

THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS

**AUGUST 16, 2018
2:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2018 at 2:00 p.m., proper notice being posted, after having recessed from their last rescheduled meeting of August 15, 2018. The meeting was held in the City Hall Reception/Conference Room. Mayor Robert E. Smith, Sr. presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present, with the exception of Council Member Mickens, who was 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

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

II. DISCUSS PROPOSED FY 2018-2019 BUDGET

Prior to discussion of the Proposed FY 2018-2019 Budget, Mayor Smith requested approval to travel to Ole Miss (Oxford, MS) to participate in a Board meeting. Council Member Gavin made a motion to approve the request. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

DISCUSS PROPOSED FY 2018-2019 BUDGET

David Armstrong, COO, began by discussing Appropriations for 2018 – 2019 and remarked that no appropriations will receive raises this fiscal year. The Appropriations Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2018 is listed below:

AMERICAN RED CROSS	\$	12,500.00
LINK BLAZE MORALE FUND		10,000.00
COUNCIL ON AGING		22,000.00
GOLDEN TRIANGLE PLANNING & DEV. DIST.		1,000.00
SAFE HAVEN		7,500.00

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TRI-COUNTY HAZ-MAT	\$	2,500.00
*COLUMBUS-LOWNDES CTY. LIBRARY		274,000.00
COLUMBUS-LOWNDES EMERGENCY MGT.		8,500.00
MAIN STREET COLUMBUS, INC.		35,000.00
AM EUROCOPTER ESCROW ACCT.		0
HUMANE SOCIETY		60,000.00
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB		12,000.00
CONTACT HELPLINE		4,500.00
*DEVELOPMENT LINK		100,000.00
GREATER COLUMBUS LEARNING CENTER		26,500.00
E-911		125,000.00
GOLDEN TRIANGLE AREA AGENCY ON AGING		5,800.00
BASE REALIGNMENT ADVISORY FOUNDATION		10,000.00
BUILDING BRIDGES OF HOPE FOUNDATION		5,000.00
SMALL COMMUNITY GTRA GRANT		125,000.00
*SALVATION ARMY		5,000.00

EXPLANATIONS:

Erin Busby, Director, and Alana Turner, Circulation Clerk, were present on behalf of the Library. Ms. Busby requested the Council to consider an increase for the Library. The City Branch is the largest facility and is most utilized. The Council took no action on this request.

Council Member Box made a motion to remove the \$100,000.00 that is appropriated for the Development Link and contract with another Retail Developer to bring in new retail to Columbus. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

Council Members Taylor, Box, and Gavin voted in favor of the motion. Council Members Jackson and Jones opposed.

The motion carried 3/2. (Mickens was absent).

David Armstrong, COO, remarked that the \$100,000 will be added to the Professional Services and earmarked for Retail Development.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the City now has a surplus of \$85,209.29 and remarked that this amount will be put back in the Fire Department overtime budget line item.

The Council then discussed possibly increasing the Library's appropriations.

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Milton Rawle, Jr., CFO, remarked that the budget is not finished yet. We are still discussing the Baptist Medical Clinic.

Mayor Smith commended Chief Martin Andrews' success in securing the Firefighter Assistance Grant used to acquire a New Pumper Truck in the amount of \$318,000.00 and a New Exhaust System Grant in the amount of \$172,000.00.

David Armstrong thanked all Department Heads for working with them on the FY 2018 – 2019 Budget.

III. RECESS

The Mayor Smith then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, Council Member Gavin made a motion that the meeting recess until Monday, August 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Municipal Complex. 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