

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS
APRIL 4, 2017**

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 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 Box to offer the Invocation.

II. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2017.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of March 21, 2017. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS FOR APRIL 4, 2017.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for April 4, 2017 in the amount of \$856,190.41. 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

CONSENT AGENDA:

Add Item "S" - Approve request for seven (7) new Police Officers to travel to Moorehead, MS for the Pre-Academy Physical.

REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

Add Proclamation Honoring Mr. Al Hatcher.

Add Chief Lewis & CPD Fundraiser Presentation to Brewer Family.

Add Civil Service Commission to Board Vacancies.

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

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Chief of Training, Mike Chandler to attend the "Peer Assessment of Skokie Fire Department" to be held in Skokie, IL at no cost to City.
- B. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Personnel, Stephen Loden and Shannon Murphy, to attend "SC Vehicle Extrication & Rescue: Levels 1-II" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$800.00 for registration, \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Administrative Assistant, Tabitha Barham, to attend "Emergency Services Administrative Professionals Conference" to be held in Gulfport, MS, and approve payment of \$125.00 for registration, \$244.16 for lodging, \$85.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- D. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Engineer, Taylor Mitchell, to attend "Fire Service Instructor 1041-1" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$380.00 for registration, \$50.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- E. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Deputy Fire Marshal, Madison Guyton, to attend "NFPA Fire Officer 1021-III-IV and Mississippi Fire Officer Program" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$1,278.00 for registration, \$50.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- F. Approve request for COO David Armstrong to attend the "Air Force National Security Forum" to be held in Montgomery, AL, and approve payment of \$175.00 for registration, \$240.00 for lodging, \$60.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- G. Approve request for Interim City Planner, George Irby and Community Outreach Director, Glenda Buckhalter, to attend the "Mississippi Home Corporation Annual Conference" to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of \$225.10 each for registration, \$220.76 each for lodging, \$153.00 each for travel, and reimbursement for meal expenses.

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- H. Approve request for Victims Advocate Coordinator, Dorothy Givens, to attend the “Bridge of Victim Advocacy to Underserved Communities Training” to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of \$272.21 for travel expenses.
- I. Accept letter of resignation from CPD Officer, Joshua McCain, effective April 5, 2017.
- J. Accept letter of resignation from CPD Reserve Officer, Tony Hunt, effective March 21, 2017.
- K. Approve request for CPD Officers Rhonda Sanders and Kevin McCrary to attend a “Career Fair” to be held in Memphis, TN, and approve payment of \$113.00 each for lodging, travel, and reimbursement of meal expenses for each.
- L. Approve request for CPD Chief Oscar Lewis to attend the “Law Enforcement Training Academy’s Graduation” to be held in Pearl, MS, and approve payment of \$30.00 for travel expenses.
- M. Approve request for the CPD to solicit donations at Krispy Kreme for the “Mississippi Special Olympics” to be held on April 15, 2017.
- N. Approve request for the CPD to fundraise for “Relay for Life” on April 28, 2017.
- O. Approve permit request submitted by Patsy Winklepleck on behalf of PACCAR Engine Co./YMCA to host a “5K Run” to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.. The route will be from 6th Street North to 3rd Avenue North, to 3rd Street, to Coretta Street, to Riverwalk, to Soccer Complex and to 2nd Avenue North.
- P. Approve permit request submitted by JoAnn Richardson, Coleman Head Start Director, to host the Story Book Parade to be held on April 25, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The route will begin on 22nd Street South, go to 8th Avenue to 9th Avenue and will end on 22nd Street South.
- Q. Ratify request to pay a contractor for service rendered to repair bottom of drawer in Training Director’s office.
- R. Approve request for Building Official, Kenny Wiegel, to attend the “Building Officials Association of Mississippi (BOAM) 2017 Summer Conference in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and approve payment of \$125.00 for registration, \$645.00 for lodging, travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- S. *Approve request for seven (7) new Police Officers to travel to Moorehead, MS on April 18, 2017 for the Pre-Academy Physical.*

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Consent 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.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members

- **Proclamation Honoring Mr. Al Hatcher**

Mayor Smith presented a Proclamation to Mr. Al Hatcher in honor and recognition of the service he has rendered to the City of Columbus as Chairman of the Civil Service Commission. Mr. Hatcher served for fifteen (15) years, from 2002 to 2017.

- **Chief Lewis & CPD Fundraiser Presentation to Brewer Family**

Chief Oscar Lewis and members of the Columbus Police Department Fundraiser project for Reserve Police Officer Kenny Brewer, came forth presented Officer Brewer with a check in the amount of \$22,200.00 to help with medical expenses for his infant daughter, Kinsley E. Brewer, who has a terminal illness.

B. Board Vacancies

Tree Board

- 1 Vacancy
- 3-Year Term
- Term expired for Christina Berry on 12/5/2016.
- Appointment can be made immediately.

Applicant

- Bruce Sansing, Jr.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to appoint Bruce Sansing, Jr. to the Tree Board for a three-year term, until December 5, 2019. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Civil Service Commission

- 1 Vacancy due to resignation of Al Hatcher
- Unexpired 4-Year Term ending 8/5/2018
- Appointment can be made May 2, 2017.
- No applicants at this time

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

- **Columbus Crime Watch Representative**

Members from the Southside Neighborhood Watch Group came forth and discussed Crime in the area and offered to meet with City Officials and the Police Department to come up with solutions.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve installation of two (2) speed humps on Sand Road.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the installation of two (2) Speed Humps on Sand Road. Council Member Turner seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

B. Discuss/Approve Bids for Deer Run and College Street Box Culvert Replacement Projects and approve lowest bidder.

Kevin Stafford, with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. came forward and presented the certified bid tabulations for Site A – Deer Run Bridge Replacement in the amount of \$144,000.00 to Phillips Contracting Company and Site B – College Street Box Culvert Replacement. Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the bids for Deer Run and College Street Box Culvert Replacement Projects and approve Phillips Contracting Co. as the lowest bidder. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to table the work for Site B – College Street Box Culvert Replacement; the bid exceeded the budget for this project. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

C. Discuss/Approve to submit the CLCA FY2017 AIP Grant Application in June.

Kevin Stafford, with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. requested authorization to submit the Columbus-Lowndes County Airport FY2017 AIP Grant Application, which is due in June. Council Member Turner made a motion to authorize the submission of the FY2017 AIP Grant Application, which is due in by June 2017. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

D. Discuss/Approve the Columbus-Lowndes County Airport (CLCA) FY2017 AIP Grant Engineering Contract.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to award the Engineering Contract to Neel-Schaffer, Inc. for the Columbus-Lowndes County Airport FY2017 AIP Grant. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

E. Discuss/Approve permission to advertise the CLCA FY2017 AIP Grant Project in April and receive bids in May.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to advertise for bids for the Columbus-Lowndes County Airport FY2017 AIP Grant Project in April and receive bids in May 2017. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion

The motion carried.

F. Discuss/Approve Police Study Update/Crime Lab Recommendations.

Dr. K. B. Turner, Consultant for the Columbus Police Department, came before the Mayor and Council and reported on his progress. Council Member Jones asked about the Crime Lab and its operation. Dr. Turner remarked that the Crime Lab is an asset to the City of Columbus; however, it is understaffed and is in need of additional staffing. Dr. Turner suggested a minimum of one (1) full-time employee and one (1) part-time employee. Council Member Gavin suggested two (2) full-time and two (2) part-time employees. No additional employees have been budgeted for this department and, therefore, this request will have to be discussed further. No action was taken.

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 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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