



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015
CITY HALL – 1737 MAIN STREET
2nd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The Columbia City Council conducted a Special Called Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine and The Honorable Brian DeQuincey Newman. The Honorable Leona K. Plough, The Honorable Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah were absent. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 1** through **7** and **9** through **12**.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS FOR EMERGENCY PROJECTS (FEMA)

1. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4365; Caughman Road Waterline Repair](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Carolina Tap & Bore, Inc., as an emergency procurement in the amount of \$97,595.40. This firm is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516203-638400 – **Note:** It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$73,196.55) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$24,398.85 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. - Approved*
2. Council is asked to approve [Project WM436401; Emergency Construction of a Temporary Cofferdam across the Columbia Canal](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Kleinschmidt Associates as an emergency procurement in the amount of \$118,000. This firm has headquarters in Pittsfield, ME with an office located in Lexington, SC. *Funding Source: The City will provide funding upfront for this project from 5516206 638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$88,644.75) of this cost will be reimbursed. The remaining 25% (\$29,548.25) will be funded by the water/ sewer reserve. The sub-consultant utilized for this project was North Fork Electric, Inc., a firm located in Crumpler, NC. North Fork Election was awarded \$30,362.00 or 25.7% of the contract value for assisting with the monitoring of construction activities. - Approved*

3. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4367; Emergency Water Connection to the City of West Columbia](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to LAD Corporation in the amount of \$193,288.00. This firm is located in West Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516203-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$144,966) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$48,322 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. - Approved*
4. Council is asked to approve [Project SS7356; Blockage Removal and Repair to the 42" Outfall along Riverbanks Zoo](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to G.H. Smith Construction, lowest and responsive bidder in the amount of \$259,000. This firm is located in Irmo, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516203-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$194,250) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$64,750 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. – **Note:** This is a Clean Water 2020 Program Project and the original budget amount is \$277,000.00. Sub-consulting services are to be provided as follows: 3% (\$10,000) awarded to Fortiline Waterworks located in Columbia, SC; 19% (\$50,000) awarded to Xylem located in Charleston, SC; 5% (\$15,000) awarded to Vulcan located in Columbia, SC; and 1% (\$2,100) awarded to Roofs Nursery located in Lexington, SC. - Approved*
5. Council is asked to approve [Project WM436401; Emergency Response at the Columbia Canal Embankment due to a Breach](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to Chao and Associates of Columbia, SC in the amount of \$336,690. *Funding Source: The City will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516206 638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$252,517.50) of this cost will be reimbursed. The remaining amount (\$84,172.50) will be funded by the water/ sewer reserve. Chao & Associates is an MBE firm with an office located in Columbia, SC. The sub-consultants utilized for this project were: Terracon, a firm located in Columbia, SC provided geotechnical services in the amount of \$5,641.00 or 1.7% of the contract value and Terratec a firm located in West Columbia, SC provided foundation repair services in the amount of \$6,800.00 or 2.2% of the contract value. - Approved*
6. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4364; Emergency Repairs to the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to D&J Machinery & Rigging in the amount of \$598,665.20. This firm is located in Lexington, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516206-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$448,998.90) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$149,666.30 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. – **Note:** D&J Machinery and Rigging assisted with closing the head gates at the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant due to damages caused by the flood. - Approved*

7. Council is asked to approve the [Lost Creek Road Bridge Design Build Project](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to McClam and Associates in the amount of \$738,645.00. This firm is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5534202-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$553,983.75) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$184,661.25 will come from the storm water fund. – **Note:** Sub-consulting services under this Agreement are to be provided as follows: 1.71% awarded to Chao and Associates, a MBE firm located in Columbia, SC is to provide engineering design and 1.08% awarded to F&ME, located in Columbia, SC is to provide geotechnical services. - Approved*

8. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4365; Emergency Repairs to the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to M.B. Kahn Construction Co. Inc., in the amount of \$908,140.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516206-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$681,105) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$227,035.00 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. – **Note:** MB Kahn assisted with the emergency installation of a bypass pumping operation from the Columbia Canal and Broad River to the Canal Water Treatment Plant raw water pump station wet well. – Please refer to **Item 16**.*

9. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4364; Emergency Repairs to the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant](#), a requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to McClam & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$4,782,577.50. This firm is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516206-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$3,586,933.13) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$1,195,644.37 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund. – **Note:** McClam and Associates assisted with emergency repairs to the Columbia Canal dike. - Approved*

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

10. [Ordinance No.: 2015-092](#) – Enacting Temporary Waiver of Building Permit Fees to Provide for the Expedient and Coordinated Management of Building Permit Applications; Reestablishing the Commitment of the City to mitigate the Illegal Performance of Services by Unlicensed Contractors related to Flood Damage occurring on and after October 3, 2015; Providing for Severability; Providing an Expiration Date; and Setting forth an Effective Date – *First reading approval was given on November 2, 2015. – Approved on second reading.*

11. [Ordinance No.: 2015-094](#) – Enacting Temporary Waiver of Business License Fees for Contractors for a Period of Ninety Days to Provide for the Expedious and Coordinated Management of Building Permit Applications; Providing for Severability; Providing an Expiration Date; and Setting forth an Effective Date – *First reading approval was given on November 2, 2015 subject to the following amendment: Any work performed by a contractor, which work qualifies for the building permit fee waiver under Ordinance No. 2015-092, shall be exempt from consideration for the purpose of calculating that contractor’s business license fee.* – *Approved on second reading.*
12. [Ordinance No.: 2015-091](#) – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Mayor and Council, Division 2, Council Meetings, Sec. 2-53 Quorum and rules of order and adding Sec. 2-62 remote meeting attendance – *First reading approval was given on November 2, 2015.* – *Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING

13. [Ordinance No.: 2015-098](#) – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the 2016 Famously Hot New Year Event – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Newman, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2015-098 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the 2016 Famously Hot New Year Event.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION/ACTION

14. Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau Request for Funding – The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin

Mayor Benjamin said in the increasingly competitive environment to attract and keep great conventions in town, he wants to make sure the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Columbia Regional Sports Council have the resources needed to compete for conferences. He made a motion to approve a \$50,000 hospitality tax award from the fiscal year 2016/2017 budget to the Columbia Regional Sports Council. For the record, he specified his hopes for a five-year commitment to the Columbia Regional Sports Council in the amount of \$50,000 each year.

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve a \$50,000 hospitality tax award from the fiscal year 2016/2017 budget to the Columbia Regional Sports Council.

15. [Ordinance No.: 2015-095](#) – Enacting Temporary Waiver of Five-Year Cumulative Period for Purposes of Determining Whether Substantial Improvements Have Been Made to a Structure for Flood Hazard Mitigation Purposes; Providing for Severability; Providing an Expiration Date; and Setting forth an Effective Date – *[Note: Staff is awaiting additional analysis from FEMA regarding substantial damage estimates. Without this information, staff cannot recommend that Council take action at this time.](#)* – No action was taken.

Mayor Benjamin said we expect to have information from FEMA by November 25, 2015, but we will request the information as soon as practical. He urged staff to take additional measures to address the concerns that have been expressed. He explained that the City of Columbia presented to the House Ways and Means Committee today and the City Manager did a great job outlining the challenges we face.

Councilor Devine asked staff to make sure the councilmen-elect receive materials and are invited to participate in the next two meetings.

Councilor Davis reiterated the importance of **Item 15**. He agreed that we should do what we can to help FEMA speed up the process.

16. Council is asked to approve [Project WM4365; Emergency Repairs to the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant](#), as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to M.B. Kahn Construction Co. Inc., in the amount of \$908,140.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: The city will provide funding upfront for this project from account 5516206-638400. It is anticipated that a minimum of 75% (\$681,105) will be reimbursed from FEMA and the remaining amount of \$227,035.00 will come from the water/sewer reserve fund.* – *[Note: MB Kahn assisted with the emergency installation of a bypass pumping operation from the Columbia Canal and Broad River to the Canal Water Treatment Plant raw water pump station wet well.](#)* – *Approved – Mr. Newman abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Benjamin and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Project WM4365; Emergency Repairs to the Columbia Canal Water Treatment Plant, as requested by the Utilities and Engineering Department. Award to M.B. Kahn Construction Co. Inc., in the amount of \$908,140.00. This firm is located in Columbia, SC. Mr. Newman abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

Council adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk