

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI**

**AUGUST 24, 2015
10:00 A.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, August 24, 2015, proper notice being posted, after having recessed from their last Special Called meeting of August 20, 2015. The meeting was held in the City Hall Court Room. Mayor Robert E. Smith, Sr. presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present, with the exception of Council Member Karriem, who had not arrived when the meeting began. Also present were the COO, CFO, the General Counsel and the HR Director.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Smith call the meeting to order and called upon Council Member Mickens to offer the Invocation. Mayor Smith then remarked that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year Budget and Appropriations.

II. DISCUSS 2015 – 2016 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

Mayor Smith presented a request from a Municipal Court part-time Bailiff regarding his present hourly rate of pay. Council Member Gavin made a motion to approve this request by increasing the pay by \$2.00 per hour. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion. *(Council Member Karriem had not arrived).*

David Armstrong, COO, remarked that the Council will consider requests for Appropriations today.

<u>APPROPRIATION:</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET:</u>	<u>REQUEST FOR 2016 BUDGET:</u>
American Red Cross	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 15,000.00

Council Member Gavin made a motion to allocate \$12,500 to the American Red Cross for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Link Blaze Morale Fund \$ 10,000.00

Council Member Taylor made a motion to allocate \$10,000 to the Link Blaze Morale Fund for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Arts Council \$ 8,000.00 (Requested \$10,000.00)

Council Member Gavin made a motion to allocate \$8,000 to the Arts Council for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

(Council Member Karriem arrived).

Col Recreation Comm. \$649,693.00 (Requested \$794,023.00)

Council Member Box recused himself. Council Member Gavin made a motion to allocate \$649,693.00 to the Columbus-Lowndes Recreation Authority for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

FIELD OF DREAMS PROJECT:

Council Member Karriem made a motion to meet with Director Greg Lewis, Lowndes County Supervisors and Kevin Stafford prior to allocating funds from the City. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Council Member Box, who recused himself.

The motion carried and Council Member Box returned to the meeting.

Council on Aging \$ 22,000.00

Council Member Gavin made a motion to allocate \$22,000 to the Council on Aging for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Golden Triangle Planning & Development District **\$ 1,000.00** (Requested \$2,000)

Council Member Taylor made a motion to allocate \$1,000 to Golden Triangle Planning & Development District for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Safe Haven **\$ 7,500.00**

Council Member Box made a motion to allocate \$7,500 to Safe Haven for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Tri-County Haz-Mat **\$ 2,500.00**

Council Member Taylor made a motion to allocate \$2,500 to Tri-County Haz-Mat for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Columbus-Lowndes Library **\$256,000.00** (Requested \$291,840.00)

Council Member Box recused himself while the Council discussed the Columbus-Lowndes Library. Council Member Mickens made a motion to allocate \$273,920.00 for the Columbus-Lowndes Library for FY 2015 2016. Council Member Turner seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried and Council Member Box returned to the meeting.

Columbus-Lowndes Emer. Mngmt. **\$ 8,500.00** (Requested \$10,000.00)

Council Member Mickens made a motion to allocate \$8,500 to Columbus-Lowndes Emergency Management for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

Council Member Box moved that the Council approve all appropriations to the organizations and agencies in the proposed Budget and for the sums specified, to be paid during the City's next fiscal year, and that we donate money from the general fund to match any other funds of these organizations and agencies, dollar for dollar included in my motion is that the Mayor and Council have made a finding of fact that all of these organizations and agencies are the type of social, economic and community service programs eligible by State law to receive such donations, and that these donations be made a part of the official minutes of the City of Columbus. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Council Member Box made a motion to take \$161,410.63, plus increase in Bailiff's pay from the General Fund to produce a balanced budget for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Council Member Karriem made a motion to for the City to approve 100% match for the MDOT Summer Youth Grant for 2016, now creating a deficit of \$176,410.63. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

Council Members Taylor, Box, Turner and Karriem voted in favor of the motion. Council Members Mickens and Gavin opposed.

The motion carried with a 4/2 vote.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to take \$176,410.63, plus increase in Bailiff's pay from the General Fund to produce a balanced budget for FY 2015 – 2016. Council Member Karriem seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Council Member Karriem made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Approved by: _____
Robert E. Smith, Sr., Mayor

Milton Rawle, Jr.
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer

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