Main Street area in order to establish this new sign on Clemson Road.

Mr. Blake Valentine, Applicant / Lamar Advertising explained that they will be removing a sign near the old Coca Cola Plant in the 2800-2900 block of North Main Street and another one near the Holy Temple Church in the 5400 block of North Main Street.

Councilor Devine asked if this will be regular or digital sign.

Councilor Plaugh inquired about the size of the sign.

Mr. Blake Valentine, Applicant / Lamar Advertising said it will be a 272 sq. ft. sign with the digital side facing I-20.

Councilor Plaugh asked what backs up to the parcel.

Mayor Benjamin said there's nothing there.

Councilor Devine reported seeing several accidents at this intersection. She asked staff about the height restrictions and if the sign would be a distraction.

Mr. Blake Valentine, Applicant / Lamar Advertising said the maximum height is 35 sq. ft. and it would not be a distraction.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted six (6) to one (1) to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for E/S Clemson Road at N/S Earth Road, TMS# 25700-04-02; request to rezone from C-3 (General Commercial) to C-3 with AS (arterial street sign) overlay. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Ms. Plaugh, Mr. Newman, Mr. Runyan and Mr. Baddourah. Mayor Benjamin voted nay.

30. 100 block/305 Veterans Road, TMS# 16406-06-06 (p) 16406-06-07 and -07; request to rezone from C-1 (Office/Institutional) to C-2 (Neighborhood Commercial) – *Approved on first reading by a vote of six (6) to one (1).*

Council District:	4
Proposal:	Rezone property from C-1 to C-2
Applicant:	James Kassler
PC Recommendation:	Approve C-2 zoning, (8-0) 03/04/13
Staff Recommendation:	Deny

Mr. James Kassler, Applicant / Founder and Owner of Patriotic Amusements explained that his business provides inflatable party rental outdoor amusement, bounce houses, giant slides and dunk tanks. He is retiring from the military and would like to develop this property for retail space to grow his business by adding a party supply store and fireworks. He needs a 2,000 sq. ft. facility and enough parking spaces for the venue.

Councilor Plaugh said she spoke to the neighborhood president and the neighbors weren't aware of this until she called; they would like to know more about what will be done at this site once it is rezoned. She agreed to support the rezoning and allow them to have some dialog prior to second reading.

Councilor Newman asked why staff recommended denial of the request.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that she spoke with Mr. Conner, but he didn't have any concerns. She explained that staff is concerned about extending the inventory of retail further into the neighborhood; the recommendation is advisory.

Mr. James Kassler, Owner of Patriotic Amusements acknowledged that he spoke with the neighborhood president and he has no concerns.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted six (6) to one (1) to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 100 block/305 Veterans Road, TMS# 16406-06-06 (p) 16406-06-07 and -07; request to rezone from C-1 (Office/Institutional) to C-2 (Neighborhood Commercial), with the understanding that further dialog with the residents will occur prior to second reading consideration, if necessary. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Ms. Plough, Mr. Newman, Mr. Runyan and Mr. Baddourah. Mayor Benjamin voted nay.

Councilor Devine suggested that Mr. Kassler leave his business card with the Director of Parks and Recreation, because the city uses inflatables for various events and would certainly want to support this small business.

31. 4400 Fair Street, TMS# 09211-05-01; request to rezone from RS-3 (Single Family Residential) to C-1 (Office & Institutional) – *Approved on first reading.*
- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Council District: | 1 |
| Proposal: | Rezone property from RS-3 to C-1 |
| Applicant: | Eau Claire Cooperative Health |
| PC Recommendation: | Approve C-1 zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13 |
| Staff Recommendation: | Approve |

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 31.***

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 4400 Fair Street, TMS# 09211-05-01; request to rezone from RS-3 (Single Family Residential) to C-1 (Office & Institutional).

32. 1428 Heidt Street, TMS# 11411-01-11; request to rezone from RG-2, -DP (General Residential in a Design Preservation overlay) to C-3, -DP (General Commercial in a Design Preservation overlay). – *This item was withdrawn by the applicant.*
- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Council District: | 2 |
| Proposal: | Rezone property from RG-, -DP to C-3, -DP |
| Applicant: | The Law Office of Clifford Bush, III, LLC |
| PC Recommendation: | Deny C-3, -DP zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13 |
| Staff Recommendation: | Deny |

CASE WITH MAP AMENDMENT AND TEXT AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

33. **(A. Map Amendment)**

1626 Main Street, TMS# R09014-04-18; request to rezone from C-5 (Central Business District), -DD (-Design/Development) to C-5 (Central Business District), -DD (-Design/Development) -DP (Design Preservation) – *Approved on first reading.*

Council District: 2
Proposal: Rezone property from C-5, -DD to C-5, -DD, -DP
Applicant: Krista M. Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services
PC Recommendation: Approve C-5, -DP zoning, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

(B. Text Amendment)

Amend §17-691 (c) to designate 1626 Main Street, TMS# 09014-04-18 as a Group II Landmark

Council District: 2
Proposal: Request for Group II Landmark Designation
Applicant: Krista M. Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services
DDRC Recommendation: Approve, (8-0) 02/14/13
PC Recommendation: Approve, (6-0) 04/01/13
Staff Recommendation: Approve

Ordinance No.: 2013-044 – 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, (C), to add 1626 Main Street, TMS #09014-04-18– *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 33.***

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to the Map Amendment for 1626 Main Street, TMS# R09014-04-18; request to rezone from C-5 (Central Business District), -DD (-Design/Development) to C-5 (Central Business District), -DD (-Design/Development) -DP (Design Preservation) **and** Ordinance No.: 2013-044 – 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, (C), to add 1626 Main Street, TMS #09014-04-18.

TEXT AMENDMENT – FIRST READING

34. [Amend §17-258 Table of Permitted Uses \(Division I\) \(Services\), 88 Private Households](#) to delete High-rise use category; and **Delete §17-304 – High-rise residential developments** in its entirety– *Approved on first reading.*

Proposal: **Amend §17-258 Table of Permitted Uses (Division I) (Services), 88 Private Households** to delete High-rise use category; and **Delete §17-304 – High-rise residential developments** in its entirety.

Applicant: K. Brian Cook, Zoning Administrator

PC Recommendation: Approve (6-0) 04/01/13

Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance No.: 2013-049](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Division 9, Supplementary District Regulations, to delete in its entirety Sec. 17-304 High-rise residential developments, and Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses, SIC 88 Private Households 8811.2 to permanently delete High-rise– *Approved on first reading.*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that the peculiarity of this category was brought to their attention recently when an applicant wanted to redevelop a hotel back into a residential facility; it was built as a condo and transitioned into a hotel. She explained that in our zoning ordinance, any other use can build up to the allowable height, unless you are multi-family residential. She explained that if a multi-family residential goes over 50', it is then categorized as a special exception in some districts or it may not be allowed at all. She said that staff discussed how to best address this and concluded that it makes no sense to treat multi-family residential unlike any other use classification. She noted that the height of the district will apply to all uses equally.

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 34.***

Upon a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-049 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 17, Planning, Land Development and Zoning, Article III, Division 9, Supplementary District Regulations, to delete in its entirety Sec. 17-304 High-rise residential developments, and Sec. 17-258 Table of permitted uses, SIC 88 Private Households 8811.2 to permanently delete High-rise.

- **Council closed the Zoning Public Hearing at 7:27 p.m.**

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager reintroduced phase one of the Build Columbia Initiative: Program Assessment and Visioning to include a business context model, strategic analysis, program themes summary, strategic roadmap and a funding analysis. She unveiled the Build Columbia Communication, which will help us refine our understanding of the common community traits, identify their interests and determine how information may be tailored for distribution to the community.

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget Director introduced Tina Saxon and Jake Scoggins from the Budget Office. She presented the fiscal year 2013/2014 proposed budget. She said we are in the third year of implementation of the strategic plan and public safety; economic development infrastructure; communications; and customer service are the four main goals. She reaffirmed that first reading of the budget ordinances is scheduled for June 4, 2013; second reading is scheduled for June 18, 2013; and implementation will be July 1, 2013.

Mayor Benjamin asked about the parking meter accepting credit cards and the master plan for capital improvements.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager said we are very close to issuing a Request For Proposals (RFP) for the master plan and credit card meters; we will start with a pilot and then have the opportunity to phase into a larger project.

Mayor Benjamin asked to review the draft RFP. He noted that so many technologies are available and we have to use that to our advantage.

Councilor Plough asked for the dollar amount associated with the Cost of Living Adjustment.

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget Director said across the city is approximately \$1.25 million.

Councilor Plough inquired about the pay increases for Fire, Police and 911.

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget Director said that the Fire Department's budget includes a full year salary increase, but Police and 911 will receive increases in January 2014.

Councilor Plough asked how it became a 10% increase and when was the commitment made.

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget Director said the previous Council took action in 2008.

Mayor Benjamin said regardless of what a previous Council decided, this Council acted on this.

Councilor Plough inquired about the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Ms. Melisa Caughman, Budget Director said they will come back with the General Fund for CIPs in July.

Councilor Plough talked about funding for Bull Street.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said that they are working to finalize the development agreement and it will not only impact the Water and Sewer Fund.

Councilor Plough asked how much revenue will be generated from the fee increases.

Ms. Melissa Caughman, Budget Director said \$100,000 from Parks and Recreation fees and \$500,000 from the hazardous materials fees.

Councilor Plough inquired about the policy on court fines. She asked if a vote was taken.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said a vote wasn't taken; it was a discussion. She said it has been implemented in some areas, because we have received some revenue.

Councilor Plough asked do we need to take an action.

Councilor Devine said that an action is not needed; it's really within the Judge's discretion.

Councilor Plough said that officers are telling people that Council won't allow them to adjust the fees and it is causing confusion.

Mr. Leslie Wisler, Assistant Police Chief said that he will look into the matter and report back.

Councilor Baddourah asked how many businesses will be affected by the hazardous materials fees.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Fire Chief said 70 to 80 businesses; it will only be the stores that have a certain amount of flammable liquids or gas.

Councilor Baddourah asked about alcohol.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Fire Chief said that alcohol will not be covered by this ordinance.

▪ **Council opened the Budget Public Hearing at 8:24 p.m.**

35. [Ordinance No.: 2013-046](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-5 User fees

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 35**.*

36. [Ordinance No.: 2013-059](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 9, Fire Prevention and Protection to add Article V Hazardous Materials

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to **Item 36**.*

37. [Ordinance No.: 2013-065](#) – To Raise Revenue and Adopt the Budget for the City of Columbia, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014

No one appeared in support of or in opposition to Item 37.

- **Council closed the Budget Public Hearing at 8:25 p.m.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

38. [Business Friendly Progress Committee](#)

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plaugh and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Councilman Sam Davis and Ms. Dana Higgins, City Engineer to the Business Friendly Progress Committee with the understanding that Ms. Higgins will serve in this capacity until a Business Liaison/Ombudsman is hired.

39. [Commercial Revolving Loan Fund Committee](#)

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Jennifer Bishop as a small business representative; the appointment of Kathleen Palinski as a small business representative; the appointment of Paul Halphen as banker representative and the appointment of Jason Reynolds as an attorney representative to the Commercial Revolving Loan Fund Committee.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

40. Council is asked to refer the review of parking on River Drive to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to refer the review of parking on River Drive and other thoroughfares that may have more on-street parking than driveway space to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

41. Arts and Historic Preservation Committee May 14, 2013 [Report](#)

Councilor Runyan reported that during the Arts and Historic Preservation Committee Meeting, Marvin Chernoff presented the concept of World War II Visual Arts Museum using the University of South Carolina's Fox Movietones series. The committee suggested that Mr. Chernoff form a small committee and bring a report back to Council. The committee discussed funding legacy projects with hospitality tax funds. The committee discussed the return on investments and focused on providing collaborative opportunities for construction operation and maintenance to avoid diluting investments. He recommended that Council appoint five (5) members to serve as the vetting committee of projects, which will be referred by Council.

Councilor Plough asked Mr. Runyan how the legacy projects will fit in with the projects identified in today's report on Parks and Recreation facilities.

Councilor Runyan said it could be a part of the guidelines or metrics given to the committee to determine how projects overlay with the priorities of the city.

Councilor Devine expressed concerns about the committee vetting a project that could be cost prohibitive to us or has other concerns that committee would not be equipped to review. She suggested that Council review the projects in a work session then refer projects to the committee for review.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said we already know what some of the projects are, but we certainly want to move forward with the committee process. She said with the projects and budget constraints, it is incumbent to utilize the information in front of us, too. She said they are looking for the guidelines or criteria.

Mayor Benjamin suggested that we keep it on a short timeline and they should consummate the committee on June 18th. He said that the Master Plan recommendations fit quite well with what we are discussing; let's make sure we integrate that into the full discussion.

Councilor Runyan added that this Council is very focused on making sure that when we invest dollars that we also understand what the return is and what will accrue back to the taxpayers of this city so that we make informed decisions.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Ruynan and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted six (6) to one (1) to endorse the concept of City Council appointing five (5) members to serve as the vetting committee of legacy projects that will be referred by Council. Voting aye were Mr. Davis, Ms. Devine, Ms. Plough, Mr. Newman, Mr. Runyan and Mayor Benjamin. Mr. Baddourah voted nay.

42. Public Safety Committee May 14, 2013 [Report](#)

Councilor Baddourah reported that the Public Safety Committee reviewed the policy for traffic control for runs and walks and asked the Police Department to develop guidelines for better communication with the neighborhoods. The committee also reviewed the revised Block Watch Program and crime prevention eligibility requirements for participating in the program.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adopt the revised Block Watch Program Manual as a guideline for neighborhood crime prevention.

Councilor Plough expressed concerns about the city cultivating protégés outside of the local preference area.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recalled that staff began reviewing the Disparity Study recommendations with Council at the Retreat and it was referred into the Economic and Community Development Committee at which point the committee will go through each recommendation more thoroughly. She said that the idea was for mentors and protégés to be within the local preference area. She suggested that this matter go back to the committee.

Ms. Dana Higgins, City Engineer clarified that some of the protégés were already in the program and were grandfathered in.

A motion made by Ms. Plough to amend the Mentor Protégé Program and restrict protégés to businesses within our local preference area, was withdrawn.

Councilor Davis asked that the Disparity Study be discussed at the Economic & Community Development Committee on May 28, 2013.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Oliver Frances said that he is an advocate for the youth, because they are the future of tomorrow. He raised money for uniforms and equipment for the little league program, because the Parks and Recreation Department left out the summer league for 14 and 15 year olds. He reported that the Parks and Recreation Department told them they are an independent league and would need to rent the fields and pay for the umpires. He said that the Latimore Manor League didn't have uniforms and he went to purchase them for the youth. He challenged Council to provide the funds.

Mayor Benjamin inquired about the cost for umpires.

Mr. Oliver Frances said that each league pays \$40 for a total of \$80.

Mayor Benjamin said he sponsors a team at Greenview Park; more youth should be involved in baseball; and we will find a way to help cover the T&T debt for equipment purchases. He said we must find a way to take care of all of the fifty-two kids so they can have an active and violence free summer.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to reconvened back into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

- **Council adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk