

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS JULY 19, 2016

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 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 JULY 5, 2016.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of July 5, 2016. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS FOR JULY 19, 2016.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for July 5, 2016 in the amount of \$248,983.10. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

IV. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA:

Change Item "A" to refund two (2) citizens.

Add Item "T" - *Accept letter of resignation from a Police Officer, effective July 28, 2016 and approve request to be compensated for unused vacation time and return sick leave to the state.*

Add Item "U" – *Approve permit request from Dewayne Burns on behalf of Burns Dirt Construction, Inc. to block off 6th Street North for demolition of the Waters Building.*

Demolition will be July 20 – 21, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day.

Add Item “V” – Approve request for Human Resources Director to attend a Workers’ Comp Hearing in Oxford, MS, and approve payment of travel and reimbursement of meals.

REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

Add the following Board vacancies:

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

- One (1) vacancy
- Thomas Moore’s 4-Year Term will expire 8/5/16.
- No Applicants at this time
- Appointment will be made 8/16/16.

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD

- One (1) Vacancy
- Andrew Colom’s 2-Year Term will expire 9/1/16.
- No Applicants at this time
- Appointment will be made 8/16/16.

COLUMBUS/LOWNDES LIBRARY BOARD

- One (1) Vacancy
- Jennifer Box/s 5-Year Term will expire 9/30/16.
- No Applicants at this time
- Appointment will be made 9/20/16.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT & APPEALS OF DEVELOPMENT CODES

- One (1) Vacancy
- Ralph McLain’s 2-Year Term will expire 9/21/2016.
- Appointed as Electrical Engineer or Contractor
- No applicants at this time
- Appointment will be made 9/20/16.

CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

Add Timo James – RE: Trotter Convention Center.

POLICY AGENDA:

Add Item “H” – *Discuss/Approve adding speed humps on Washington Avenue.*

Add Item “I” – *Discuss/Approve converting Peach Street to One-Way.*

Add Item “J” – *Discuss/Approve Amphitheatre Bid Recommendation.*

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with the above amendments. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion. The Mayor called for discussion, and there being none, the council voted unanimously in favor of same.

The motion carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve request to refund James Jordan the sum of \$270.00 and Raven Malone the sum of \$1,250.00 for cancellation of the Trotter Convention Center Rental.
- B. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel Josh Boyer to attend the "Confined Space Rescue Training" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$69.00 for Registration, \$50.00 for travel and \$127.50 for meal expenses.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel Tommy Massey and Jamie Adams to attend the MS Burn Camp in Petal, MS, and approve payment of \$75.00 for travel and \$255.00 for meals.
- D. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel Justin Cox to attend the Driver/ Operator NFPA 1002 Pumper Apparatus training to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$675.00 for registration, \$50.00 for travel, and \$255.00 for meal expenses.
- E. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel Martin Andrews and Michael Chandler to attend Fire Rescue International training, which is required for Accreditation updates, to be held in San Antonio, TX, and approve payment of \$1,350.00 for registration, \$1,671.84 for lodging, \$50.00 for travel to airport, \$755.92 for air fare, \$640.00 for meals and \$193.23 for rental car.
- F. Accept letter of Court Clerk LaTarsha Brandon, effective July 28, 2016, approve payment of 240 hours of vacation and authorize the Human Resources Director to begin the normal recruitment process.
- G. Approve request for Victim's Advocate Coordinator Dorothy Givens to attend a one (1) day MS Statewide Domestic Violence Conference to be held in Jackson, MS and approve payment of cost for travel and meals.
- H. Accept letter of resignation from Police Officer Matthew Minga, effective July 31, 2016.
- I. Accept letter of resignation from Reserve Police Officer Matthew Sorrells, effective immediately.
- J. Approve Permit request for "Stella" Shouting Contest that will be held September 9, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and approve to block off ½ block of 5th Street South in front of Holly Hocks and WCBI TV station.
- K. Approve Permit requesting to march (Protest) the death of Edward Neal. The March will be held July 29, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and will begin at Sims Scott Park from 18th Street North, onto 10th Avenue North, on to Military Road, on to 7th Avenue North and ending at Sims Scott Park.

- L. Approve Permit request for First United Methodist Church – Columbus Back to Church Bash, which is an annual event that will be held Wednesday, August 10, 2016 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and block off the section of College Street between their buildings, the parking lot on 6th Street beside the Church building, the drive-way under the Fletcher Jones Building.
- M. Approve Permit request for National Night Out Against Crime Block Party that will be held August 2, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and block off the street at the corner of 15th Street South and 7th Avenue South to the intersection of 15th Street South and 10th Avenue South.
- N. Approve Permit request for National Out Against Crime – Southside Neighborhood Watch Association that will be held August 2, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in the back parking lot of First United Methodist Church and block off 6th Street South and 3rd Avenue South and 7th Street South and College Street and 6th Street South to 6th Street South and 3rd Avenue South.
- O. Approve Permit request for True Redemption Church – Annual Youth/Community Outreach Day that will be held July 23, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and block off the street at College Street between 21st Street South and 22nd Street South.
- P. Approve request for Police Investigator Thomas Watkins to attend the Social Media & Technical Skills 201 training, to be held in Tunica, MS, and approve payment of \$98.00 for lodging and \$212.75 for meal expenses.
- Q. Approve request for Police Officer Amanda Burrell, Christopher Ware, Roman Sones, and Joshua McCain, to attend the Field Training Officer Basic Course to be held in Tupelo, MS, and approve payment of \$75.00 each for registration and \$24.00 each for meal expenses.
- R. Approve Taxi-Bond Driver Application for R. D. Rice.
- S. Accept letter of resignation from Councilman Bill Gavin as a member of the Columbus/Lowndes County Airport Board.
- T. Accept letter of resignation from Police Officer, effective July 28, 2016 and approve request to be compensated for any unused vacation leave.
- U. Approve Permit request from Dewayne Burns on behalf of Burns Dirt Construction, Inc. to block off 6th Street North for demolition of the Waters Building. Demolition will be held July 20 & 21, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day.
- V. Approve request for the Human Resources Director to attend a Workers' Comp Hearing in Oxford, MS and approve payment of travel and reimbursement of meals.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the above amendments. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The Mayor called for discussion, and there being none, all Council Members voted in favor of same.

The motion carried.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members

There were no comments from the Mayor and Council Members.

B. Recognition of two (2) Officers for administering lifesaving CPR to a Citizen

Police Chief, Oscar Lewis, recognized Officer Andres Rodriguez and Officer Lance Lucky for their acts of heroism by administering lifesaving CPR to a citizen.

C. Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

D. Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire and Rescue Department for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire and Rescue Department for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

E. Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

F. Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

G. Monthly Report from the City Planning and Community Development Department for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the City Planning and Community Development Department for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

H. Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

I. Monthly Report from the Code Enforcement Division for June 2016

The Monthly Report from the Code Enforcement Division for June 2016 was presented. No action was taken.

J. Monthly Financial Report

Milton Rawle, Jr., CFO, reported that the sales taxes decreased by 11.28% compared to the same time last year.

C. Board Vacancies

David Armstrong, COO, announced vacancies on various boards and remarked that no appointments can be made tonight.

Board of Adjustment & Appeals

- One (1) Vacancy
- Fred Kinder resigned 5/31/2016.
- No Applicants at this time
- Appointment can be made 7/5/2016.

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

LARRY GOLDEN – Building Capacity

Mr. Larry Golden approached the podium to discuss his business – After 7 Club that is being operated in the name of Johnny Calmese, Mr. Golden complained that he made modifications to the building to increase space inside; however, the Inspection Department still will not increase the occupancy level. Building Official Kenny Wiegel came forth and remarked that his office has Measured the building and increased the occupancy level from 110 to 131 following the modifications. Chief Martin Andrews came forth and concurred with the Building Official. No action was taken.

CHUCK STATEN – Purchase of City Property

Mr. Staten approached the podium and stated that he lives on 1st Street South and would like to purchase .5 acre that is owned by the City for the purpose of cleaning the property up and improving the view to the Riverwalk. Kevin Stafford with Neel-Schaffer came forward and remarked that Mr. Staten will need to obtain approval from the Corp of Engineers. This matter was taken under consideration and no further action was taken.

TIMO JAMES – Trotter Convention Center

Mr. Timo James approached the podium and discussed a matter involving the Rental of the Trotter Convention Center. Mr. James stated that he had paid a deposit for the rental, but received a call from the VA Hospital informing him that he had been scheduled for a medical procedure. This procedure prevented

him from using the Trotter Convention Center as rented and requested to reschedule the date. Council Member Jones made a motion to allow Mr. James to reschedule the use of the Trotter Convention Center on a vacant date due to extenuating circumstances (medical procedure). Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve authorization to solicit quotes for grass cutting and maintenance at Friendship Cemetery.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to authorize the Convention Center Manager to advertise for RFPs for Grounds Maintenance Service for the Friendship Cemetery. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

B. Discuss/Approve request to advertise for RFPs for Recycling Services

Council Member Box made a motion to advertise for RFPs for Recycling Services. Council Member Turner seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

C. Discuss/Approve the Organizational Chart for the CPD.

The revised Organizational Chart for the Columbus Police Department was presented. Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Organizational Chart for the Columbus Police Department. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

D. Discuss/Approve request to hire two (2) Certified Police Officers, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to hire Glenn Jenkins and Greg Finney As certified Police Officers, contingent on successful completion fo a pre-Employment medical examination and drug screen. Council Member Jones

seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

E. Discuss/Approve request to hire one (1) Laborer for the Public Works Department, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen

Council Member Jones made a motion to hire Rhonda S. Bailey as a full-time Laborer in the Public Works Department, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

F. Discuss/Approve recommendations from the Planning Commission Meeting of July 18, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, Council Member Taylor moved that the meeting be adjourned. Upon second by Council Member Box and unanimous vote, the Mayor announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

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

Milton Rawle, Jr.,
CFO- Secretary-Treasurer

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