

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS MARCH 3, 2015

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Robert Smith presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present. Also present were the COO, CFO, General Counsel, Police Chief and the Human Resources Director.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Robert E. Smith, Sr. called the meeting to order and called upon Council Member Mickens to offer the Invocation.

II. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2015.

Council Member Karriem made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of February 17, 2015. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed.

III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS FOR MARCH 3, 2015.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for March 3, 2015 in the amount of \$313,042.50. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Council Member Karriem, who opposed.

The motion passed.

IV. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

Delete Item "H"

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Change the reading on Item "L" - for the purpose of advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus.

Add Item "P" – Approve request for the COO to travel to the "MML Statewide Youth Leadership Summit" to be held at Mississippi College in Clinton, MS and approve payment of registration, lodging and meals, for the purpose of advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus.

Add Item "Q" – Approve request for one (1) Police Officer to attend the "Advanced Police Motorcycle Operator Course" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, travel and meals.

REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

Add Frederick D. Sparks as an applicant to the Columbus Municipal School District Board

POLICY AGENDA:

Add Item "F" – *Discuss/Approve Advertising City Resources*

Council Member Karriem made a motion to approve the agenda, according to the amendments. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve request for Administrative Assistant Tabitha Barham to attend the "ESAP Planning Meeting," to be held in Flowood, MS, and approve payment travel.
- B. Approve request for Firefighter Chris Carter to attend the "COM-L Class" to be held in Memphis, TN, and approve payment of \$284.85 for lodging, \$150.00 for travel and \$213.50 for meals.
- C. Approve request for Firefighters Greg Pack and Marco Rodriguez to attend the "Interior Structural Fire Tactics Conference" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$130.00 each for registration, \$75.00 for travel and \$92.00 each for meals.
- D. Approve request for Firefighter Damon Estes to attend the "Fire Fighter Intervention Rescue Class" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$365.00 for registration, \$75.00 for travel and \$115.00 for meals.
- E. Approve request for Firefighters Michael Miller and Sam Collier to attend the "ADSAR & NASAR Training" to be held in Meridian, MS, and approve payment \$100 for travel.

- F. Approve request for Fire Chief Andrews and Fire personnel Mike Gibson, Jr. Lancaster, Alan Walker and Eric Minga to attend the "Pre-Build Inspection" for a new ladder truck to be held in Appleton, WI, and approve payment of \$690.00 for meals.
- G. Approve request for Fire Chief Andrews to meet with representatives from Emergency Equipment Professionals to be held in Pelham, AL, and approve payment of \$150.00 for travel and \$46.00 for meals.
- H. **DELETE**
- I. Approve request for Police Chief Carleton to attend the "MLEOA Conference" to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of \$75 travel and \$253.00 for meals.
- J. Approve request for Police Officer Mark Whitaker to attend the "DIAP Interdiction Seminar" to be held in Lucedale, MS, and approve payment of \$50 for travel.
- K. Approve permit for the "National Day of Prayer" hosted by The Christian Community in Prayer, to be held on May 7, 2015 from 6:00 a.m. until 1:15 p.m. and to block off 2nd Avenue in front of the Lowndes County Courthouse.
- L. Approve request for the Mayor's Youth Council to travel to the "MML Statewide Youth Leadership Summit" to be held at Mississippi College in Clinton, MS, and approve payment of \$875.00 for registration, \$940.00 for lodging and \$1,050.00 for meals, for the purpose of advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus.
- M. Approve request for CFO Milton Rawle, Jr. to attend the 2015 Spring Session of the "Certification Program for Municipal Clerks" to be held in Pearl, MS, and approve payment of \$200.00 for registration, \$390.00 for lodging, \$179.86 for travel and \$115.00 for meals.
- N. Approve request to refund Crystal Johnson \$300.00 and Martha Ellis \$150.00 for cancellation of Convention Center Rental.
- O. Approve request for COO, David Armstrong, to attend the "MS Airports Association Annual Conference" to be held in Tupelo, MS, and approve payment of \$200.00 for registration, \$198.00 for lodging and \$25.00 for meals.
- P. Approve request for the COO, David Armstrong to travel to the "MML Statewide Youth Leadership Summit" to be held at Mississippi College in Clinton, MS, and approve payment of \$25.00 for registration, \$94.00 for lodging and \$92.00 for meals, for the purpose of advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus.
- Q. Approve request for Police Officer James Hanson to attend the "Advanced Police

Motorcycle Operator Course” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, travel and meals.

Council Member Karriem made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, according to amendments. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed.

VI.REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Smith thanked the local Garden Club for donating \$2,000 to the City of Columbus and requested that it be earmarked for beautification projects.

B. Board Vacancies:

David Armstrong, COO, announced vacancies on various boards and remarked that two (2) appointments can be made tonight for the Columbus Municipal School District Board.

Columbus Municipal School District Board

- Two Vacancies
- Remainder of Greg Lewis' unexpired term, until March 2, 2019
- Currie B. Fisher's 5-Year Term will expire March 2, 2015.
- Appointments can be made March 3, 2015.

APPLICANTS:

- Stephen Jones
- Eric Thomas
- Lori LeVar Pierce
- Josie S. Shumake
- Willie J. Petty, Sr.
- Lee Russell Peebles, Jr.
- Currie B. Fisher
- Fredrick D. Sparks

Council Member Gavin made a motion to appoint Ms. Josie Shumake to the Columbus Municipal School District Board to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Greg Lewis, which expires March 2, 2019. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Karriem made a substitute motion to appoint Stephen Jones to the Columbus Municipal School District Board to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Greg Lewis, which expires March 2, 2019. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Smith voted in favor of the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Currie Fisher to the Columbus Municipal School District Board for a five-year term, which will expire March 2, 2020.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Box made a substitute motion to appoint Ms. Josie Shumake to the Columbus Municipal School District Board for a five-year term, until March 2, 2020. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Smith opposed the motion and, therefore, the motion failed.

ORIGINAL MOTION:

Council Members Taylor, Mickens, Turner, and Karriem voted in favor of the original motion to reappoint Mrs. Currie Fisher to the Columbus Municipal School District Board for a five-year term, until March 2, 2020.

Council Members Box and Gavin opposed the motion.

The motion carried.

Municipal Election Commission

- One Vacancy
- Barbara Mitchell resigned effective March 10, 2015.
- Applicant will fill the remainder of unexpired 4-Year Term which ends June 30, 2017.
- Appointment can be made April 7, 2015.
- No Applicants at this time

Board of Adjustment & Appeals of Development Codes

- One Vacancy
- Kevin Stafford's 1-Year Term will expire April 6, 2015.
- Appointment can be made April 7, 2015.

APPLICANT:

- Kevin Stafford

G.T. Regional Waste Management Authority

- One Vacancy
- John Dickerson passed away January 19, 2015.

- Applicant will fill the remainder of unexpired 4-Year Term, which ends 12/31/2016.
- Appointment can be made April 7, 2015.
- No Applicants at this time

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

A. Columbus Redevelopment Authority plan for Burns Bottom

John Acker came forth and thanked Mayor Smith and the City Council for continued support regarding the development of the Soccer Complex and Highway 45 North.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Public Hearing - for Citizen Input on Proposed New Ward Lines and Polling Places.

David Armstrong remarked that Mayor and Council scheduled a Public Hearing to gain public input regarding the Proposed New Ward Lines and Polling Places. Chris Watson, with Bridge and Watson, along with Mr. Leon Speck and City Registrar, Brenda Williams, came forth and discussed the locations of the Municipal Precinct Polling Places. The Hearing was then opened for input. No one came forward. Mayor Smith declared the hearing closed.

Council Member Box made a motion to approve the Proposed New Ward Lines and Polling Places. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Karriem made a substitute motion to table this matter. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed.

B. Discuss/Approve Resolution authorizing Cable One Separation from Graham Holdings Company.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing Cable One Separation from Graham Holdings Company. Council Member Turner seconded the motion. The motion was then put to a roll call vote and the results are as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR	voted: YES
COUNCIL MEMBER MICKENS	voted: YES
COUNCIL MEMBER BOX	voted: YES

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COUNCIL MEMBER TURNER	voted: YES
COUNCIL MEMBER KARRIEM	voted: YES
COUNCIL MEMBER GAVIN	voted: YES

THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS ON THE NEXT PAGE:

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C. Discuss/Approve Advertising City Resources.

Council Member Mickens moved to ratify the expenditure of \$2,865.00 From 001-004-703 (Advertising City Resources) and find that said amount is a legitimate expense that will advertise and bring into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus. Council Member Turner seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

D. Discuss/Approve request to hire two (2) Truck Drivers and one (1) Laborer for the Public Works Department, contingent on successful completion of pre-employment medical examinations and drug screens.

Council Member Karriem made a motion to approve the request to hire Quiana M. Ellis and Frederick Hawkins as Truck Drivers at the hourly rate of \$10.11 and Lakendrick Bankhead as a Laborer at the hourly rate of \$8.80 for the Public Works Department, contingent on successful completion of pre-employment medical examinations and drug screens. Council Member Turner seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

E. Discuss/Approve cost of property clean up on cases previously heard by Council and for which remediation has been completed.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to adjudicate the cost of property clean-up on cases previously heard by the Council and for which remediation has been completed. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

THE ADJUDICATION FOLLOWS ON THE NEXT PAGE:

F. Discuss/Approve Advertising City Resources.

Council Member Taylor moved to ratify the expenditure of \$500.00 From 001-004-703 (Advertising City Resources) and find that said amount is a legitimate expense that will advertise and bring into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion CARRIED.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no Executive Session matters to be discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Council.

There being none, Council Member Karriem made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried and the meeting was ADJOURNED.

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

Milton Rawle, Jr.
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer