



CITY OF COLUMBIA
DISTRICT I EVENING MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2012
6:00 P.M.
EAU CLAIRE PRINT BUILDING
3907 ENSOR AVENUE

The Columbia City Council conducted a District I Evening Meeting on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at the Eau Claire Print Building, 3907 Ensor Avenue, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tempore Brian DeQuincey Newman called the meeting to order at 6:05 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 Cameron A. Runyan and The Honorable Moe Baddourah. The Honorable Mayor Stephen K. Benjamin was absent. Also present were Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Chaplain Clyde Waters, Columbia Police Department offered the invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Plough, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one appeared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting Minutes of May 8 and 15 and June 5 and 26, 2012 – *Approved as presented.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 8 and 15 and June 5 and 26, 2012.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Welcome Address – The Honorable Sam Davis, District I Representative

Councilor Davis welcomed everyone to the District I Evening Meeting.

3. Welcome Address – Mr. Henry Hopkins, President of the Eau Claire Community Council

Mr. Henry Hopkins, President of the Eau Claire Community Council welcomed everyone to the Eau Claire/North Columbia Community. He extended special thanks from the Board and the 40 organized neighborhoods for Council's support of their efforts to ensure a safe and vibrant community. He thanked Council for their support of the Ribs and Renaissance Festival and Ms. Libby Gober for her professionalism. He acknowledged the efforts of the Columbia Police Department's north region. He urged the Council to pass a code enforcement ordinance with teeth and to hear from the Crime and Safety Taskforce. He said that Community Development Block Grant funding will greatly enhance the quality of life for residents.

Councilor Davis acknowledged that the Crime and Safety Taskforce should be heard from and its report should be revised.

4. Community Garden Update – Ms. Virginia Bedford

Ms. Virginia Bedford reported that the community garden at River Drive and North Main has 50 beds and the other at Hyatt Park has 15 beds that are being gardened and taken care. She said that the gardens are building a sense of community.

Councilor Devine said that a new garden will be located at Carver Street in partnership with the Children's Garden. The organization received a grant from Lets Move! and has been invited to meet with First Lady Michelle Obama.

5. NOMA Bark Park Update – Ms. Rebecca Haynes, NOMA Bark Park Committee Chair

Ms. Rebecca Haynes, NOMA Bark Park Committee Chair announced that the 2-acre North Main dog park is 1 ½ years old and it is becoming a professional dog program. She said that they are providing better programming and benefits to members to include an orientation program. She announced that they were awarded a grant to provide more vegetation in Smith Branch. She said that they created corporate benefits for our members and we have a new website, www.nomabarkpark.org.

Councilor Devine inquired about Smith Branch. She asked if an alliance will be formed, because Smith Branch is oftentimes left out of the overall discussion.

Ms. Rebecca Haynes agreed that Smith Branch has been ignored, but is concerned about spreading volunteers thin. She hopes that she will be able to spark more interest in the Smith Branch and will look at how that can be done.

Councilor Davis suggested that the hospital may offer volunteers.

6. North Columbia Business Association Update – Mr. Tommy Burkett, Chair and Ms. Sabrina Odom, Executive Director

Ms. Sabrina Odom, Executive Director reported that the North Columbia Business Association (NCBA) provides leadership, a voice and support for businesses in the North Columbia area. She said that they have developed partnerships with various neighborhood associations, organizations, higher learning institutions and agencies. She outlined their community programs to include the Dictionary Drive at Barnes and Nobles at Richland Fashion Mall on Thursday, July 12, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. benefitting our elementary schools. The NCBA is now located at 1013 Duke Avenue off of North Main Street. She said that the Lutheran Seminary and the Eau Claire Rotary Club have been great partners. On Thursday, July 12th they will host a member's cook-out at 6 p.m. She thanked Councilman Sam Davis for his support.

Mr. Tommy Burkett, Chair of the North Columbia Business Association said that cameras aren't an invasion of privacy, they make people aware that if you do something wrong you will be seen. The four cameras that have been installed have been a benefit. He reported that additional cameras will be installed through partnerships. He said that Lt. Hartley has been very helpful to the organization in working to overcome any setbacks.

Councilor Davis recognized Mr. John Copeland, additional members of the North Columbia Business Association, Mr. Wiley Cooper, Chair of North Columbia Rotary, and North Columbia neighborhood presidents. He requested an update on Earlewood and Hyatt Parks.

Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager reported that they are constructing a community center and administration building at Earlewood Park. As part of a long term plan, Earlewood Park was promised upgrades in a number of areas. A grant was awarded for a walking trail. This project should be complete in August. There are plans to upgrade Hyatt Park, but complete funding is not available.

Councilor Devine reiterated the announcement for the Book Drive noting that the dictionaries are 50% off and discounts will be offered on other book purchases.

7. Tree City USA – Mr. Jimmy Walters, South Carolina Forestry Commission

Mr. Jimmy Walters, South Carolina Forestry Commission awarded the City of Columbia the Tree City USA Award. He commended the City's Forestry and Beautification Division for doing an excellent job managing over 45,000 trees. He announced that the City is one of the oldest Tree City USA cities in the state. He congratulated the City for setting a good example. Mr. Walters presented Mayor Pro-Tempore Newman with a cap and a lapel pin along with a banner for the City of Columbia.

8. Economic Development in the Vista – Ms. Sarah Luadzers, Executive Director of Congaree Vista Guild and Mr. Brian Dukes, President of Congaree Vista Guild

Ms. Sarah Luadzers, Executive Director of Congaree Vista Guild presented articles about the Congaree Vista Guild from US Airways and the Connect magazine. She reported that there were 2 million visitors in the Vista over the past year; the Vista is the biggest tourist destination in the City of Columbia; in 2009/2010 the Vista generated \$1.3 million in hospitality taxes; and the Vista has the highest hotel occupancy rates.

Mr. Brian Dukes, President of Congaree Vista Guild said that the Vista Greenway event brought hundreds of bikers through the greenway over the weekend and eventually it will connect to the Three Rivers Greenway. He announced that the Vista will install the first two bike corrals in the state and it will be the first bicycle friendly district in the state. He noted that the hotel occupancy rate is over 86%.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 9.** through **38.**

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS, AGREEMENTS and CHANGE ORDERS

9. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Upper Savannah Care Services for Supportive Services in the amount of \$23,972.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
10. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to The Columbia Housing Authority for Housing Operating Costs in the amount of \$10,700.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
11. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to The Columbia Housing Authority for Tenant Based Rental Assistance in the amount of \$26,859.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*

12. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to The Columbia Housing Authority for Tenant Based Rental Assistance for Homeless Specific in the amount of \$85,514.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
13. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to The Columbia Housing Authority for Tenant Based Rental Assistance in the amount of \$479,574.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover – Approved*
14. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to The Cooperative Ministry (TCM) for Supportive Services, Short-term Rent, Mortgage and Utility Emergency Assistance in the amount of \$206,093.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
15. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services of SC, Inc. for Supportive Services, Housing Information and Resource ID in the amount of \$339,824.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
16. Council is asked to approve a Professional Services Contract for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to University of South Carolina in the amount of \$495,894.00. *Funding Source: FY2012-2013 HOPWA Entitlement and FY2011-2012 HOPWA Carryover - Approved*
17. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Seminary Ridge Neighborhood Association for Community Safety Program in the amount of \$2,348.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
18. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Historic Waverly Neighborhood Improvement and Protection Association for Neighborhood Recruitment and Outreach Program in the amount of \$4,300.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income- Approved*

19. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Historic Columbia Foundation for Learning Our History-Shaping Our Future Program in the amount of \$5,850.00 *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
20. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Northwood Hills Neighborhood Association for Landscaping and Beautification Project in the amount of \$6,759.42. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
21. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Rosewood Community Council Neighborhood Association for Rosewood Park Playground Renovation in the amount of \$13,000.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
22. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Eau Claire Community Council for The New Survey and Journalism Mentorship Program in the amount of \$13,000.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income- Approved*
23. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Fast Forward for Operation Employment in the amount of \$15,000.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
24. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association for Pedestrian Lighting Project Phase III Project in the amount of \$17,500.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
25. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Epworth Children's Home for Transitional Living Initiative in the amount of \$22,242.18. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*

26. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department for Community Improvement Project for St. Anna's Park in the amount of \$98,960.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
27. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to City of Columbia Public Works Street Division for Infrastructure Improvements to Dorrah Street in the amount of \$111,320.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
28. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to the City of Columbia Office of Business Opportunities Division for Commercial Façade Improvement Program in the amount of \$150,000.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
29. Council is asked to approve the Community Development Block Grant Sub-recipient Agreement for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Community Development Department. Award to Cooperative Health Centers, Inc. for Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center, Inc. in the amount of \$350,000.00. *Funding Source: FY 2012-2013 CDBG Entitlement and CDBG Program Income - Approved*
30. Council is asked to approve the Purchase of Recapped Tires for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, as requested by the Fleet Services Division. Award to Frasier Tire, the lowest bidder meeting specifications in the amount of \$50,343.50. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Equip Services Fuel Parts & Repair-Tires and Tubes; 6308970-672500 - Approved*
31. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project SS7181; Change Order 1, Sanitary Sewer Extension to Serve 5901 North Main Street, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to McClam and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$51,506.10. This vendor is located in Little Mountain, SC. *Funding Source: Sewer Improvements Fund – **Note:** This change order was initiated by the city and is to modify the Contract Agreement to reflect adjustments for over/ under runs due to actual condition encountered in the field. This change order extends the contract completion date until July 30, 2012. - Approved*

32. Council is asked to approve the Renewal of Worker's Compensation Excess Loss Insurance Coverage effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, as requested by the Risk Management Division. Award to Safety National in the amount of \$131,375.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Worker's Comp. Administration; 6098939/636200 Insurance and Bonding - Approved*
33. Council is asked to approve Capital Improvement Project SS676411; An Agreement for Engineering Services for Mill Creek Pump Station Force Main Improvements, as requested by Utilities and Engineering. Award to CDM Smith, Inc., in the amount of \$725,021.00. This vendor is located in Columbia, SC. *Funding Source: Sewer Capital Fund; 5529999-SS676411-6586600 – **Note:** Survey & Mapping Services of SC, Inc., (Pittsboro, NC) will perform Surveying and Mapping Property Plats at 10.49% of the total contract value. Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., (Columbia, SC) will perform Public Outreach, Utility Coordination, Subsurface Utility Engineering and Construction Inspection at 6.56% of the total contract value. Red Bay Environmental (Mt. Pleasant, SC) will perform Wetland Delineation and Environmental Permitting at 1.25% of the total contract value. Terracon, Inc., (Columbia, SC) will perform Geotechnical Investigations and Construction Phase Material Testing at 5.81 % of total contract value. The original budgeted amount is \$750,000.00 - Approved*

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

34. Ordinance No.: 2012-025 – Granting an encroachment to Paul Famolari and Catherine Keyser for installation and maintenance of handicap ramp within the right of way area adjacent to 2812 Bratton Street, Richland County TMS #11414-22-04 – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012 – Approved on second reading.*
35. Ordinance No.: 2012-044 – Granting an encroachment to Villa Tronco for placement and maintenance of two (2) tables and eight (8) chairs for use by its patrons for outdoor dining during normal business hours; one (1) planter and an awning within the sidewalk right of way adjacent to the front entrance of 1213 Blanding Street and 1215 Blanding Street; and an awning within the sidewalk right of way area adjacent to the service entrance on the side of 1215 Blanding Street – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012– Approved on second reading.*
36. Ordinance No.: 2012-053 – Granting an encroachment to the State of South Carolina Budget and Control Board for installation and maintenance of landscaping, an irrigation system and underground utilities within the right of way adjacent to 1026 Sumter Street – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012– Approved on second reading.*

37. Ordinance No.: 2012-057 – Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 11, Licenses, Permits, Business Regulations to add Article XII, Buskers – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012– Approved on second reading.*
38. Ordinance No.: 2012-060 (Revised) – An Ordinance to approve the Refunding of the \$36,570,000 Columbia Public Facilities Corporation Certificates of Participation Evidencing Undivided Interests in Base Fee Payments under an Installment Sale Agreement (Tourism Development Fee Pledge), Series 2003, and to approve the Form and Terms of, and Authorize the Execution of, Supplements or Amendments to the Installment Sale Agreement between the City of Columbia, South Carolina, and Columbia Public Facilities Corporation, the Trust Agreement between Columbia Public Facilities Corporation and U.S. Bank National Association, as successor Trustee, and other agreements as necessary or desirable; and other matters related thereto – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012– Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

39. Ordinance No.: 2012-037 – Adopting the Rosewood Plan a Neighborhood and Corridor Plan – Table of Contents – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012 – Approved on second reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2012-037 – Adopting the Rosewood Plan a Neighborhood and Corridor Plan

40. Ordinance No.: 2012-058 – Establishing a Moratorium on the issuance of New Taxicab Licenses to Operate and Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity – *First reading was given approval on June 26, 2012 – Approved on second reading by a vote of four (4) to two (2).*

Councilor Plough recalled that she voted against the moratorium on first reading and she will vote against it on second reading. She feels that this is an awkward situation to apply a moratorium. We may have to study the issue and see if a medallion system is necessary. She is concerned for the small business person, who may have a need or want to start a small cab company and may not know we are putting a moratorium in effect and for that reason, I'll vote against it.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Runyan, Council voted four (4) to two (2) to give second reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2012-058 – Establishing a Moratorium on the issuance of New Taxicab Licenses to Operate and Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity. Voting aye were Mr. Runyan, Mr. Newman, Ms. Devine and Mr. Davis. Voting nay were Mr. Baddourah and Ms. Plough.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

41. Ordinance No.: 2012-069 – An Ordinance to Authorize the Renewal and Extension of the Letter of Credit Securing the \$81,860,000 Original Principal amount City of Columbia, South Carolina, Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds Series 2009, and to Approve the Form and Terms of, and Authorize the Execution of, Supplements or Amendments to the Letter of Credit and Reimbursement Agreement, the Remarketing Agreement and the Tender Agent Agreement, and other Agreements as necessary or desirable; and other matters related thereto – *Approved on first reading.*

Mr. Steven A. Gantt, City Manager explained that we have renegotiated our line of credit and reduced that number significantly. This will allow us to put approximately \$300,000 a year back into the water and sewer system.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2012-069 – An Ordinance to Authorize the Renewal and Extension of the Letter of Credit Securing the \$81,860,000 Original Principal amount City of Columbia, South Carolina, Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds Series 2009, and to Approve the Form and Terms of, and Authorize the Execution of, Supplements or Amendments to the Letter of Credit and Reimbursement Agreement, the Remarketing Agreement and the Tender Agent Agreement, and other Agreements as necessary or desirable; and other matters related thereto.

RESOLUTIONS

Upon a single motion made by Ms. Devine and seconded by Mr. Baddourah, Council voted unanimously to approve **Items 42** through **45**.

42. Resolution No.: R-2012-065 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for the Contemporaries Oktoberfest - *Approved*
43. Resolution No.: R-2012-067 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for Cola-Con- *Approved*
44. Resolution No.: R-2012-064 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for Arts and Draughts – *Note:* *This event is August 3, 2012 - Approved*
45. Resolution No.: R-2012-068 – Authorizing consumption of beer and wine within Boyd Plaza adjacent to the Columbia Museum of Art for Arts and Draughts – *Note:* *This event is November 2, 2012- Approved*

46. Resolution No.: R-2012-069 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Renewal to Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Columbia and Richland County for Richland County's use of the City of Columbia's Animal Shelter- *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2012-069 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Renewal to Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Columbia and Richland County for Richland County's use of the City of Columbia's Animal Shelter.

47. Resolution No.: R-2012-070 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Amendment to the Agreement between the City of Columbia and City Center Partnership for the Administration of the City Center Business Improvement District- *Approved*

Mr. Steve Gantt, City Manager noted that this is a cleanup of the contract.

Councilor Davis recalled that he and Mr. Monk requested the expansion of the Business Improvement District beyond Elmwood or the possibility of starting one above Elmwood. He asked Mr. Gantt to keep that in mind as we continue with beautification and recruitment.

Mr. Steve Gantt, City Manager agreed to schedule a meeting with the City Attorney, Mr. Kennell, Mr. Monk, and Councilor Davis.

Councilor Plough asked that they also consider including Bull Street, if it makes economic sense.

Councilor Devine suggested that they consider how the fees are assessed on property owners and to look at what we want provided and how we get there. She noted that those benefits come with a cost.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Baddourah and seconded by Ms. Devine, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2012-070 – Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Amendment to the Agreement between the City of Columbia and City Center Partnership for the Administration of the City Center Business Improvement District.

APPEARANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Ms. MalQueen Castel appeared before the members of Council to express concerns about the Golden Acres Community and residents not maintaining their yards. She said that they have contacted Planning and Development Services, but they can't seem to get any help.

Councilor Davis agreed that its property maintenance and code enforcement issues with absentee landlords. He agreed to make it a priority and asked the City Manager to look into this.

Mr. Bobby O'Kelly, Homeless Helping Homeless reiterated his request to name the tunnel and place a water cart there. We want to use a public asset to take care of a public nuisance. The tunnel has 1200 linear feet of wall space. We can generate money by placing art on the walls. He proposed a Halloween project for the tunnel.

Mr. Arthur Sharpe, Homeless Helping Homeless told a story from 2009, when the Mayor gave money for them to buy everyone in the tunnel something to eat.

Ms. Mary L. Thomas appeared before the members of Council to express concerns about abandoned homes, cars, overgrown lawns and burnt homes in Hyatt Park/Keenan Terrace area. She asked for assistance with these matters. She provided the addresses of the homes to Mr. S. Allison Baker, Senior Assistant City Manager.

Councilor Devine asked the City Manager to provide a report on these matters at the next meeting.

Councilor Baddourah encouraged Ms. Thomas to keep up the fight and to let Council know how they can assist her.

Ms. Becky Bailey, The New Survey/Eau Claire Community Council thanked Council for the approval of the contracts for Community Development Block Grant Funding and for the Façade Program. She said that so much of that will help the North Columbia area.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Plough and seconded by Mr. Davis, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Moore
City Clerk