

**SPECIAL MEETING
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS**

**AUGUST 6, 2018
2:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 2:00 p.m., proper notice being posted, after having adjourned from their last Regular meeting of July 17, 2018. The meeting was held in the City Hall Reception/Conference Room. Vice-Mayor Bill Gavin presided over the meeting and Council Members Taylor, Box, Mickens and Jackson were present. Mayor Robert E. Smith, Sr. and Council Member Jones were absent. Also present were the COO, the CFO, the General Counsel, the Police Chief, and all other Department Heads.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Vice-Mayor Gavin called the meeting to order and called upon Council Member Box to offer the Invocation.

II. DISCUSS PROPOSED FY 2018-2019 BUDGET

David Armstrong, COO, began by apprising the Council and the public of the budget process. He continued with the remarks that he and the CFO, Milton Rawle, Jr., began the budget process by contacting Mr. Greg Andrews, Lowndes County Tax Assessor/Collector about the value of a mill, which is listed below:

Current mill value	\$186,000
City mill value	\$190,000
City School mill value	\$207,000
Lowndes County mill value	\$400,000
General County mill value	\$596,000

Mr. Armstrong continued by stating that Department Heads have done a good job in cutting their budgets. The initial shortage/deficit was \$222,235.00. The current shortage/deficit is \$66,897.00. It is generally a good idea to be conservative in revenue.

CFO Milton Rawle, Jr. remarked that the area of concern is the new health clinic that the City, County and Light and Water Department jointly opened in March of 2017. The City has exceeded its budget of \$192,000.00 and still has cost to incur through September. Pat Mitchell remarked that the number of individuals that the

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
BUDGET WORKSHOP
AUGUST 6, 2018

City is paying for is low and not well-utilized. Council Member Box, who is a member of the City's Insurance Committee, made a motion to opt out of the Agreement with the Baptist Clinic. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET:

The Council discussed Prisoner meals, which comes out of the Police Department budget.

Mr. Armstrong remarked that a new appropriation has been requested: The Salvation Army, for \$5,000.00.

Council Member Box made a motion to decrease the LINK's budget by \$50,000 and utilize the funds to pay for a Retail Developer. The motion died for lack of a second.

Milton Rawle, Jr. reminded the Council of the decision made in 2017 in approving Special Projects, specifically the Burns Bottom Project. The Council approved a 1 mil increase for 2018 and .75 mil increase for 2019 and 2020 for this project.

III. RECESS

The Vice-Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, the meeting recessed until Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Bill Gavin, Vice-Mayor

Milton Rawle, Jr.
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer