



CITY OF COLUMBIA  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013  
2:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL – 1737 MAIN STREET  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The Columbia City Council conducted a Work Session on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Leona K. Plaugh, The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine was absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

A motion made by Ms. Plaugh and seconded by Mr. Baddourah to remove a contractual matter from Executive Session and place it before the people for a discussion with City Council, failed by a vote of two (2) to four (4). Voting aye were Mr. Baddourah and Ms. Plaugh. Voting nay were Mr. Runyan, Mr. Newman, Mr. Davis and Mayor Benjamin.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to amend the agenda by removing the discussion of security cameras from Executive Session and discussing the matter in open session.

### **CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said this week's City Manager's Update continues with the theme of community and citizen response. She said we want to start meeting our communities where they are in terms of the quality of life issues they face. She said we deal with a lot of issues related to code enforcement, abandoned buildings, over occupancy, etc. She said they hope to implement an approach in many communities across the city where the calls for service appear to be elevated. She said the objective of the analysis is to determine quantitatively which neighborhoods would benefit most from outreach based on the calls for service.

Mr. Sung Jun Kim, GIS Coordinator said they analyzed data from the 911 Center and code and zoning violations from Planning and Development Services. He said there were 173,217 service calls received from January to August 2013 with over 300 different call types. The top five (5) call categories were used for this analysis.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager explained that as we look at the neighborhoods that come in with elevated numbers, we will get into those neighborhoods with the hope of staying there until the calls for services decrease. She reported that Community Development, Parks and Recreation, and Planning and Development Services staff will be working in the Martin Luther King Neighborhood from Thursday to Saturday of this week. She reported that Parking Services also initiated an effort to talk with students and

neighborhoods and Public Works will participate. She noted that Lyon Street and Hyatt Park have been identified and we will compliment efforts that are already in place.

Mr. David Hatcher, Housing Official reported that in an effort to rid homes of blighted structures that are an attractive nuisance for criminal activity, fifty-two (52) residential demolitions have been completed over the past two (2) years. He said that another fifty (50) houses are at various stages in the demolition process.

Councilor Davis expressed concerns about the length of time it takes to act on these types of properties. He said that assistance is needed from the state, because one hindrance is proper notice. He hopes there are some specifics we can lay out and discuss with the appropriate parties as well as looking at what we can do; we have to show and tell that we mean business, because it's killing our neighborhoods.

Mr. Aubrey Jenkins, Chief of the Columbia Fire Department explained that the property located at 2706 Main Street, which is formerly known as The Varsity has gone through a long process to reach the point of demolition. He reported that demolition will begin next week and should be completed during the first week in December.

Ms. Kimberly Gathers, Director of Columbia-Richland 911 Communications Center reported that the City of Columbia and Richland County have launched a new alerts program called the Columbia-Richland Alerts System also known as CRA. The system is designed to provide time sensitive information on public safety issues, power outages, missing persons, community events, road closures, public meetings, traffic safety and water/sewer alerts. Citizens register online and can receive alerts through landlines, cell phones, emails and telecommunication devices for the hearing impaired.

### **CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION**

1. [Demolition Delay Proposal](#) – Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department

Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department recalled that members of Council asked for a demolition delay ordinance. She said that the draft ordinance reflects staff's research and recommendations. She said that the ordinance will allow time to determine a building's architectural and/or cultural significance as well as time to explore alternatives to demolition before demolition takes place. She proposed a 180 day delay that would allow time to explore the sale or relocation of structures within the city's Design District and buildings that are fifty (50) years old or older. She explained that once a permit is submitted for demolition, staff would then have ten (10) days to research the property and determine if it has cultural or architectural significance. If it doesn't, staff could issue an approval for demolition, but if it does, the matter would be scheduled for consideration at the next Design Development Review Commission (DDRC) meeting. If the DDRC doesn't find the building to be significant, it could issue an approval for demolition otherwise, they could impose a 180 day delay. She distributed copies of the proposed application that includes criteria for determining significance.

Councilor Newman asked for the range of days other cities used for demolition delays.

Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department said the shortest period was 90-days and the longest period was 365-days.

Councilor Baddourah asked how much time currently lapses between the issuance of a permit and the demolition itself. He asked if we require asbestos surveys.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said that permits can be issued on the same day, but the demolition depends on when they start work. She noted that permits are valid for six (6) months. She said that DHEC has regulation over the surveys.

Councilor Plough asked about the level of investment being made by the applicant.

Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department said an applicant will be required to submit an appraisal.

Councilor Plough asked what would happen if demolition is denied and the applicant doesn't have funding to do anything otherwise.

Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department said they can sell or keep the property. She said if the building isn't sold or if it can't be moved, demolition will then be approved.

Councilor Runyan asked if this would constitute an economic taking.

Ms. Amy Moore, Preservation Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department said other municipalities have this in place and it would be the same scenario. She noted that the ordinance was reviewed by the Legal Department.

Councilor Davis said that he supports this, because it will help to maintain the character and significance of a city, community or a neighborhood.

Councilor Plough suggested that they might want to consider buildings that are 75 years or older and shorten the demolition delay period to 90 days. She supports the partial demolitions.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said the next steps are to draft an ordinance that would come before the Planning Commission and a Zoning Public Hearing before City Council. She said this cannot be adopted without a text amendment to the zoning ordinance.

There was a consensus of Council to request feedback from the impacted parties and the additional information that was asked for and to schedule a public forum.

2. Long-Term Solutions for the Drop off of Ex-Detainees from the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center – The Honorable Moe Baddourah

Councilor Baddourah explained that there was a recommendation to change the drop off location to the Police Headquarters in the Vista and then it was changed to the Emergency Shelter after hearing from businesses in the Vista. He recalled that there was a discussion as to whether or not the city is responsible for accepting prisoners or coordinating the drop off location. He said the prisoners are free and we are making it faster for them to commit crimes downtown. He asked why we are coordinating the drop off location inside the city limits. He asked if the proposal to build a sidewalk from the jail to Bluff Road is still on the table.

Councilor Runyan said it is more of a partnership between the Columbia Police Department, Richland County, the Detention Center, the Winter Shelter and the City of Columbia. He said this has been a persistent problem of releasing ex-offenders on the streets of the city in the middle of the night. He said the Police Chief was trying to find a way to help protect the citizens of the city and provide help for the people who are being released.

Mayor Benjamin clarified that the city is not transporting anyone downtown. He said we have to think of something that is productive and reasonable in terms of resolving this problem.

Councilor Newman said if the Department of Corrections are arresting people here and they can be released, then it is the prudent thing for us to coordinate that. He noted that nobody will be happy with a drop-off location in the city limits. He asked that Chief Santiago provide guidance on the best location. He said it is our responsibility to do something about this. As we evaluate the other options, he asked that we pull in the leadership for the area and use all available communication tools to inform them.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said there is responsibility on the city and county's part. She said using the Emergency Shelter is temporary. She said that discussions are moving forward on a dedicated route, schedules for bond hearings and other matters.

Mayor Benjamin suggested that there be partnerships with taxi companies. He asked that we assist as many people as possible while the shelter is open. He disagreed with the county dropping off a concentration of people anywhere.

Councilor Runyan said as an incentive, the state is releasing detainees one day early if the detainee is being picked up. He said they are working on other incentives as well.

Councilor Plaugh suggested that a similar model be used with the county.

Councilor Runyan asked if there is a statutory requirement to have bond court overnight.

Mayor Benjamin suggested that it be a directive of the Chief Judge.

Councilor Davis said we all have to know where folks are being dropped off and there has to be an understanding of the results of that particular action and those that are immediately impacted.

Mr. Kenneth E. Gaines, Esq., City Attorney outlined the bond release times for the city and county.

Mr. Ruben Santiago, Acting Police Chief reported that eleven (11) individuals were dropped off over the weekend.

Mayor Benjamin said we must be creative as we meet our obligations to business owners and others in the Vista and Downtown; we also have extended obligations to the residents of Bluff Estates, Eastway Park and others along with the longstanding promise that we won't force folks to walk up Bluff Road.

Councilor Newman stated that the scheduling of bond court is an issue of volume for the Detention Center and the county is considering an 11 p.m. bond court or even a 24-hour bond court.

There was an in-depth discussion with neighborhood leaders.

There was a consensus of Council to collect more data over the next week; determine who is being processed at the Emergency Shelter, how they're being processed and where they are going; get answers to the legal questions posed today; ask Richland County to focus on daytime releases rather than nighttime releases; and consider the use of taxis.

3. City Council [Proposed Meeting Schedule](#) for December 2013 to December 2014

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to meet on December 10, 2013 instead of December 3, 2013 and to approve the 2014 meeting schedule. Mr. Baddourah and Mr. Newman were not present for the vote.

4. Security Cameras

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager provided an update on the citywide security camera project. She reported that a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued, responses were received and staff rejected all responses. She explained that they are rewriting the RFP and intend to release it within the next two (2) weeks.

Councilor Davis expressed an interest in this significant contract benefiting more than one (1) vendor. He said that the locations should be both conspicuous and inconspicuous.

Councilor Plough asked if the city will monitor the cameras.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager said the vendor will monitor the cameras. She said they will have the ability to relocate some cameras and we will own the data.

Mr. Ruben Santiago, Acting Police Chief said they are working to determine where the cameras will be located, but the intent is to capture vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the main arteries into and out of the city.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager sought clarification of Council's will to move forward with the RFP for the vendor.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager said securing the services to monitor and maintain the equipment seems to be a good approach.

Councilor Baddourah asked if the location of the cameras will affect the bid process.

Ms. Melissa Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager said no; we are asking for a per unit price for upfront installation and the monthly cost.

Mayor Benjamin said the ability to monitor cameras live has helped us to be incredibly responsive in solving and preventing crimes.

Mr. Kenneth E. Gaines, Esq., City Attorney suggested that this be discussed further in Executive Session.

Councilor Runyan suggested that only movement be archived in order to save storage.

There was a consensus of Council to add 24/7 monitoring to the RFP and to move forward.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 4:15 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 5 and 6**.

5. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
6. Receipt of legal advice which relates to matters covered by attorney-client privilege – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore  
City Clerk



CITY OF COLUMBIA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013  
6:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1737 MAIN STREET

The Columbia City Council conducted a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Leona K. Plough, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman were absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa B. Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **INVOCATION**

Chaplain Billie Bright, Columbia Fire Department offered the Invocation.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to defer the consideration of **Item 8** (*Purchase of One (1) Tandem Dump Truck*).

### **PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS**

No one appeared at this time.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Meeting Minutes of May 7 (*Revised*), July 1 and August 6, 2013

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the revised Minutes for May 7, 2013. The approval of the July 1, 2013 and August 6, 2013 was deferred.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

2. Bill Linder Day Proclamation – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed Tuesday, November 12, 2013 as Bill Linder Day in the City of Columbia.

\*\*Mayor Benjamin and the members of Council recognized Mr. Kenneth E. Gaines, Esq., City Attorney for 25 years of service to the City of Columbia.

### **SIDEWALK VENDING PUBLIC HEARING**

- **Council opened the Sidewalk Vending Public Hearing at 6:27 p.m.**

Mr. Roger Myers, Business License Administrator explained that they reviewed the sidewalk vending requests and it appears that the chairs are there for employees to avoid standing for long periods of time and the tables are being used for condiments. He said that the tables and chairs are prohibited under the current ordinance and staff will ensure that the businesses are fully aware of this.

#### **ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

3. [Ordinance No.: 2013-039](#) – Granting a Franchise to Keyser Concessions, LLC for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart on the northwest corner of Main Street and Washington Street – *Consideration of this item was deferred on April 9, 2013. – Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to this matter.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Runyan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-039 – Granting a Franchise to Keyser Concessions, LLC for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart on the northwest corner of Main Street and Washington Street.

- **Council closed the Sidewalk Vending Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.**

4. [Ordinance No.: 2013-075](#) – Granting a Franchise to Anthony Garvin d/b/a Taniya's Fire Grill for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart in the mid-block pad near 1701 Main Street – *Approved on first reading.*

*No one appeared in support of or in opposition to this matter.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-075 – Granting a Franchise to Anthony Garvin d/b/a Taniya's Fire Grill for operation of a stationary sidewalk vending cart in the mid-block pad near 1701 Main Street.

## OTHER MATTERS

### 5. Neighborhood Street Lighting Requests

Upon a single motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the following Neighborhood Street Lighting Requests:

Neighborhoods Listed by Priority	Existing Lights	Requested Lights	Current Lease Cost / Annually	Project Request Total	Total Year to Date
<a href="#">Carriage Hill Apartments</a>	7	7	\$832.44	\$832.44	\$832.44
<a href="#">1005 Deerwood Road</a>	1	1	\$118.92	\$118.92	\$3,213.76
<a href="#">Samson Circle</a>	12	7	\$1,427.01	\$832.44	\$4,046.20
<a href="#">Farrow Road</a>	35	14	\$7,438.20	\$2,975.28	\$7,021.48
<a href="#">Martin Luther King Neighborhood</a>	143	39	\$17,005.56	\$4,637.88	\$11,659.36

## CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Plough asked that **Item 16** be removed from the **Consent Agenda**, because she cannot support using general fund money to make commercial loans.

Mr. Joey Jaco, Director of Utilities and Engineering explained that **Item 14** is a contract for four (4) monitoring stations as part of our MS4 permit. He said the amount covers installation, equipment and monitoring for each station and the contract is for 18 months to include 12 months of monitoring and analysis.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 6, 7 and 9** through **15**.

## CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

- Council is asked to approve [Capital Improvement Project SS7247](#); Sewer Services for 1817 Cushman Drive, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to G.H. Smith Construction, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$55,382.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Special Contracts/Capital Projects; 552999-658650/SS724701-658650 – **Note:** This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Lake Murray Utility Company (Protégé) located in Chapin, SC is implementing 10% (\$5,500.00) of the contract value. The original budget for this project is \$59,255.00. - Approved*
- Council is asked to approve [a Contract for Compost Grinding Services](#), as requested by the Solid Waste Division. Award to McClam and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$129,634.11. This vendor is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: Solid Waste Compost; 1014406-638500 - Approved*

8. Council is asked to approve [Purchase of One \(1\) Tandem Dump Truck](#), as requested by the Water Distribution Division. Award to Shealy's Truck Center, Inc., meeting the Local Business Enterprise requirements in the amount of \$134,242.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Utilities Water Distribution & Maintenance-Autos, Truck, Heavy Equipment Capital; 5516203-658500 – Consideration of this item was deferred.*
  
9. Council is asked to approve a [Contract Renewal for Auditing Services](#), as requested by the Finance Department. Award to Webster Rogers, LLP in the amount of \$134,900.00. This vendor is located in Florence, SC. *Funding Source: Finance Water Administration-Audit Costs, 5511409-635600; \$67,450.00 and Accounting-Audit Costs, 1011401-635600; \$67,450.00 - Approved*
  
10. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of One \(1\) Asphalt Paver](#), as requested by the Street Division. Award to Blanchard Machinery Company, using the National Joint Powers Alliance Contract in the amount of \$137,410.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Streets-Water & Sewer Repair/Auto, Truck, Heavy Equipment-Capital; 5513202-658500 - Approved*
  
11. Council is asked to approve the [Emergency Purchase of Magnesium Hydroxide](#), as requested by the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant. Award to Premier Magnesia, LLC in the amount of \$196,344.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Wastewater Treatment Plant, Operations, Testing and Maintenance; 5516208-638500 – **Note:** This purchase allows time to implement a temporary chemical feed including a bulk storage tank and feed system. - Approved*
  
12. Council is asked to approve [an Agreement for Engineering Services](#) for Regulatory Compliance Consulting for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Black & Veatch Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$266,000.00. This vendor is located in Greenville, SC. *Funding Source: Project SS7256; Sewer Maintenance Fund; 5516208-638505. This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project and the following sub-consultants will be utilized for this project at 17.45% of the contract value. - Approved*

Sub-consultants	Firms / Locations	Services	Contract Value
Howard Engineering (Protégé, FBE)	Marietta, SC	Electrical and Instrumentation System Design and Laboratory Training Services	6.2%
Shealy Environmental Services, Inc. (SBE)	Cayce, SC	Analytical Testing Services	7.5%
ICA Engineering, Inc.	Columbia, SC	Biological Process Control SOP Training	3.75%

13. Council is asked to approve [Capital Improvement Project WM4286](#); Water Main Construction on Hampton Trace Court; South Branch Road; Minehead Court; Dellwood Road; Brackenridge Road; and Tattlers Trail, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to G.H. Smith Construction, Inc., (Mentor) the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$367,835.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Special Contracts/Capital Projects; 5529999-658650/WM428601-658650 – **Note:** This is a Mentor Protégé Program Project. Lake Murray Utility Company, Inc. (Protégé) located in Chapin, SC is implementing 20% (\$60,000.00) of the contract value. The original budget for this project is \$409,849.00. - Approved*
14. Council is asked to approve an [Agreement for Water Quality Monitoring within Rocky Branch and Saluda River Watersheds](#), as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to Woolpert, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$573,997.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Project SD8385; Storm Water Utility Fund 5534202-638505 **Note:** The following sub-consultants will be utilized for this project at 13.58% of the contract value. - Approved*

Sub-consultant	Location	Services	Contract Value
Rogers and Callcott, Inc.	Greenville, SC	Storm water runoff sample analysis and general laboratory services	5.22%
YSI, Inc.	Petersburg, FL	Monitoring equipment sales and monitoring site installation service	8.36%

#### ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

15. [Ordinance No.: 2013-109](#) – Granting encroachment to Noble I/HY Columbia, LLC for installation and maintenance of a driveway, sidewalks, curbing, guttering, landscaping and an irrigation system within the right of way areas of the 800 block of Lady Street, and installation and maintenance of a sidewalk with pavers and a handicap ramp, curbing and guttering within the right of way area of the 800 block of Gervais Street adjacent to its building at 819 Gervais Street, Richland County TMS #08916-01-04 – *First reading approval was given on October 15, 2013. – Approved on second reading.*

#### ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

16. [Ordinance No.: 2013-117](#) – Adopting the Commercial Revolving Loan Fund (“CRLF”) Code, revised August 2, 2013 – *First reading approval was given on October 15, 2013. – [Memo outlining major changes to CRLF Code](#) – Approved on second reading by a vote of four (4) to one (1).*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-117 – Adopting the Commercial Revolving Loan Fund (“CRLF”) Code, revised August 2, 2013. Voting aye were Mr. Baddourah, Mr. Runyan, Mr. Davis and Mayor Benjamin. Ms. Plaugh voted nay.

### **ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

17. [Ordinance No.: 2013-101](#) – Granting encroachment to the University of South Carolina for use of the right of way area of the 800 block of Sumter Street, Richland County TMS #11304-05-01, adjacent to the USC Arnold School of Health for installation and maintenance of stamped asphalt pavement, concrete curbing, driveway and brick wall – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-101 – Granting encroachment to the University of South Carolina for use of the right of way area of the 800 block of Sumter Street, Richland County TMS #11304-05-01, adjacent to the USC Arnold School of Health for installation and maintenance of stamped asphalt pavement, concrete curbing, driveway and brick wall.

18. [Ordinance No: 2013-114](#) – Granting encroachment to the South Carolina Department of Transportation for installation and maintenance of a landscaping and an irrigation system in the right of way areas of the 900 block of Park Street, 900 block of College Street and 900 block of Pendleton Street adjacent to 955 Park Street, Richland County TMS #08916-08-01 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No: 2013-114 – Granting encroachment to the South Carolina Department of Transportation for installation and maintenance of a landscaping and an irrigation system in the right of way areas of the 900 block of Park Street, 900 block of College Street and 900 block of Pendleton Street adjacent to 955 Park Street, Richland County TMS #08916-08-01.

19. [Ordinance No. 2013-116](#) – Granting encroachment to Habenicht Co. LLC for installation and maintenance of a wooden barrel, post and footings within the right of way area of the 1600 block of Main Street in front of its business at 1631 Main Street, Richland County TMS #08914-10-09 – *Approved on first reading.*

Mayor Benjamin asked if he should pass on this vote since he is a former member of the Habenicht Co., LLC, but he has no interest now.

Mr. Kenneth E. Gaines, Esq., City Attorney said no sir; you don’t need to recuse yourself if you do not have a financial interest.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No. 2013-116 – Granting encroachment to Habenicht Co. LLC for installation and maintenance of a wooden barrel, post and footings within the right of way area of the 1600 block of Main Street in front of its business at 1631 Main Street, Richland County TMS #08914-10-09.

20. [Ordinance No.: 2013-125](#) – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the 2014 Famously Hot New Year Event – *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.: 2013-125 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the 2014 Famously Hot New Year Event.

- 20a. **\*\*[Ordinance No.: 2013-128](#)** – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Third Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Myers 2001 LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02 – *Approved on first reading by a vote of four (4) to one (1).*

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services explained that this extension permits the developer to continue to work with staff on development proposals for the site including any of the contractual requirements that were placed on them in the previous two iterations. She noted that the extension is for 120 days.

Councilor Plaugh asked if there is a cost for this extension.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said another \$1,000 will be put into escrow.

Councilor Plaugh asked when the escrow would go hard.

Ms. Missy Gentry, P.E., Assistant City Manager replied March 20, 2014.

Councilor Baddourah asked if it is a normal practice for someone to extend the contract twice in order to have a good vision for what they are going to do for the property.

Ms. Krista Hampton, Director of Planning and Development Services said it's not unheard of by any means, especially in this economy.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2013-128 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Third Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Myers 2001 LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02. Voting aye were Mr. Runyan, Ms. Plaugh, Mr. Davis and Mayor Benjamin. Mr. Baddourah voted nay.

**RESOLUTIONS**

- 21. [Resolution No.: R-2013-105](#) - Authorizing the appointment of Malane S. Pike, Esquire as a Hearing Officer in accordance with the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plaugh and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2013-105 - Authorizing the appointment of Malane S. Pike, Esquire as a Hearing Officer in accordance with the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia.

**APPOINTMENTS**

- 22. [Design Development Review Commission](#)

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted unanimously to approve the following appointments to the Design Development Review Commission:

Name	Position	District	Term
John Powell	Architect	District 4	2013-2016
Ashby Gressette	Architectural Historian	District 2	2013-2016
LaToya Grate	Planner	District 1	2013-2016
C. Bowen Horger, II	Attorney	District 4	2013-2016
Robert Wynn	Community Representative	District 2	2014-2017
Richard Harris Cohn, Jr.	Real Estate Broker/ Developer	District 4	2014-2017

Mayor Benjamin suggested that Tyler Gregg be considered for the next round of vacancies as a District 3 representative. He said there is a significant regional imbalance and he encouraged Mr. Davis to gather nominees for District I.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

23. [Resolution No.: R-2013-103](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Equipment Rental Agreement between the City of Columbia and Magic Ice USA, Inc. for the lease of a portable ice skating rink in Boyd Plaza – *Approved by a vote of four (4) to one (1).*

Councilor Plough asked for the budget, projected revenue and expenses. She asked about the city's projected operating costs during this time.

Mr. Randy Davis, Parks and Recreation Department explained that the contract amount of \$125,895 for this year excludes the management services that were included in the previous year's contract of \$158,500. He reported that \$119,699 was generated in revenue from November 22, 2012 to January 6, 2013 and they are expecting to match or exceed that amount this year.

Councilor Plough asked what the anticipated staff expenses are.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager explained that they budgeted for our staff to take over the management piece, because Mr. Caton and Mr. Baker felt they had a better handle with their own staff managing the skating rink from an operational standpoint. She that \$175,000 was budgeted and approximately \$50,000 of that is for staff and operating expenses.

Councilor Davis said this is less than the startup costs for last year. He asked if we are anticipating the costs to decrease the following year.

Mr. Randy Davis, Parks and Recreation Department said yes, because we've made permanent fixtures such as electricity to the area.

Mayor Benjamin said it is good to know if there are additional staffing costs that have been budgeted for. He said the costs will continue to go down and it is important to note that \$120,000 came back in. He said we spend millions of hospitality dollars every year on a number of different projects in hopes of increasing tourism and putting heads on beds; very few put money directly back into the till.

Councilor Plough said we should function as if this is an independent project. She said this Council is looking at all of the other benefits that come from having this amenity downtown. She requested a budget with revenues and expenditures. She said it is reasonable to expect out of pocket costs of \$25,000.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager recalled that there were ancillary matters such as school groups wanting to visit the skating rink. She said our Parks and Recreation staff is better equipped and they understand how to deal with children. She noted that such matters were factored in from a customer service perspective.

Councilor Baddourah inquired about the police officers that were supplied last year to secure the site for 24-hours. He asked if that is included in this budget. He asked if staff looked at having private sponsors to advertise. He said this could help recoup costs.

Mayor Benjamin said there are several private sector partners that have provided resources. He said we need to move forward with this, but we need to look at the additional expenses, provide the list of private sponsors that helped to make this a success and also bring on additional sponsors.

Councilor Baddourah asked if the contractor is required to have a business license in Columbia.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager said yes.

Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mayor Benjamin, Council voted four (4) to one (1) to approve Resolution No.: R-2013-103 - Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Equipment Rental Agreement Between the City of Columbia and Magic Ice USA, Inc. for the Lease of a Portable Ice Skating Rink in Boyd Plaza. Voting aye were Mr. Runyan, Ms. Plaugh, Mr. Davis and Mayor Benjamin. Mr. Baddourah voted nay.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS/REFERRALS**

24. Council is asked to refer a review of the Affordable Housing Taskforce Recommendations to the Administrative Policy Committee, as requested by The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to refer a review of the Affordable Housing Taskforce recommendations to the Administrative Policy Committee.

25. Economic and Community Development Committee

Councilor Davis reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met today for an update on previous recommendations and suggestions on the Mentor Protégé Program. He said the committee concurred with the recommendations, but additional modifications will be made. He said the outcome will be good for the city and businesses in the Columbia area.

Ms. Tina Herbert, Director of the Office of Business Opportunities explained that they have been working to increase the effectiveness of the Mentor Protégé Program, which is designed to help women and minority owned businesses. The key recommendations are to allow three (3) different structures: the regular mentor-protégé with a minimum that the protégés can get; protégé led projects to allow protégés to get a larger amount of the work and take the lead; and protégé only projects, by decreasing the maximum

size of the protégés in hopes of eliminating the larger protégés that are competing. Recommendations were made to reduce the size of our CSA and keep it the same as our local business preference. She said the intent is to graduate protégés and provide projects for them to compete among themselves. She added that we also want to have things in order for the Clean Water 2020 Program.

26. Council is asked to refer a proposal to provide city funded youth sports to the Economic and Community Development Committee, as requested by The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin presented a spreadsheet outlining what it might cost for the city to fund youth sports programs throughout the city; facilities we have in our park system that can accommodate a baseball team, indoor basketball, football and soccer; and what it will cost us to fully fund uniforms, equipment and officials for sixteen (16) Dixie Youth Baseball teams in the City, seven (7) Police Athletic League basketball teams, fifteen (15) Pop Warner football teams and fifteen (15) South Carolina United soccer teams. He said we are dealing with numerous issues with our young people across the city and a significant number of young people don't have the same opportunities that we had, to participate in youth sports. He said this is a nominal investment to engage our youth in something meaningful with an overall cost of \$123,000. He referred this to the Economic and Community Development Committee for a full report, vetting by staff and to look at funding options. He wants to increase the number of participating youth from 712 to 1,000. He requested a quick resolution.

Councilor Plaugh asked about softball, because she grew up playing softball in this city.

Mayor Benjamin said that would be great, too. He said we are talking about an insignificant cost that can yield significant returns and softball is another possibility. He said if we put together a thoughtful and structured program the ability to bring in more private sector sponsors to support these efforts, would be greater. He said our job as thoughtful leaders is to try to create the environment for young people to live up to their potential and we must start wrapping them up with more structured positive influences and we can't let the fact that they don't have \$30 or \$40 stop them from doing this.

Councilor Plaugh said we need to ensure that we have adequate fields for these children to play on, because many of your parks are not in the best of shape. She said we need to get the community and private sector involved, but it can't be governmentalized.

Mayor Benjamin reported that Ms. Wilson met with leaders from the churches, Housing Authority and community organizers about working together with us in refreshing a baseball field behind Bethel Bishop and the Colony.

Councilor Davis attested to putting the athletic programs in place for kids in their neighborhoods and communities, because they don't have to leave their areas to develop these kinds of skills.

Mayor Benjamin asked the Council to commit to the committee meeting before December 10, 2013 and to bring the recommendations back to City Council on December 10, 2013.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to refer a proposal to provide city funded youth sports to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

### **APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Jaja Akair presented a proposal to City Council regarding a free concert called Columbia Cares. He said this concert will be a fundraiser that will bring the community together to enjoy each other's talents. He noted that four (4) artists have agreed to participate in the concert. He volunteered to coach any of the sports teams. He asked that the proposal be added to the next City Council meeting.

Ms. Janet Clark said she agrees with offering sports for the kids. She suggested that ping pong be added. She said she is affiliated with Homeless Helping Homeless. She said something needs to be done about women having sex and cursing in the shelters.

Mr. Bill Manley asked Council to consider boys and girls. He suggested that the program be divided by Council Districts and suggested that Oliver Francis could help.

Chaplain Billie Bright said a lot of the public safety personnel work with the Scared Straight Program and he has been recruited to work with the RICH Program. He said that the Fire Department participates in programs that are not sponsored by the city, but they want to create a safe haven for youth and possibly offer leadership, etiquette and job skill training. He said a lot of personnel are willing to volunteer for this, because there is a need. He said they are also looking for grants.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Runyan and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore  
City Clerk