

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS
JULY 18, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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

II. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 6, 2017.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of July 6, 2017. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS FOR JULY 18, 2017.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for July 18, 2017, in the amount of \$515,384.53. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

IV. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA

Remove Berry Hinds from the list of applicants for the Municipal Election Commission Board.

CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

Delete Edwina Williams.

POLICY AGENDA:

Add Item "I" – *Discuss/Approve hiring of two (2) Entry Level Firefighters, contingent upon successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.*

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Add Item "J" – *Discuss/Approve promotion of a Public Works Department Laborer to a Crew Leader.*

Add Item "K" – *Discuss/Approve CPD Director of Training assuming additional duties of Equipment and Inventory Control Clerk.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Change Personnel matters from three (3) to four (4).

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, with the above amendments. Council Member Taylor 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 pay \$350.00 to the MS Department of Health for EMT-Basic Registration of ten (10) EMT-Basic personnel.
- B. Ratify request for Fire and Rescue Personnel, Michael Miller, Steve Loden, Madison Guyton, Chris Carter, Josh Reynolds and Dale Ballard, to travel to Philadelphia, MS for an "OSAR- Mutual Aid Response (Overland Search and Rescue)", and approve payment for travel and meal expenses.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Personnel, Jaquay Sherrod, Marquon Evans, and Wesley Gates to attend the "EC Driver/Operator NFPA 1002: Pumper Apparatus Training" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$2,205.00 for registration, \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses.
- D. Ratify request for Fire and Rescue Personnel, Jaquay Sherrod, Marquon Evans, and Wesley Gates, to attend a meeting at Itawamba Community College in Fulton, MS to obtain permission for "Internal Certification of Emergency Medical Technicians", and approve payment of for travel and meal expenses.
- E. Ratify Mayor Robert E. Smith as Voting Delegate and Vice-Mayor Bill Gavin as Alternate Voting Delegate for MML President Election.
- F. Approve request for five (5) Municipal Deputy Clerks: Linda Weaver, Lisa Lang, Tracy Smith, Kimberly Stinson, and Melinda Ellis and one (1) Collection Clerk, Tameka Smith, to attend the "Municipal Court Clerks Association Annual Summer Seminar" to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of \$311.97 each for lodging, \$274.78 each for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- G. Approve request for Chief Lewis, Director of Training, Liz Patrick and two (2) CPD Officers to attend the "Law Enforcement Graduation" to be held at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorehead, MS, and approve payment of \$25.00 for travel expenses.

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- H. Approve permit request submitted by Tietti Chandler to host a “50th Birthday Party” on January 20, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. at the Trotter Convention Center, and to block off at the corner of 5th Street North to 2nd Ave. North (all the way past the parking lot before the Hitching Lot).
- I. Accept letter of resignation from CPD Officer, Thomas C. Houston, effective July 7, 2017.
- J. Approve request for Mayor Smith, Council Members Taylor, Mickens, Box, Jackson, Jones and Gavin, COO Armstrong, CFO Rawle, and Interim City Planner George Irby to attend the “Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Conference” to be held in Point Clear, AL, and approve payment of \$395.00 each for registration, lodging, travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.

Council Member Gavin 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, the Council voted unanimously in favor of same.

The motion carried.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members

Mayor Smith announced that the August 1, 2017 meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m., due to National Night Out on Crime.

Council Member Gavin announced that the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for The bridge opening in Ward VI will be held July 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

B. Swearing in of five (5) CPD Officers

- Jervarcus Gooch
- James Powell
- Eric Romans
- Richard Weeks
- Samuel Werner

Mayor Smith swore in five (5) Police Officers and they all recited the Oath of Office.

C. Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

D. Monthly Report from the City Planning and Community Development Department for June 2017

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The Monthly Report from the City Planning and Community Development Department for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

E. Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

F. Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

G. Monthly Report from the Code Enforcement Division for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Code Enforcement Division for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

H. Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

I. Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2017

The Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2017 was presented. No action was taken.

J. Monthly Financial Report

Milton Rawle, Jr. gave the Monthly Financial Report and remarked that the Sales Taxes increased by \$32,278.12, compared to the same time last year. No action Was taken.

K. Board Vacancies

Historic Preservation Commission

- 1 Vacancy
- 4-Year Term for Fred McCaleb ended 5/16/2017.
- Appointment can be made immediately.
- No applicants at this time

Municipal Election Commission

- 2 Vacancies
- 4-Year Terms for Leon Speck, Josie S. Shumake ended 6/30/2017.
- Appointments can be made immediately.

Applicants

- Josie S. Shumake

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- Willie Harris
- Tommy Jackson
- Lee Roy Lollar, Jr.
- Leon Speck

Council Member Jones made a motion to appoint Tommy Jackson to the Election Commission. Mayor Smith called for a second. No one seconded the motion.

The motion failed.

Council Member Gavin made a motion to reappoint Leon Speck to the Election Commission. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to appoint Willie Harris to the Election Commission. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion.

The Council Members voted 4-2 in favor of the appointment, with Council Members Box and Gavin voting "no".

The motion carried.

City Planning Commission

- 1 Vacancy to fill the unexpired 3-Year Term ending 12/1/2018
- William Bluit resigned 6/19/2017.
- Appointment can be made immediately.
- No applicants at this time

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Debt Restructure Resolution.

Ms. Sue Fairbanks, with Butler Snow, came before the Mayor and Council and took up for consideration the matter of refinancing certain prior bonds of the City, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Council Member TAYLOR offered and moved the adoption of the Resolution authorizing and directing preparations for the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the City of Columbus, Mississippi in a Principal Amount not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) for the purpose of refunding for interest savings all or a portion of the \$8,900,000 Mississippi Development Bank Special Obligation Bonds, Series 2010. Council Member MICKENS seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

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Council Member Gene Taylor voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Joseph Mickens, Sr. voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Charlie Box voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Fredrick Jackson voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Stephen Jones voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Bill Gavin voted:	<u>YEA</u>

THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "City"), took up for consideration the matter of refinancing certain prior bonds of the City, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Council Member _____ offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING PREPARATIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING FOR INTEREST SAVINGS ALL OR A PORTION OF THE \$8,900,000 MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2010 (CITY OF COLUMBUS GENERAL OBLIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND REFUNDING BOND PROJECT), DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2010, AND A CORRESPONDING PORTION OF THE \$8,900,000 CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI GENERAL OBLIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2010, DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2010; AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATED SALE OF SUCH REFUNDING BONDS; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF A PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH REFUNDING BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF CERTAIN PROFESSIONALS FOR SUCH REFUNDING BONDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "Governing Body"), acting for and on behalf of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "City"), is authorized by Sections 31-27-1 *et seq.*, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the "Act"), to issue general obligation refunding bonds of the City for the purpose of refinancing certain outstanding prior bonds of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the Governing Body, among other things, to provide for the terms and details of such refunding bonds, to sell such refunding bonds at public or private sale (which sale shall be on such terms and in such manner as the Governing Body shall determine to be in the City's best interest), to make arrangements for the retirement of all or a portion of the obligations of the City to be refinanced with the proceeds of such refunding bonds, and to make all other arrangements relating to such refunding bonds; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously authorized and issued its \$8,900,000 (original principal amount) General Obligation Bond, Series 2010, dated November 30, 2010 (the "Prior City Bond"); and

WHEREAS, the Prior City Bond was purchased by the Mississippi Development Bank (the "Bank") with the proceeds of the Bank's \$8,900,000 (original principal amount) Special Obligation Bonds, Series 2010 (City of Columbus General Obligation Infrastructure and Refunding Bond Project), dated November 30, 2010 (the "Prior Bank Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to refund in accordance with the Act all or a portion of the outstanding principal amount of the Prior Bank Bonds and a corresponding portion of the Prior City Bond for interest savings; and

WHEREAS, the refunding of the Prior City Bond and the Prior Bank Bonds must result in an overall net present value savings to maturity of not less than two percent (2%) of the Prior City Bond and the Prior Bank Bonds being refunded as required by Section 31-27-13 of the Act resulting in the enhancement of the City's annual cash flow; and

WHEREAS, the sale of such refunding bonds through private sale will provide the Governing Body with the greatest degree of flexibility in the marketing of such refunding bonds and will ensure the most favorable long term interest rates and will thereby maximize the interest savings for the City; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the health and financial well-being of the citizens of the City for the Governing Body to issue such refunding bonds for the purpose of providing for the advance refunding and defeasance of all or a portion of the Prior Bank Bonds and a corresponding portion of the Prior City Bond for interest savings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. This resolution is adopted pursuant to the Act and other applicable laws of the State of Mississippi.

SECTION 2. The Governing Body hereby declares its intention to issue its General Obligation Refunding Bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") in a principal amount not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) for the purpose of advance refunding and defeasing all or a portion of the outstanding Prior Bank Bonds and a corresponding portion of the Prior City Bond in accordance with the terms and provisions of this resolution and the Act.

SECTION 3. The Mayor of the City is hereby appointed as representative (the "Representative") for the purpose of preparing, on behalf of the Governing Body, for the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

SECTION 4. Butler Snow LLP, Ridgeland, Mississippi, is hereby selected to serve as bond counsel ("Bond Counsel") to the City in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds. The terms of employment for Bond Counsel are set forth in the engagement letter (the "Engagement Letter") attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. All provisions of the Engagement Letter, when executed as hereinafter authorized, shall be incorporated herein, and shall be deemed to be part of this resolution fully and to the same extent as if separately set out verbatim herein. The form of the Engagement Letter and the execution thereof by the Representative is hereby approved and authorized.

SECTION 5. Government Consultants, Inc., Madison, Mississippi, is hereby selected to serve as Independent Registered Municipal Advisor (the "Financial Advisor") to the City in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds. The Representative, acting for

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and on behalf of the City, is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Independent Registered Municipal Advisor ("IRMA") disclosure letter (the "F/A IRMA Letter") of the Municipal Advisor attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

SECTION 6. Mitchell, McNutt & Sams, Columbus, Mississippi, is hereby selected to serve as counsel to the City ("City Counsel") in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

SECTION 7. The Governing Body hereby finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the City for the Refunding Bonds to be sold at a private negotiated sale rather than a public sale, and the City hereby selects Stephens, Inc., to serve as Underwriter (the "Underwriter") in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds. The Representative, acting for and on behalf of the City, is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the G-17 disclosure letter of the Underwriter attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.

SECTION 8. The Representative, Bond Counsel, the Financial Advisor and City Counsel are each hereby authorized and directed to carry out their respective responsibilities as set forth in this resolution; provided that (a) none of the actions of the Representative, Bond Counsel, the Financial Advisor or City Counsel shall be binding on the Governing Body unless and until approved and ratified by the Governing Body at a subsequent meeting duly called and held; and (b) the Refunding Bonds shall not be issued unless all of the requirements of the Act are met, including the net present value savings requirement of Section 31-27-13 of the Act.

SECTION 9. The Refunding Bonds will be general obligations of the City payable as to principal and interest out of and secured by an irrevocable pledge of the avails of a direct and continuing tax to be levied annually without limitation as to time, rate, or amount upon all the taxable property within the geographical limits of the City.

SECTION 10. Bond Counsel and City Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to prepare the form of all legal documents necessary or appropriate for the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds, to provide for the disposition of the proceeds thereof and to effect the refunding and defeasance of all or a portion of the Prior Bonds.

SECTION 11. The Representative, the Financial Advisor and Bond Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to prepare a preliminary official statement (the "Preliminary Official Statement") relating to the Refunding Bonds, including information related to the City, the portion of the Prior Bonds to be refunded and defeased and such other materials and information required for the sale of the Refunding Bonds and, subject to ratification by the Governing Body, the Representative is hereby authorized to distribute the Preliminary Official Statement to the Underwriter for use in connection with the marketing of the Refunding Bonds.

SECTION 12. Bond Counsel, the Financial Advisor and City Counsel are hereby further authorized and directed to provide such advice and assistance as shall be requested by the Representative in connection with the Representative fulfilling his duties under this resolution.

SECTION 13. All orders, resolutions or proceedings of the Governing Body in conflict with the provisions of this resolution shall be and are hereby repealed, rescinded and set aside, but only to the extent of such conflict.

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Council Member _____ seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Council Member Gene Taylor voted: _____
Council Member Joseph W. Mickens, Sr. voted: _____
Council Member Charlie Box voted: _____
Council Member Fred Jackson voted: _____
Council Member Stephen Jones voted: _____
Council Member Bill Gavin voted: _____

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Governing Body present, being a quorum of said Governing Body, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted this 18th day of July, 2017.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

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EXHIBIT C
G-17 LETTER

BUTLER | SNOW

July 18, 2017

Mayor and City Council
Columbus, Mississippi

Re: Not to Exceed \$5,000,000 City of Columbus, Mississippi General Obligation
Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 (the "**Bonds**")

Dear Gentlemen:

The purpose of this engagement letter is to set forth certain matters concerning the services we will perform as bond counsel to the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "**City**") in connection with the issuance of the above-referenced Bonds. We understand that the Bonds are being issued for the purpose of providing funds to (1) advance refund certain previously issued general obligation bonds of the City (the "Refunded Bonds"), thereby reducing the debt service requirements of the City and resulting in an overall net present value savings of not less than two percent (2%) of the Refunded Bonds; and (2) paying the costs of issuing the Bonds all pursuant to Sections 31-27-1 *et seq.*, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended from time to time (the "**Act**"), and will be secured by the full faith and credit of the City as authorized by and provided in the Act.

SCOPE OF ENGAGEMENT

In connection with this engagement, we expect to perform the following duties:

1. Subject to the completion of proceedings to our satisfaction, render our legal opinion (the "**Bond Opinion**") regarding the validity and binding effect of the Bonds, the source of payment and security for the Bonds, and the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal and State of Mississippi (the "**State**") income tax purposes;
2. Prepare and review documents necessary or appropriate for the authorization, issuance and delivery of the Bonds and coordinate the authorization and execution of such documents;
3. Assist the City in seeking from any other governmental authorities such approvals, permissions, and exemptions as we determine are necessary or appropriate in connection with the authorization, issuance and delivery of the Bonds, except that we will not be responsible for any required Blue Sky filings;
4. Review legal issues relating to the structure of the Bond issue;
5. Pursue validation proceedings under State law;

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6. Assist the City in preparing the official statement (the "**Official Statement**") and subject to satisfactory completion of our review, provide to the City written advice that in the course of our participation, no information has come to our attention that leads us to believe that the Official Statement, as of its date (except for financial statements, other statistical data, feasibility reports and statements of trends and forecasts and book-entry language contained in the Official Statement and its appendices, as to which we will express no opinion), contains any untrue statement of material fact or omits to state any material fact necessary to make the statements in the Official Statement, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;

7. Assist the City in presenting information to bond rating organizations, if necessary, and providers of credit enhancement relating to legal issues affecting the issuance of the Bonds; and

8. Draft the continuing disclosure undertaking of the City.

Our Bond Opinion will be addressed to the City and will be delivered by us on the date of delivery of the Bonds. The Bond Opinion will be based on facts and laws existing as of its date. In rendering our Bond Opinion, we will rely upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and other persons furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation, and we will assume continuing compliance by the City with applicable laws relating to the Bonds. During the course of this engagement, we will rely on you to provide us with complete and timely information on all developments pertaining to any aspect of the Bonds and their security. We understand that you will direct members of your staff and other employees of the City to cooperate with us in this regard. In rendering our Bond Opinion, we will expressly rely upon other counsel as to due authorization, execution and delivery of bond documents executed by the City.

Our duties in this engagement are limited to those expressly set forth above. Among other things, our duties under this engagement, without a separate engagement as may hereafter be agreed between the parties, do not include:

(a) Except as described in paragraph 6 above, assisting in the preparation or review of the Official Statement or any other disclosure document, if applicable, with respect to the Bonds, or performing an independent investigation to determine the accuracy, completeness or sufficiency of any such document or rendering advice that the Official Statement or other disclosure document, if applicable, does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;

(b) Preparing request for tax rulings from the Internal Revenue Service ("**IRS**") or no action letters from the Securities and Exchange Commission ("**SEC**");

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- (c) If applicable, preparing Blue Sky or investment surveys with respect to the Bonds;
- (d) Drafting State constitutional or legislative amendments;
- (e) Pursuing test cases or other litigation, such as contested validation proceedings;
- (f) Making an investigation or expressing any view as to the creditworthiness of the City or the Bonds;
- (g) Except as described in paragraph 8 above and if applicable, assisting in the preparation of, or opining on, a continuing disclosure undertaking pertaining to the Bonds or, after closing, providing advice concerning any actions necessary to assure compliance with any continuing disclosure undertaking;
- (h) Representing the City in IRS examinations or inquiries, or SEC investigations;
- (i) After closing, providing continuing advice to the City or any other party concerning any actions necessary to assure that interest paid on the Bonds will continue to be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes (e.g., our engagement does not include rebate calculations for the Bonds). Although our present engagement does not include rebate analysis and post-issuance advice relating to the Bonds, we would like to discuss with you a separate engagement involving rebate and other post-issuance compliance matters for the Bonds and other bond issues that you may have issued on various occasions.
- (j) Giving and/or providing any financial advice or recommendations concerning the issuance of the Bonds as mandated by SEC rules; or
- (k) Addressing any other matters not specifically set forth above that is not required to render our Bond Opinion.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP

Upon execution of this engagement letter, the City will be our client and an attorney-client relationship will exist between us. We understand that counsel to the City has been engaged by the City to assist with the issuance of the Bonds, particularly as to the authorization, execution and delivery of bond documents. We assume that all other parties will retain such counsel, as they deem necessary and appropriate to represent their interest in this transaction. We further assume that all other parties understand that in this transaction we represent only the City, we are not counsel to any other party, and we are not acting as an intermediary among the parties. Our services as bond counsel are limited to those contracted for in this letter, and the City's execution of this engagement letter will constitute an acknowledgment of those limitations. Our representation of the City will not affect, however, our responsibility to render an objective Bond Opinion.

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Our representation of the City and the attorney-client relationship created by this engagement letter will be concluded upon issuance of the Bonds. Nevertheless, subsequent to Closing, we will mail to the IRS the appropriate IRS Form 8038-G and prepare and distribute to the participants in the transaction a transcript of the proceedings pertaining to the Bonds.

PROSPECTIVE CONSENT

As you are aware, Butler Snow represents many political subdivisions, companies and individuals. It is possible that during the time that we are representing the City, one or more of our present or future clients will have transactions with the City. It is also possible that we may be asked to represent, in an unrelated matter, one or more of the entities involved in the issuance of the Bonds. We do not believe that such representation, if it occurs, will adversely affect our ability to represent you as provided in this letter, either because such matters will be sufficiently different from the issuance of the Bonds so as to make such representations not adverse to our representation of you, or because the potential for such adversity is remote or minor and outweighed by the consideration that it is unlikely that advice given to the other client will be relevant to any aspect of the issuance of the Bonds. Execution of this letter will signify the City's consent to our representation of others consistent with the circumstances described in this paragraph.

FEES

Prior to the issuance of the Bonds, we will reach an agreement with you concerning our fees and expenses which will depend upon the size of the financing. Our expenses will include the costs of printing and distribution of a Preliminary Official Statement and final Official Statement, deliveries, copies, transcripts, telephone charges, filing fees, computer-assisted research and other similar expenses not to exceed \$2,500.

If the financing is not consummated, we understand and agree that we will not be paid for our time expended on your behalf but will be paid for client charges made or incurred on your behalf.

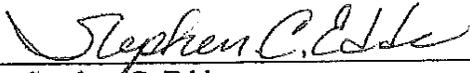
RECORDS

At your request, papers and property furnished by you will be returned promptly upon receipt of payment for outstanding fees and client charges. Our own files, including lawyer work product, pertaining to the transaction will be retained by us. For various reasons, including the minimization of unnecessary storage expenses, we reserve the right to dispose of any documents or other material retain by us after the termination of this engagement.

If the foregoing terms are acceptable to you, please so indicate by returning the enclosed copy of this engagement letter dated and signed by an authorized officer, retaining the original for your files. We look forward to working with you.

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BUTLER SNOW LLP

By: 
Stephen C. Edds

Accepted and Approved:

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

BY: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____

Authorized by Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus,
Mississippi, dated July 18, 2017.

July 12, 2017

City of Columbus
523 Main St.
Columbus, MS 39701

Attn: Mayor Robert Smith

Re: Disclosures by Underwriter Pursuant to the Municipal
Advisor Rule and MSRB Rule G-17 and Rule G-23
Columbus, MS General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017

Dear Mayor Smith,

I am writing you, as the Mayor of Columbus, MS (the "Issuer"), to provide the Issuer with certain disclosures relating to the proposed issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 as an obligated person (the "Obligor"), in the anticipated principal amount of approximately \$2,980,000 for the refunding of the General Obligation Bonds, 2010 (the "Bonds"). The final amount of the Bonds will be determined by market conditions at the time of sale. These disclosures are required by the Municipal Advisor Rule adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) (codified at 17 CFR 240.15Ba1-1 through 240.15Ba1-8) (the "MA Rule") and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") Rule G-17 as set forth in MSRB Notice 2012-25 (May 7, 2012).¹ We are also writing to confirm the Issuer's intent to regard Stephens Inc. ("Stephens") as an underwriter, and not as a financial advisor or municipal advisor, in connection with the issuance of the Bonds

We understand that the Issuer is aware of the MA Rule and the underwriter exclusion from the definition of "municipal advisor" for a firm serving as an underwriter for a particular issuance of municipal securities. If the Issuer decides to proceed with this potential issuance, you agree to cooperate with our firm to expand this engagement and prepare the documents necessary to market and underwrite the Bonds.

The Issuer presently intends to engage Stephens as the underwriter for the contemplated Bonds, subject to satisfaction of applicable procurement laws, formal approval on behalf of the Issuer by the appropriate boards and authorities, finalizing the structure of the Bonds and the execution of a mutually agreed upon bond purchase agreement. As part of our services as the underwriter, Stephens may provide advice concerning the structure, timing, terms, and other similar matters concerning the offering or the Bonds.

As underwriter, Stephens is also providing this letter on behalf of other prospective underwriters, if any, that may be members of an underwriting syndicate for the Bonds. You also may receive

¹ Please see MSRB Notice 2012-25 (May 7, 2012), Interpretive Notice Concerning the Application of MSRB Rule G-17 to Underwriters of Municipal Securities (effective August 2, 2012).

additional separate disclosure letters pursuant to the MA Rule and Rule G-17 from one or more other underwriters or prospective underwriters for the offering.

I. Disclosures Concerning the Underwriter's Role:

Please be notified that the MSRB requires us to provide the following disclosures:

- (i) MSRB Rule G-17 requires an underwriter to deal fairly at all times with both municipal issuers and investors.
- (ii) The underwriter's primary role is to purchase the Bonds with a view to distribution in an arm's-length commercial transaction with the Issuer. The underwriter has financial and other interests that differ from those of the Issuer.
- (iii) Unlike a municipal advisor, an underwriter does not have a fiduciary duty to the Issuer under the federal securities laws and is, therefore, not required by federal law to act in the best interests of the Issuer without regard to its own financial or other interests.
- (iv) The underwriter has a duty to purchase the Bonds from the Issuer at a fair and reasonable price, but must balance that duty with its duty to sell the Bonds to investors at prices that are fair and reasonable.²
- (v) The underwriter will review the official statement for the Bonds in accordance with, and as part of, its responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws, as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction.³

Stephens and its affiliates engage in a broad range of securities transactions and activities, financial services and other relationships from time to time that involve interests that differ from those of the Issuer. In the ordinary course of business, Stephens or its affiliates (i) may at any time hold long or short positions, and, through employees who do not have access to non-public information relating to the offering, may trade or otherwise effect transactions, for its own account or the accounts of customers, in securities of the Issuer or other prospective participants in this project and (ii) may at any time be pursuing, or providing or arranging financing or other financial or transactional services to such prospective participants or to other issuers or market participants. Stephens acts, and may act, as an underwriter, placement agent, financial or municipal advisor, investment banker, broker, dealer, investor, lender or in other capacities for other persons who wish to pursue financing transactions or engage in other transactions, and Stephens contacts, and may contact, the same potential investors or transaction counterparties on

² The duty of the underwriter to purchase bonds at a fair and reasonable price applies if and when the underwriter enters into a bond purchase agreement under which the underwriter agrees to purchase the bonds.

³ Under federal securities law, an issuer of securities has the primary responsibility for disclosure to investors. The review of the official statement by the underwriter is solely for purposes of satisfying the underwriter's obligations under the federal securities laws and such review should not be construed by an issuer as a guarantee of the accuracy or completeness of the information in the official statement.

behalf of multiple persons. Stephens shall have no obligation to disclose to the Issuer any of such interests, transactions, activities or financial services.

II. Disclosures Concerning the Underwriter's Compensation:

Stephens will be compensated by a fee or an underwriting discount that will be set forth in the bond purchase agreement, which will be negotiated and entered into in connection with this offering. The amount of the fee or discount is typically negotiated between the issuer and the underwriter before bonds are actively marketed to prospective investors. Payment or receipt of the underwriting fee or discount will be contingent on the closing of the transaction and the amount of the fee or discount may be based, in whole or in part, on a percentage of the principal amount of the bonds sold. While this form of compensation is customary in the municipal securities market, it presents a conflict of interest since the underwriter may have an incentive to recommend to an issuer a transaction that is unnecessary or to recommend that the size of the transaction be larger than is necessary.

Underwriters typically pay a percentage of the underwriting spread to sales personnel participating in selling the bonds to investors. As a result, sales personnel may experience greater motivation to sell bonds that carry a larger underwriting spread and correspondingly higher payments to such sales personnel in connection with their sales of the bonds to investors and may experience relatively less motivation to sell bonds that carry a smaller underwriting spread and correspondingly lower payments to sales personnel in connection with their sales of the bonds. These factors could affect the motivation of sales personnel to devote their time and efforts to making sales in this proposed offering.

I. Disclosures Concerning Fixed Rate Municipal Securities Financing:

Since Stephens expects to recommend to the Issuer a fixed rate financing structure for this transaction, attached is a description of the material financial characteristics of a fixed rate bond financing structure, as well as a description of material financial risks of the financing that are known or reasonably foreseeable at this time.

In accordance with the requirements of MSRB Rule G-17, if Stephens recommends to the Issuer other potential financing alternatives, we would expect to supplement this letter to provide disclosure of the material financial characteristics of the alternative financing structure recommended, as well as a description of material financial risks of the financing that are known or reasonably foreseeable at that time.

If you or any other Issuer officials have questions or concerns about the terms of this letter, or these disclosures, please make those questions or concerns known immediately to me. In addition, you should consult with the Issuer's own legal, financial and/or municipal, accounting, tax and other advisors, as applicable, to the extent you deem appropriate.

It is our understanding that you have the authority, subject to official approval by the appropriate Board or Committee, to bind the Issuer by contract with us, and that you are not a party to any

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conflict of interest relating to the subject transaction. If our understanding is incorrect, please notify the undersigned immediately.

We are required under MSRB Rules to seek your acknowledgement that you have received this letter. Accordingly, please send me an email to that effect or sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter to me at our address set forth herein. Depending on the structure of the transaction that the Issuer decides to pursue, or if additional potential or actual material conflicts are identified, we may be required to provide additional disclosures regarding the material financial characteristics and risks of such transaction and/or describing those conflicts. At that time, we also will seek your acknowledgement of receipt of any such additional disclosures.

We look forward to working with you and the City of Columbus in connection with this offering.

Sincerely,



Pierce Moore
Banker

Acknowledgement:

Mayor Robert Smith

Date: 7/12/2017

Fixed Rate Bonds

The following is a general description of the financial characteristics and security structures of fixed rate municipal bonds ("Fixed Rate Bonds"), as well as a general description of certain financial risks that you should consider before deciding whether to issue Fixed Rate Bonds.

Financial Characteristics

Maturity and Interest. Fixed Rate Bonds are interest-bearing debt securities issued by state and local governments, political subdivisions and agencies and authorities. Maturity dates for Fixed Rate Bonds are fixed at the time of issuance and may include serial maturities (specified principal amounts that are payable on the same date in each year until final maturity) or one or more term maturities (specified principal amounts that are payable on each term maturity date) or a combination of serial and term maturities. The final maturity date typically will range between 10 and 30 years from the date of issuance. Interest on the Fixed Rate Bonds typically is paid semiannually at a stated fixed rate or rates for each maturity date.

Redemption. Fixed Rate Bonds may be subject to optional redemption which allows you, at your option, to redeem some or all of the bonds on a date prior to the scheduled maturity, such as in connection with the issuance of refunding bonds to take advantage of lower interest rates. Fixed Rate Bonds will be subject to optional redemption only after the passage of a specified period of time, often between five to ten years from the date of issuance and upon payment of the redemption price set forth in the bonds, which may include a redemption premium. You will be required to send a notice of optional redemption to the holders of the bonds, usually not less than 30 days prior to the redemption date. Fixed Rate Bonds with term maturity dates also may be subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption, which requires you to redeem specified principal amounts of the bonds annually in advance of the term maturity date. The mandatory sinking fund redemption price is 100% of the principal amount of the bonds to be redeemed.

Security

Payment of principal of and interest on a municipal security, including Fixed Rate Bonds, may be backed by various types of pledges and forms of security, some of which are described on the following page.⁴

⁴ Although Fixed Rate Bonds generally are not "complex municipal securities financings" for purposes of MSRB Rule G-17, the underwriter nevertheless may wish to provide disclosures regarding Fixed Rate Bonds in certain circumstances, depending on the level of sophistication and experience of the issuer and its personnel. Under MSRB Rule G-17, the underwriter must provide an issuer with disclosures about complex municipal securities financings that they recommend for a negotiated offering.

⁴ The discussion of security characteristics is limited to general obligation and revenue bond structures. This summary should be expanded and modified, as necessary, for other security structures, such as bonds that are secured by a double-barreled pledged (general obligation and revenues), annual appropriations or a moral obligation of the issuer or another government entity.

General Obligation Bonds

“General obligation bonds” are debt securities to which an issuer’s full faith and credit is pledged to pay principal and interest. If you have taxing power, generally you will pledge to use ad valorem (property) taxing power to pay principal and interest. Ad valorem taxes necessary to pay debt service on general obligation bonds may not be subject to state constitutional property tax millage limits (an unlimited tax general obligation bond). The term “limited” tax is used when such limits exist.

General obligation bonds constitute a debt and depending on applicable state law, may require that you obtain approval by voters prior to issuance. In the event of default in required payments of interest and/or principal, the holders of general obligation bonds may have certain rights under state law to compel you to impose a tax levy.

Revenue Bonds

“Revenue bonds” are debt securities that are payable only from a specific source or sources of revenues. Revenue bonds are not a pledge of an issuer’s full faith and credit and an issuer is obligated to pay principal and interest on revenue bonds only from the revenue source(s) specifically pledged to the bonds. Revenue bonds do not permit bondholders to compel you to impose a tax levy for payment of debt service. Pledged revenues may be derived from operation of the financed project or system, grants or excise or other specified taxes. Generally, subject to state law or local charter requirements, you are not required to obtain voter approval prior to issuance of revenue bonds. If the specified source(s) of revenue become inadequate, a default in payment of principal or interest may occur. Various types of pledges of revenue may be used to secure interest and principal payments on revenue bonds. The nature of these pledges may differ widely based on state law, the type of issuer, the type of revenue stream and other factors.

The description above regarding “Security” is only a brief summary of certain possible security provisions for the bonds and is not intended as legal advice. You should consult with your bond counsel for further information regarding the security for the bonds.

Financial Risk Considerations

Certain risks may arise in connection with your issuance of Fixed Rate Bonds, including some or all of the following:

Issuer Default Risk

You may be in default if the funds pledged to secure your bonds are not sufficient to pay debt service on the bonds when due. The consequences of a default may be serious and depending on applicable state law and the terms of the authorizing documents, the holders of the bonds, the trustee and any credit support provider may be able to exercise a range of available remedies against you. For example, if the bonds are secured by a general obligation pledge, you may be ordered by a court to raise taxes. Other budgetary adjustments also may be necessary to enable you to provide sufficient funds to pay debt service on the bonds. If you agree in the bond issue to

rate covenants, additional bond tests or other financial covenants, these may constrain your ability to operate and to issue additional debt. If you do not comply with these covenants, they can result in a default under the bond documents. If the bonds are revenue bonds, you may be required to take steps to increase the available revenues that are pledged as security for the bonds. A default may negatively impact your credit ratings and may effectively limit your ability to publicly offer bonds or other securities at market interest rates. Further, if you are unable to provide sufficient funds to remedy the default, subject to applicable state law and the terms of the authorizing documents, you may find it necessary to consider available alternatives under state law, including (for some issuers) state-mandated receivership or bankruptcy. A default also may occur if you are unable to comply with covenants or other provisions agreed to in connection with the issuance of the bonds.

This description is only a brief summary of issues relating to defaults and is not intended as legal advice. You should consult with your bond counsel for further information regarding defaults and remedies.

Redemption Risk

Your ability to redeem the bonds prior to maturity may be limited, depending on the terms of any optional redemption provisions. In the event that interest rates decline, you may be unable to take advantage of the lower interest rates which could be applied to reduce debt service.

Refinancing Risk

If your financing plan contemplates refinancing some or all of the bonds prior to maturity (for example, if you have term maturities or if you choose a shorter final maturity than might otherwise be permitted under the applicable federal tax rules), market conditions or changes in law may limit or prevent you from refinancing those bonds when required. Further, limitations in the federal tax rules on advance refunding of bonds (an advance refunding of bonds occurs when tax-exempt bonds are refunded more than 90 days prior to the date on which those bonds may be called) may restrict your ability to refund the bonds to take advantage of lower interest rates.

Reinvestment Risk

You may have proceeds of the bonds to invest prior to the time that you are able to spend those proceeds for the authorized purpose. Depending on market conditions, you may not be able to invest bond proceeds at or near the rate of interest that you are paying on the bonds, which is referred to as "negative arbitrage".

Tax Compliance Risk

The issuance of tax-exempt bonds is subject to a number of requirements under the United States Internal Revenue Code, as enforced by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). You must take certain steps and make certain representations prior to the issuance of tax-exempt bonds. You also must covenant to take certain additional actions after issuance of the tax-exempt bonds. A breach of your representations or your failure to comply with certain tax-related covenants may cause the interest on the bonds to become taxable retroactively to the date of issuance of the bonds, which may result in an increase in the interest rate that you pay on the bonds or the mandatory redemption of the bonds. The IRS also may audit you or your bonds, in some cases on a random basis and in other cases targeted to specific types of bond issues or tax concerns. If

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the bonds are declared taxable, or if you are subject to audit, the market price of your bonds may be adversely affected. Further, your ability to issue other tax-exempt bonds also may be limited.

This description of tax compliance risks is not intended as legal advice and you should consult with your bond counsel regarding tax implications of issuing the bonds.

B. Discuss/Approve request to hire an applicant to fill the vacant position of Laborer for the Public Works Department, contingent upon successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to hire Kenny L. Lang as a full-time Laborer an \$10.00 per hour, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

C. Discuss/Approve request to hire an applicant to fill the vacant position of Truck Driver for the Public Works Department, contingent upon successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to hire Nicholas Turner as a full-time Truck Driver an \$10.41 per hour, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

D. Discuss/Approve Mississippi Home Corporation Blight Grant Program.

George Irby, Interim Planner came before the Mayor and Council and requested permission to apply for the Mississippi Home Corporation Blight Grant Program. Council Member Mickens made a motion to authorize the application for the Mississippi Home Corporation Blight Grant Program. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

E Discuss/Approve to hire two (2) Certified Police Officers and six (6) Entry-Level Police Officers, contingent upon a successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.

Council Member Jones made a motion to hire two (2) Certified Police Officers and six (6) Entry-Level Police Officers, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. (The names are listed below).

JOHN COMPTON (Certified)
KEITH DOWD (Certified)
HARRISON CAMPEAU
DEMETRI CLARK
RAHEEM CLEMONS
JEMARCO HARRIS
JAMESON HOLDER
ONTARIO MIDDLEBROOK

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

F. Approve/Discuss recommendation from the July 10, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

PERMITTED USE REQUEST – P/U 17-09

BOBBY WATKINS
On Behalf of Leah Aguilar
801 – Hwy. 45 North

The Planning Commission recommended approval of request to allow a food concession.

Council Member Jones moved that the facts and findings of the Planning Commission be adopted as the facts and findings of the Mayor and City Council, and that the recommendation of the Planning Commission to allow a Food concession as a Permitted Use be approved for the period of one (1) year.

Council Member Gavin seconded the motion. The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience objected to the permitted use application. No one answered. There followed discussion, consideration, and review by the Council of the issues and facts presented by this request and the action taken by the City of Columbus Planning Commission.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

PERMITTED USE REQUEST – P/U 17-10

JOHN S. BEARD
On Behalf of Chisa Talley
1223 – 2nd Avenue North

The Planning Commission recommended approval of request to allow an adult

day care.

Council Member Taylor moved that the facts and findings of the Planning Commission be adopted as the facts and findings of the Mayor and City Council, and that the recommendation of the Planning Commission to allow an adult day care as a Permitted Use be approved. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience objected to the permitted use application. No one answered. There followed discussion, consideration, and review by the Council of the issues and facts presented by this request and the action taken by the City of Columbus Planning Commission.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

PERMITTED USE REQUEST – P/U 17-11

**PROJECT SOUTHSIDE, INC.
100 Nashville Ferry Road East**

The Planning Commission recommended approval of request to allow a child day care and after-school programs.

Council Member Taylor moved that the facts and findings of the Planning Commission be adopted as the facts and findings of the Mayor and City Council, and that the recommendation of the Planning Commission to allow a child day care and after-school programs as a Permitted Use be approved. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion. The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience objected to the permitted use application. No one answered. There followed discussion, consideration, and review by the Council of the issues and facts presented by this request and the action taken by the City of Columbus Planning Commission.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

PERMITTED USE REQUEST – P/U 17-12

**BOBBY WATKINS
On Behalf of Maurice Kidd
805 Highway 45 North**

The Planning Commission recommended approval of request to allow use of a portable building as an office.

Council Member Taylor moved that the facts and findings of the Planning Commission be adopted as the facts and findings of the Mayor and City Council, and that the recommendation of the Planning Commission to allow use of a portable building as an office as a Permitted Use be approved. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The Mayor asked if anyone in the audience objected to the permitted use application. No one answered. There followed discussion, consideration, and review by the Council of the issues and facts presented by this request and the action taken by the City of Columbus Planning Commission.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Kenny Wiegel, Building Official, announced that the Planning Commission recommended a thirty (30)-day city-wide moratorium on issuance of building permits for multi-family dwellings.

G. Discuss/Approve acceptance of MDOT's Multimodal Grant offer for the Maintenance Hangar Rehabilitation Project for CLCA.

Kevin Stafford, with Neel-Schaffer, Inc., request approval and acceptance of MDOT's Multimodal Grant offer for the Maintenance Hangar Rehabilitation Project for Columbus-Lowndes County Airport. Council Member Jones made a motion to accept MDOT's Multimodal Grant offer in the amount of \$229,630.00, with the City and County's match being \$1,160.00. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

H. Discuss/Approve the Engineering Contract for the Maintenance Hangar Rehabilitation Project for CLCA.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve Neel-Schaffer, Inc. as the Engineering Contractor for the Maintenance Hangar Rehabilitation Project for the Columbus-Lowndes County Airport. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

I. Discuss/Approve hiring of two (2) Entry Level Firefighters, contingent on a successful completion of a pre-employment medical examination and drug screen.

Council Member Jones made a motion to hire Justin M. Martin and Robert T. Moore as Entry-Level Firefighters, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion.

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All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

J. Discuss/Approve promotion of a Public Works Laborer to Crew Leader.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to promote Public Works Laborer, William Clemons, to the position of Crew Leader, with an increase to \$10.50 per hour. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

K. Discuss/Approve CPD Director of Training assuming additional duties of Equipment and Inventory Control Clerk.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Job Description for Inventory Control Clerk and pay Director of Training, Liz Patrick, the sum of \$3.00 per hour (\$6,240.00 annually) to assume the duties of Equipment and Inventory Control Clerk. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

CLOSED DETERMINATION:

Council Member Mickens made a motion to go into closed session to determine whether it is necessary to go into Executive Session. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

All members of the public, with the exception of the Mayor, the Council, the General Counsel, the COO, the Police Chief, and the HR Director, exited the Council Chambers.

Mayor Smith apprised the Council of four (4) Personnel Matters, and remarked that these matters warrant being heard in Executive Session.

Council Member Gavin made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss four (4) personnel matters. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

The Chief Operations Officer then announced to the general public outside the Council

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Chambers that the Council was going into Executive Session to discuss four (4) personnel matters.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

PERSONNEL MATTERS 1 - 3:

The first three (3) personnel matters to come before the Mayor and Council involves Police Department Employees, I. D. Numbers 840, 745, and 680. Chief Oscar Lewis, along with these employees and their Legal Counsel, Jason Bush, were invited in the Court Chambers. Attorney Bush began by stating that these three (3) officers filed a Grievance as a result of the Civil Service Commission's approval to place an external applicant on the Eligibility List for the position of Sergeant and the Council voted to hire him. Attorney Bush continued by stating that the officers should have had an opportunity to test for the position. Portions of the Civil Service Rules, as it relates to Police promotions, were discussed. Chief Lewis remarked that the external applicant was hired based on the need for experienced investigators in CID and more than twenty-five years (25) of Law Enforcement experience and more than ten (10) years of investigative experience. All parties involved, except Chief Lewis, were asked to exit the Court Chambers for deliberation. Following deliberation, Council Member Taylor made a motion to uphold the Civil Service Rules as it relates to the decision to hire employee, I. D. Number 1222. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

All parties involved were invited back into the Court Chambers and apprised of the Council's decision.

The fourth personnel matter to come before the Mayor and Council involves Employee, I. D. Number 903. This employee suffered a catastrophic illness, has not been released to return to work and is requesting an extension of Family Medical Leave. Council Member Taylor made a motion to grant employee, I. D. number 903, an extension of twelve weeks of FML. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

OPEN SESSION:

Council Member Gavin made a motion to end the discussion of these matters and return to Open Session. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

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The Chief Operations Officer then announced to the general public outside the Council Chambers that the Council was back in Open Session.

The General Counsel announced that the Mayor and Council considered four (4) personnel matters in Executive Session and voted to uphold the Civil Service Rules and granted an extension of medical leave.

ADJOURNMENT:

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