



The Columbia City Council conducted a Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine, The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Moe Baddourah, The Honorable Howard E. Duvall and The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr. The Honorable Leona K. Plough 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Master Lawrence O'Connor led the audience in the 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 Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda, subject to withdrawing **Item 3** from the Consent Agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [April 5, 2016 Council Meeting](#) and [April 19, 2016 Work Session](#) – *Approved as presented.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the April 5, 2016 Council Meeting and April 19, 2016 Work Session Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 2 and 4 through 8.**

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS and AGREEMENTS

2. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Stormwater Manufactured Treatment Devices](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Oldcastle Stormwater Solutions in the amount of \$59,178.60. This vendor is located in Concord, NC. *Funding Source: Stormwater Improvement Capital Project Control-Capital Project Cost; Gills Creek-Capital Project Cost, 5549999-658650 SD387001-658650 – Note: This is Clean Water 2020 Program Project and the original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$59,178.60. - Approved*
3. Council is asked to approve a [Professional Services Agreement to provide Arts and History Services](#) for the City of Columbia. Award to One Columbia for Arts and History in the amount of \$83,800.00. *Funding Source: Community Promotions, 1014307-688200 – Approved by a vote of four (4) to two (2).*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted four (4) to two (2) to approve a Professional Services Agreement to provide Arts and History Services for the City of Columbia. Award to One Columbia for Arts and History in the amount of \$83,800.00. Voting aye were Mr. Duvall, Ms. Devine, Mr. Davis and Mayor Benjamin. Voting nay were Mr. McDowell and Mr. Baddourah.

4. Council is asked to approve the [Purchase of Cascade Cylinders](#), as requested by the Fire Department. Award to National Welders Supply Company, Inc. in the amount of \$95,256.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Fire Department-Homeland Security Grant Control, Machinery & Equipment 2549999-658300 – Note: This is a mobile device that is used to refill self-contained breathing apparatuses. The original budgeted amount for this purchase is \$95,256.00. - Approved*
5. Council is asked to approve [Contract Amendment #5 for Project SS7208](#); Engineering Services for a Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study in the Saluda River Sub Basins 3, 10 & 12, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Brown & Caldwell in the amount of \$113,000.00. This firm has headquarters in Walnut Creek, CA and a local office in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5529999-SS7208-658650 – Note: This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project. The original budgeted amount is \$695,700.00 and the revised contract amount is \$983,400.00. - Approved*
6. Council is asked to approve [Contract Amendment #4 for Project SS685401](#); On-call Services for Modeling & Evaluating the Sanitary Sewer Piping and Pump Stations, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Hazen & Sawyer, P.C. in the amount of \$100,000.00. This firm has headquarters in New York, NY and a local office in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: 5529999-SS685401-658650 – Note: This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project. The original budgeted amount is \$1,761,508.00 and the revised contract amount is \$2,237,252.00. - Approved*

7. Council is asked to approve [Project SS7299B; 18” Sewer Line Replacement on Senate Street in the Five Point area](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Shady Grove Construction, LLC, the lowest responsive bidder in the amount of \$120,839.38. This firm is located in Irmo, SC. *Funding Source: Sewer Improvement Fund, 5529999-SS729901-658650 – Note: This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project and a Mentor Protégé Program Project. J.A. Mabus Associates, Inc. of Batesburg, SC is the Protégé and will implement 22.7% of the contract value. The original budgeted amount is \$249,265.00 in the fiscal year 2014/2015 CIP. The following sub-consultants will receive \$26,950.00 (24.4%) of the contract value: - Approved*

Sub-consultants	Locations	Services	Contract %	Amount
Fortiline	Columbia, SC	Pipe and Appurtenances	1.4%	\$1,575.00
B&H Paving – SBE	Gaston, SC	Asphalt Paving	3.6%	\$4,000.00
Palmetto Builders Concrete - SBE	Irmo, SC	Flow Fill	19.4%	\$21,375.00

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

8. [Ordinance No.: 2016-026](#) – Granting an encroachment to Arnold Companies for installation and maintenance of two (2) brick retaining walls with railings; eight (8) areas of brick pavers; two (2) handicap ramps with railings; two benches landscaping and irrigation systems within the right of way areas of the 1300 block of Assembly Street and 1100 block of Lady Street adjacent to its building – *First reading approval was given on April 19, 2016. – Approved on second reading.*

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Benjamin and the members of Council recognized Chief Administrative Judge Dana D. Turner for 25 years of service with the City of Columbia.

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager introduced Mr. Randy Davis as the new Director of the Parks and Recreation Department.

9. [Peace Officers’ Memorial Day Proclamation](#) – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed Sunday, May 15, 2016 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in the City of Columbia.

10. [Small Business Week Proclamation](#) – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed May 2-6, 2016 as Small Business Week in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Tina Herbert, Office of Business Opportunities Director outlined the schedule for the Small Business Week Conference scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2016 at Spirit Communications Park. She introduced Mr. John Rogers, the owner of Chocolate Nirvana Bakery and Café as the Small Business Week Conference Business Spotlight Honoree.

11. National Drinking Water Week Proclamation – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed May 1-7, 2016 as National Drinking Water Week in the City of Columbia.

12. National Preservation Month Proclamation – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin and the members of City Council proclaimed May 2016 as National Preservation Month in the City of Columbia.

Ms. Amy Moore, City Planner presented the Mabel Payne Historic Preservation Award to Dr. John M. Bryan, a South Carolinian whose role in identifying potential historic districts and individual landmarks led to the appreciation and preservation of Columbia's rich architectural heritage.

13. [Midlands Housing Trust Fund Update](#) – Mr. Brian K. Huskey, Executive Director of the Midlands Housing Trust Fund

Mr. Brian K. Huskey, Executive Director of the Midlands Housing Trust Fund provided an update on the activities of the Midlands Housing Trust Fund. He noted that more than 90,000 households are at or below the area median income. He reported that the Midlands Housing Trust Fund has deployed over \$822,000; leveraged nearly \$26 million in other funding; created or preserved 202 units of housing; and served more than 500 low and moderate income individuals. He announced that the Midlands Housing Trust Fund has submitted an application to the United States Department of Treasury to become a certified Community Development Financial Institution and applied for a \$700,000 grant for new affordable housing resources. He stated that a local dollar for dollar match is needed for future funding requests. He suggested that a 6.5% add on to the City's building permit fees could generate \$150,000 for the Midlands Housing Trust Fund. He sought Council's support in identifying a dedicated funding stream that would not be subject to annual appropriations.

Councilor Duvall expressed his support for the Midlands Housing Trust Fund. He said it is an underutilized tool and we must find a way to leverage public funds to provide affordable housing for those who live, work and play in the City of Columbia.

Mayor Benjamin agreed that a dedicated funding source is needed to lever the different tools. He proposed the idea of having mini tax increment financing districts to create a pool of money that will be used exclusively to meet the needs of people who are 80% to 120% of the area median income.

PUBLIC HEARING

14. [Fiscal Year 2016 / 2017 Annual Action Plan for Community Development](#) – Ms. Dollie Bristow, Community Development Department Administrator

Mr. Tige Watts, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee presented the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Annual Action Plan, which is the City's application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for entitlement grants and the second year of the City's Consolidated Plan. The City anticipates receiving \$940,783 from the Community Development Block Grant, \$428,829 from the HOME Program and \$1,154,666 from the Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids Fund. The public comment period opened on April 10, 2016 and will conclude on May 11, 2016 and a public hearing was held on April 21, 2016. Additional information can be found online at <http://www.columbiasc.net/community-development>. He recognized members of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Councilor Davis asked if additional recommendations have been received.

Ms. Dollie Bristow, Community Development Department Administrator said no additional comments were received after the public hearing was held. She acknowledged that they have received surveys.

Council opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

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

Council closed the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Dollie Bristow, Community Development Department Administrator stated that the Annual Action Plan will be submitted prior to May 15, 2016.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

15. [Ordinance No.: 2016-031](#) – Ordinance Granting Consent to Application for Franchise for Cable Service and Setting Franchise Fee (South Carolina Telecommunications Group Holdings, LLC) – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2016-031 - Granting Consent to Application for Franchise for Cable Service and Setting Franchise Fee (South Carolina Telecommunications Group Holdings, LLC).

16. [Ordinance No.: 2016-032](#) – Annexing The Park Phase Four and The Park Phase Five, 42.65 acres W/5 Woodcreek Farms, Richland County TMS# 25800-03-46 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2016-032 – Annexing The Park Phase Four and The Park Phase Five, 42.65 acres W/5 Woodcreek Farms, Richland County TMS# 25800-03-46. Mayor Benjamin abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

17. [Ordinance No.: 2016-033](#) – Annexing 1392 Beechfern Circle, 1388 Beechfern Circle, 1372 Beechfern Circle, 1360 Beechfern Circle, 1391 Beechfern Circle, 1415 Beechfern Circle, Beechfern Circle Walkway, Beechfern Circle right of way, 517 Cordgrass Road, 523 Cordgrass Road, 527 Cordgrass Road, 535 Cordgrass Road, Cordgrass Road Walkway, Cordgrass Road right of way, and 1.61 acres designated as a 40' buffer and a 50' buffer along Woodcreek Farms Road, Richland County TMS #25815-01-08, 25815-01-09, 25815-01-12, 25815-01-14, 25815-02-21, 25815-02-24, 25815-01-15, 25815-05-05, 25815-02-08, 25815-02-10, 25815-02-11, 25815-02-14, 25815-02-12, 25815-05-03, and 25815-01-18, being a portion of The Park, Phase Two, Woodcreek Farms – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2016-033 - Annexing 1392 Beechfern Circle, 1388 Beechfern Circle, 1372 Beechfern Circle, 1360 Beechfern Circle, 1391 Beechfern Circle, 1415 Beechfern Circle, Beechfern Circle Walkway, Beechfern Circle right of way, 517 Cordgrass Road, 523 Cordgrass Road, 527 Cordgrass Road, 535 Cordgrass Road, Cordgrass Road Walkway, Cordgrass Road right of way, and 1.61 acres designated as a 40' buffer and a 50' buffer along Woodcreek Farms Road, Richland County TMS #25815-01-08, 25815-01-09, 25815-01-12, 25815-01-14, 25815-02-21, 25815-02-24, 25815-01-15, 25815-05-05, 25815-02-08, 25815-02-10, 25815-02-11, 25815-02-14, 25815-02-12, 25815-05-03, and 25815-01-18, being a portion of The Park, Phase Two, Woodcreek Farms. Mayor Benjamin abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

18. [Ordinance No.: 2016-039](#) – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Seventh Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001 LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02 – *Approved on first reading.*

Councilor Devine explained that this is a very complicated project, but it is going to be a good development and we have to continue working with them.

Upon a motion by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2016-039 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Seventh Amendment to Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001, LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

19. [Water & Sewer Rate Study Recommendation](#) – Mr. Joey Jaco, Director of the Utilities and Engineering Department

[Draft Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Water & Wastewater 5-year Capital Improvement Program](#)

[Draft Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Stormwater 5-year Capital Improvement Program](#)

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager explained that she is seeking Council's endorsement of the water and sewer rate study recommendation that is being presented by staff.

Mr. Joey Jaco, Director of the Utilities and Engineering Department added that staff's recommendation is to proceed with scenario 2B.

Mr. Robert Chambers, Financial and Utility Management Consultant for Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC presented the options for a water and sewer rate increase. He recalled that three capital improvement scenarios were previously presented: scenario one included a \$120 million Capital Improvement Program; scenario two included a \$140 million Capital Improvement Program; and scenario three included a \$110 million Capital Improvement Program. He explained that each scenario has two options: Option A is based on a five year financial plan and Option B considers a programmatic approach to financing the City's obligations and smoothing out the rate increases. He presented the financial plan summary results demonstrating the annual rate increases through fiscal year 2021. He noted that scenario 2B is for a 4% increase.

Councilor Baddourah inquired about the projections without the 4% rate increase. He recalled seeing different numbers for the projected revenue. He asked why an increase is needed when we are generating \$10 million in revenue without it.

Mr. Robert Chambers, Financial and Utility Management Consultant for Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC explained that while funds may come out in one year, we have to look at all of the requirements over the life of the program. The programmatic approach helps to smooth out potential rate increases to create the least impact on customers and in doing so we responsibly fund the projects and programs that you have in place.

Councilor Baddourah asked how much has been issued in water and sewer bonds over the past year.

Mr. Jeff Palen, Assistant City Manager for Economic and Finance Service / Chief Financial Officer said the bonds are being issued in June.

Councilor Baddourah said we increased the rates last year, we collected the revenue and we haven't issued a bond, but we are still asking for another rate increase. It seems like a revolving door of increases. He said it is important to know the CIP projects we are voting on. He expressed concerns with moving forward with the rate increase.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted four (4) to two (2) to adopt staff's recommendation for a 4% water and sewer rate increase. Voting aye were Mr. McDowell, Mr. Duvall, Ms. Devine and Mayor Benjamin. Voting nay were Mr. Baddourah and Mr. Davis.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS/REFERRALS

Councilor Devine asked that the Technology Committee review the mySidewalk Platform.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager asked that City Council receive a presentation from the GIS Department before proceeding with the committee discussion.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Ms. Ann Tatum, Owner of Jelly Bean Pedicabs sought guidance from Council on the next steps for starting her pedicab business in the City of Columbia. She said Federal Law clearly states that she should be able to operate within the City of Columbia and she has a business license along with an advertising license.

Ms. Teresa Knox, Esquire, City Attorney said we are waiting to receive clearance from the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager agreed to communicate with Ms. Tatum if we receive any clarity prior to the next Council meeting.

Councilor Baddourah said there are concerns with motorists not being able to see mopeds and moped drivers not always paying attention to traffic laws. He said a merchant suggested that the City impose the use of flags on mopeds.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to refer to the Public Safety Committee a discussion on imposing the use of flags on all mopeds in the City of Columbia.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk

Meeting Dates	Type of Meeting	Meeting Times
May 10, 2016	Budget Workshop <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	2:30 p.m.
May 17, 2016	Work Session <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	3:30 p.m.
	Council Meeting <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers – 3rd Floor</i>	6:00 p.m.
	Zoning Public Hearing <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers – 3rd Floor</i>	7:00 p.m.
May 24, 2016	Budget Workshop <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	2:30 p.m.
June 7, 2016	Work Session <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – 2nd Floor Conference Room</i>	3:30 p.m.
	Council Meeting <i>City Hall – 1737 Main Street – Council Chambers – 3rd Floor</i>	6:00 p.m.

In accordance with Ordinance No.: 2004-094 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, to add VI, Lobbyist, Sec. 2-302. (a) Any person who acts as a lobbyist must within fifteen days of being employed or retained as a lobbyist, register with the city clerk. (b) The registration must be in a form approved by the city council that includes only the name and business address of the lobbyist, the name and business address of the person or entity that compensates the lobbyist and the issue or matter for which the lobbyist has been retained. A separate form shall be submitted for each issue or matter and each person or entity who compensates the lobbyist. (c) Any lobbyist who is employed by the city or has contracts with the city must seek approval by city council to be a lobbyist for other clients so long as he is employed or under contract. To obtain a Lobbyist Registration Form please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (803) 545.3045 or send your request to cityclerk@columbiasc.net.