

# MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS JULY 17, 2018

## I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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

## II. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 3, 2018.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of July 3, 2018. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

## III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS FOR JULY 17, 2018.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims in the amount of \$249,821.88. Council Member Jackson 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 "H" to read: *Approve request to refund **eighteen (18)** citizens for clean-up deposits.*

*Add Item "K" - Approve request for one (1) Councilman to attend the "48<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Black Caucus Conference 2018" to be held in Washington, DC, and approve payment for registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses.*

*Add Item "L" - Accept letter of resignation from the Building Inspection Department Secretary, effective July 31, 2018, and authorize the HR Director to begin the normal recruitment process.*

**POLICY AGENDA:**

Add Item "H" - *Discuss/Approve promotion of one (1) CPD Officer to Corporal.*

Add Item "I" - Discuss/Approve the 2018 City of Columbus Affirmative Marketing Plan.

Add Item "J" - *Consider/Approve resolution declaring support of the passage of legislation providing for distribution to municipalities of a portion of the taxes collected from in-state customers by remote sellers with no physical presence in Mississippi.*

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

The motion carried.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approve request for the Trotter Convention Center Director, Mike Anderson, to attend the "Premier Wedding Magazine Show" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$95.00 for lodging, \$170.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- B. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Engineer, Josh Westbrook, to attend the "Fire Service Instructor" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$600.00 for registration, \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Captain, Chip Kain, to attend the "Active Attack Integrated Response Course (AAIR)-Operator Class" to be held in Pearl, MS, and approve payment of \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- D. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Captains, Ryan Thompson and Damon Estes, to attend the "Hazardous Materials Technician-II" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$50.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- E. Approve request for F & R Chief, Martin Andrews, and three (3) Firefighters, Shannon Murphy, Todd Graham, & Billy Clark, to attend the "Truck Evaluation" to be held in Hoover, AL, and approve payment of \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses.

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- F. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Firefighters, Tyler Jones and Derek Montanio, to attend the “Driver/Operator NFPA 1002: Pumper Apparatus Training” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$1,350 for registration, \$75.00 for travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- G. Approve request for Fire and Rescue Engineer, Marco Rodriguez, to attend the “Hazardous Materials Incident Command Training” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$50.00 for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses.
- H. Approve request to refund **eighteen (18)** citizens the sum of \$150.00 each for clean-up deposits. The names are as follows: Tammy Johnson, Annette Savors, Jacklyn Weir, Destiny Jackson, Dondeke Petty, Jacqueline Coleman, Laketha Cunningham, Steven Billups, Dorothy Brewer, Jasmine Jackson, Andy Stewart, Mary Golden, Bennie Aaron, Quarick West, Vernell Davis and Ashanti Pippins.
- I. Approve permit request submitted by Doug Pllum, on behalf of Zachary’s Restaurant, to host a “Benefit Hayden II” to be held on July 29, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at 205 Fifth Street North and blocking off Second Avenue North between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Street North.
- J. Approve request for CPD Captain, Ric Higgins, Lieutenant, Anthony Nelson, and Corporal, Tabertha Hardin, to attend the “FBI Executive Leadership Training” to be held in Columbus, MS, and approve payment of \$650.00 each for registration fees.
- K. Approve request for Councilman Joseph Mickens to attend the “48<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Black Caucus Conference 2018” to be held in Washington, DC, and approve payment of \$100.00 for registration, \$1,115.00 for lodging, \$622.00 for travel, to include airfare and taxi and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- L. Accept letter of resignation from the Building Inspection Department Secretary, Lydia Ciaravino-Pierse, effective July 31, 2018, and authorize the HR Director to begin the normal recruitment process.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, with the above amendments. Council Member Jackson seconded the motion. The Mayor called for discussion, and there being none, all Council Members voted in favor of same, with the exception of Councilman Bill Gavin, who opposed.

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. Swearing in of two (2) CPD Officers, one (1) CID Captain and one (1) CPD Assistant Chief**

- Nathaniel A. Brauer
- Hakeem D. Mays
- Stacey Deans (CID Captain)
- Edrick Hall (CPD Assistant Chief)

Mayor Smith swore in CPD Assistant Police Chief, Edrick C. Hall, CID Captain, Stacey Deans, and new Police Officers Nathaniel Brauer and Hakeem D. Mays as they recited the Oath of Office. Chief Fred Shelton pinned badges on each officer.

**C. Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**D. Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Municipal Court Division for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**E. Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Public Works Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**F. Monthly Report from the City Planning and Community Development Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**G. Monthly Report from the Code Enforcement Division for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Fire & Rescue Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**H. Monthly Report from the Columbus Recreation Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Recreation Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**I. Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Columbus Police Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**J. Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2018**

The Monthly Report from the Building Inspection Department for June 2018 was presented. No action was taken.

**K. Monthly Financial Report**

Milton Rawle, Jr. distributed the Monthly Financial Report and remarked that Sales taxes decreased by \$56.27, compared to the same time last year.

**L. Board Vacancies**

David Armstrong announced a vacancy on the Civil Service Commission and remarked that the appointment will not be made tonight.

**Civil Service Commission**

- 1 Vacancy, 4-Year Term
- Rita Felton's term will expire 8/5/2018.
- Appointment will be made August 7, 2018.

**Applicant**

- Rita Felton

**VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:**

**VIII. POLICY AGENDA:**

**A. Discuss/Approve promotion of one (1) Public Works Laborer to Assistant Foreman.**

Council Member Taylor made a motion to promote Klaus Gore to the position of Assistant Foreman at \$12.50 per hour. Council Member

Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**B. Discuss/Approve request to fill the two vacant positions in the Garage: one (1) Mechanic and one (1) Diesel Mechanic, contingent upon successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen and medical examination.**

Council Member Taylor made a motion to hire Shawn A. Wells as a Mechanic and Johnny Conner as a Diesel Mechanic to work in the City Garage at \$16.22 per hour, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment Medical examination and drug screen for both applicants.

**C. Discuss/Approve MDOT Temporary Easement for Lehmborg Road.**

Kevin Stafford, with Neel-Schaffer, Inc., came before the Mayor and City Council to request a Temporary Easement for Lehmborg Road. The Easement and Construction Agreement made and entered into by and between the Mississippi Transportation Commission (MTC), by and through the duly authorized Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation, and The City of Columbus, Mississippi, a Mississippi Municipal Corporation, acting by and through its duly authorized Mayor (CITY), effective as of the latest date of execution.

Council Member Jones Made a motion to approve the Temporary Easement for Lehmborg Road. Council Member Box seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**D. Discuss/Approve All-Way Stop at 15<sup>th</sup> Street at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.**

Kevin Stafford remarked that he received a request for an All-Way Stop at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and recommended installing STOP signs on 15<sup>th</sup> Street with "ALL-WAY" plaques and stop bars and placing ALL-WAY plaques on the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North to increase Intersection safety, and these should be installed in accordance with the MUTCD. Council Member Jones made a motion to accept the recommendation from Kevin Stafford, the City's Engineer. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**E. Discuss/Approve speed humps on Forrest Blvd.**

Kevin Stafford stated that he received a request and petition for Traffic Calming devices in the residential section of Forrest Boulevard in order to Calm cut-through traffic from Hemlock Street to North McCrary Road and Recommended installing two (2) speed humps, one in each block of the divided boulevard for both directions. Council Member Box made a motion to install two (2) speed humps as mentioned above. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**F. Discuss/Approve speed humps on Plymouth Road.**

Kevin Stafford stated that he received a request and petition for Traffic Calming devices in the residential section of Plymouth Road in order to calm speeding traffic. The request has been reviewed and he recommends installing two (2) speed humps . Council Member Jones made a motion to install two (2) speed humps on Plymouth Road. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**G. Discuss/Approve recommendations from the July 9, 2018 Planning Commission meeting.**

**Permitted Use Request P/U 18-06**

**On Behalf of Jennette Gholar  
1409 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North**

The Planning Commission recommends approval of request to allow a Child Day Care and after school program.

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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 program 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 18-07**

**On Behalf of Glenn Baldwin  
618 (B) Alabama Street**

The Planning Commission recommends approval of request for use of a metal building at produce concession.

Council Member Mickens 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 the use of a metal building as a produce concession be approved as a Permitted Use. Council Member Box 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.

The Planning Commission recommended that the business owner appeal to the Zoning Board of Adjustments to address the zoning violation. The building has an improper setback distance from the public right-of-way. In the C-3 district, A front open space of thirty-five (35) feet is required. Mayor Smith invited Mr. Baldwin, business owner to come forward and speak. Mr. Baldwin offered remarks and stated that it would be too costly to move the structure.

**Amend Zoning Ordinance *Chart of Permitted Uses***

The Planning Commission recommended the *Chart of Permitted Uses* be revised at C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) District, with language for “*Uses and Conditions – Auditorium, Civic Center.*” No action was taken in this matter.

**H. Discuss/Approve promotion of one (1) CPD Officer to Corporal.**

Council Member Jackson made a motion to approve the promotion of Police Officer Roman Sones to the position of Corporal. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**I. Discuss/Approve the 2018 City of Columbus Affirmative Marketing Plan.**

George Irby, Interim Planner and Director of Community Development, came forward and requested the adoption of the Affirmative Marketing Plan to apply to the Mississippi Home Corporation for a 2018 Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Grant. Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the request to adopt the Affirmative Marketing Plan, which is required to apply to the Mississippi Home Corporation for a 2018 Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Grant. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

**J. Consider/Approve resolution declaring support of the passage of legislation providing for distribution to municipalities of a portion of the taxes collected from in-state customers by remote sellers with no physical presence in Mississippi.**

General Counsel Turnage presented a Resolution declaring the Support of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, of the Passage by the Mississippi Legislature of Legislation providing for the Distribution to Municipalities, including Columbus, Mississippi, of a portion of the Taxes collected from In-State Customers by remote Sellers with no Physical Presence in Mississippi. Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the Resolution pursuant to the language above. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion, and after reading the Resolution in whole and in part, and after thorough discussion and deliberation, the Mayor called for the vote of all Council Members, then and there voting and recorded their votes as follows:

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Council Member Gene Taylor	voted:	<u>YEA</u>
Council Member Joseph Mickens	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 Mayor announced the motion passed and pronounced it a duly adopted Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, with a copy spread on the minutes of the Mayor and City Council.

**THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:**

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, Council Member Jackson 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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