

MAYOR
STEPHEN JONES

City of Columbus

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GENERAL COUNSEL
JEFF TURNAGE

CITY COUNCIL
ETHEL STEWART WARD 1
RODERICK SMITH WARD 2
RUSTY GREENE WARD 3
LAVONNE HARRIS WARD 4
GREGORY JEFFERSON WARD 5
JASON SPEARS WARD 6

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS June 16, 2026

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER
JAMMIE GARRETT

CFO/SECRETARY-TREASURER
JAMES "JIM" BRIGHAM

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

- V. Stewart A. Approve Minutes for Meeting (Work Session) of May 27, 2026.
- V. Stewart B. Approve Minutes for Meeting of June 2, 2026
- V. Stewart C. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of June 3, 2026.
- V. Stewart D. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of June 10, 2026.

IV. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

- J. Brigham A. Approve Docket of Claims for June 16, 2026.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- C. Yarbrough A. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$485.00.
- C. Yarbrough B. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "NFPA 1021-Fire Office I" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$500.00.
- C. Yarbrough C. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "NFPA 1030-Fire Inspector" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$485.00.
- C. Yarbrough D. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Hazardous Materials Technician" to be held in Anniston, AL, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$150.00.
- C. Yarbrough E. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Hazardous Materials Technologies: Sampling, Monitoring, and Detection" to be held in Anniston, AL, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$150.00.
- C. Yarbrough F. Accept letter of retirement from one (1) Fire and Rescue Firefighter, effective June 30, 2026, and approve compensation for 240 hours of accrued vacation leave as permitted by PERS.
- N. Katona G. Approve renewal of the Building Permit Clerk's notary service, including bond.
- C. Bush H. Approve request for (2) Public Works personnel to attend the "MS 811 Damage Prevention Summit" to be held in Biloxi, MS, November 4-6, 2026, and approve payment for travel, lodging, and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,727.91.

- C. Bush** I. Accept letter of retirement from (2) Public Works laborers, effective June 30, 2026, and approve payment of 240 hours of accrued vacation leave.
- J. Daughtry** J. Approve permit request submitted by Sharon Jones, on behalf of Paroled 2 Pride and Fifteenth Street Church, to host "Stuff the Bag Back to School Drive" to be held on June 26, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Fifteenth Street Church, 917 - 15th Street North, blocking 15th Street North at 9th Avenue North and 10th Avenue North.
- J. Daughtry** K. Approve permit request submitted by Jamar Meady to host a "Back to School Drive" to be held on July 12, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., blocking 14th Avenue South at 5th Street South and 6th Street South.
- J. Daughtry** L. Approve permit request submitted by Janice Richmond and Jaquise Frison, on behalf of Mt. Zion M.B. Church, to host "Mt. Zion M.B. Church Memphis Town Community Day/Parade" to be held on October 31, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with the parade starting at Genesis Dream Center, 1820 - 23rd Street North to 14th Avenue North at Mt. Zion M.B. Church to a lot across from Wells Cleaners and next to Skeets, 2010 -14th Avenue North.
- J. Daughtry** M. Approve request for two (2) CPD personnel to attend a "Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Course" to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana and approve payment for registration, travel, lodging and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$2,710.00 each.
- J. Daughtry** N. Accept letter of retirement from one (1) CPD personnel, effective July 1, 2026, requesting compensation for 240 hours of accrued vacation leave and submit the remaining vacation and sick leave to PERS and approval to purchase his service weapon at the State allowed amount of \$10.00.
- J. Daughtry** O. Approve request to accept changes of date, location, and cost for a previously approved "Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Recertification Course", to be attended by one (1) CPD personnel, to be held August 4 - 6, 2026, in New Orleans, Louisiana and approve adjusted payment for registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,717.00.
- R. Bonner** P. Approve request to accept change of location *Facility Usage Request* submitted by the Columbus Arts Council for its 55th Anniversary from the Riverwalk Pedestrian Bridge to the Catfish Alley Stage. 4pm to 8pm on September 12, 2026 and allow the consumption of wine and alcohol.
- J. Brigham** Q. Approve the 2% Tourism Tax Payment of \$25,000 to Lowndes County, \$20,833.33 to Golden Triangle Development LINK, \$33,333.33 to the City of Columbus and \$158,394.45 to Columbus Visitors Bureau, in the total amount of \$237,561.11.
- P. Mitchell** R. Approve request to reject bid/Reverse Auction and authorize to readvertise.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- S. Jones** A. Comments from Mayor & Council
- C. Yarbrough** Swearing in one (1) Fire and Rescue Firefight
Richard Hunter McBride
- C. Yarbrough** Special Recognition for two (2) Fire and Rescue personnel -
Retired Captain Ryan Thompson and Engineer Randall Beatty
- S. Jones** Special Recognition -- Retired Master Sgt. Clyde Moore
- S. Jones** Proclamation - 40 Years of Dedicated Service
Human Resources Director/Deputy City Clerk Patricia Mitchell
- N. Katona** Building Inspection / Code Enforcement - May 2026 Report

- N. Katona** Care & Maintenance - May 2026 Report
- C. Yarbrough** Columbus Fire and Rescue Department - May 2026 Report
- J. Daughtry** Columbus Police Department - May 2026 Report
- G. Lewis** Columbus Recreation Department - May 2026 Report
- R. Bonner** Facilities - May 2026 Report
- J. Brigham** Finance - May 2026 Report
- W. Langford** Garage - May 2026 Report
- P. Mitchell** Human Resources - May 2026 Report
- G. Drake** IT - May 2026 Report
- L. Erby** Municipal Court - May 2026 Report
- G. Irby** Planning and Community Development - May 2026 Report
- C. Bush** Public Works - May 2026 Report
- J. Garrett** Board Vacancies

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

1 Vacancy, 3-Year Term, Emily Johnson's Term Expires 07/18/2026
Appointment will be made July 21, 2026.

Emily Johnson

COLUMBUS HOUSING AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Gretta Gardner's Term Expires 07/05/2026
Appointment will be made July 7, 2026.

-Darren Leach

-Gretta Gardner

-Lillian Granderson-Daughtry

TREE BOARD

1 Vacancy, Remainder of Shannon Evans Term (resigned), Expires May 6, 2028.
Appointment will be made June 16, 2026.

Kerry Pittman

CITY UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Sherry Ellis' Term Expires 06/15/2026.
Appointment will be made June 16, 2026.

-Barbara Morris Brandon

-Jacqueline DiCicco

-Donald Pope

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

- N. Katona** A. Discuss/Approve recommendations from the June 8, 2026 Planning Commission public meeting.
- K. Stafford** B. Discuss/Approve acceptance of FAA AIP Grant in the amount of \$246,301.00 for CLCA's Automated Weather Observing System - Phase II.

- K. Stafford** C. Discuss/Approve awarding CLCA Automated Weather Observing System - Phase II to Miller and Sons Construction in the amount of \$259,264.00.
- K. Stafford** D. Discuss/Approve acceptance of FAA AIG Grant in the amount of \$179,703.00 for CLCA's Open Hangar project.
- K. Stafford** E. Discuss/Approve awarding CLCA Open Hangar project to T & M Steel Erectors, Inc. in the amount of \$258,103.00
- C. Yarbrough** F. Discuss/Approve the promotion of one (1) Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from Probation Firefighter to Certified Firefighter, effective date June 22, 2026.
- C. Yarbrough** G. Discuss/Approve temporary promotions for Columbus Fire & Rescue.
- C. Yarbrough** H. Discuss/Approve hiring part-time Firefighters.
- C. Yarbrough** I. Discuss/Approve FY25 Assistant to Firefighters Turnout Gear Grant
- C. Yarbrough** J. Discuss/Approve Monetary Donations and Special Donation Line-Item Policy for Columbus Fire & Rescue.
- C. Yarbrough** K. Discuss/Approve Public Safety Academy
- J. Daughtry** L. Discuss/Approve request to hire two (2) entry-level officers contingent upon successful completion of preliminary testing.
- P. Mitchell** M. Discuss/Approve *Resolution* ordering that certain Specified Police vehicles be unmarked pursuant to Mississippi Code Section 25-1-87.
- G. Drake** N. Discuss/Consider SYTES Terms & Conditions and grant authorization for Mayor to sign.
- J. Spears** O. Discuss/Consider moving 11 months of salary and benefits of the City Planner and salary of Public Information Officer and benefits in FY26 budget to Special Projects fund.
- J. Spears** P. Discuss/Consider purchasing East Columbus Gym scoreboard.
- J. Spears** Q. Discuss/Consider awarding East Columbus Gym drainage project to the lowest qualified quote contractor, Hannon LLC, in the amount of \$14,800.
- J. Spears** R. Discuss/Consider getting quotes for tree removal of trees obstructing ditch work next to Kensington Drive.
- J. Turnage** S. Discuss to consider/award bids for purchase/sale of two (2) SURPLUS lots.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Personnel Matter (1)
- B. Prospective Purchase, Sell or Leasing of Real Property (1)