

**CITY OF COLUMBIA
WORK SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.
CITY HALL - 1737 MAIN STREET
2nd Floor – COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**



The Columbia City Council met for a Work Session on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Robert D. Coble called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Sam Davis, The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine and The Honorable Belinda F. Gergel. The Honorable Kirkman Finlay III arrived at 9:20 a.m. and The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann arrived at 10:07 a.m. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. Fiscal Year 2010 / 2011 Budget Review – Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager
 - **Ms. Devine left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.**

Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager reported that the members of Council have been provided with copies of the Parking Fund, Water & Sewer Operating Fund and the Storm Water Operating Fund budgets for review. He said that they are expecting a \$14 million surplus in the Water and Sewer Fund. The Parking Fund is showing a deficit, but we have \$3 million in unallocated / unrestricted funds. The Sumter Street Garage has seen a decrease in revenue due to the Palmetto Building being vacant. We need to discuss my proposal on general capital projects and setting up a separate budget to cover that in perpetuity. It has been a problem for the City to find funds necessary to provide equipment for the Police Department, Fire Department and Solid Waste. We deferred replacements last year, which means that we have more projects for 2010/2011. After that, the annual budget will be approximately \$4.5 million to \$5.5 million, which allows us to replace 25% of the police cars annually; to rotate our solid waste equipment every 7 years; and to rotate our fire trucks every 10 years. That millage will continue to roll on with short-term General Obligation Bond debt and we would not have to consider this in the operating budget on an annual basis. We are proposing 3.8 mils, which generates approximately \$1.7 million annually. This will also help to reduce the cost to maintain our fleet; thus reducing the expenses in the General Fund by \$400,000, which can be used to further reduce the deficit. Also, our Public Works Department has set funds aside annually for equipment replacement and they have a \$700,000 line item in their budget that will roll back into the General Fund budget to further reduce the deficit.

- **Mr. Finlay left the meeting at 9:46 a.m.**
- **Mr. Rickenmann arrived at 10:07 a.m.**

There was an in-depth discussion among the members of Council, but no action was taken. The Council will conduct a Budget Workshop on Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

2. **Ordinance No.: 2010-081 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Temporary Use Agreement between the City of Columbia and Palmetto Waste Processing, LLC – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2010-081 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Temporary Use Agreement between the City of Columbia and Palmetto Waste Processing, LLC.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS AND CHANGE ORDERS

3. Council is asked to approve a Vendor Contract for Office Supplies, as requested by the Finance/Purchasing Department. Award to Staples using the SC State Contract. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Rickenmann and seconded by Dr. Gergel, Council voted unanimously to approve a Vendor Contract for Office Supplies, as requested by the Finance/Purchasing Department. Award to Staples using the SC State Contract.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mayor Coble and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 11:07 a.m. for the discussion of **Items 4.** and **5.** as outlined below.

4. Discussion of negotiations incident to the proposed sale of property – *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
 5. **Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual negotiations
 - Canal Hydro Plant / SCANA Franchise Agreement - *This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.*
- **Council adjourned the Work Session at 11:40 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley
City Clerk