

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

**JUNE 1, 2021
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Robert E. Smith, Sr. presided over the meeting. All Council Members were present. Also in attendance were the COO, CFO, the General Counsel, Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief, the HR Director and all Department Heads.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

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

II. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 18, 2021.

Council Member Gavin made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of May 18, 2021. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

III. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for June 1, 2021 in the amount of \$916,843.66. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

IV. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

POLICY AGENDA:

Add Item "J": *Discuss/Approve request to promote a Mechanic to Assistant Garage Superintendent.*

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Add Item "K" – Discuss/Approve the City of Columbus being awarded three (3) Dizzy Dean State Tournaments, to be held June 24, 2021 at Propst Park and approve payment for Referee fees and trophy expenses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Change Personnel Matters from two (2) to one (1).

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

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve request for fourteen (14) Fire and Rescue Personnel to attend "CPS Car Safety Seat Certification" to be held in Columbus, MS, and approve payment of \$1,330.00 for registration.
- B. Approve request for six (6) Fire and Rescue Firefighters to attend "National Registry of EMT (NREMT)" to be held in Tuscaloosa, AL, and approve payment of any registration costs, travel and reimbursement for meal expenses.
- C. Approve travel request for Crime Scene Investigator, Shanna Cunningham, to attend a "Shooting Reconstruction Class" to be held at the Law Enforcement Academy in Tuscaloosa, AL, and approve payment of \$595.00 for registration.
- D. Accept letter of resignation from CPD Officer, Ronald R. Crabtree, Jr., effective June 6, 2021, and approve compensation for any unused vacation leave.
- E. Ratify permit request submitted by Sophia Erby to host a "Memorial for Funeral" held on May 22, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., at 801 – 17th Street North, blocking 17th Street North from 7th Avenue North to 9th Avenue North.
- F. Ratify permit request submitted by Nancy Carpenter, on behalf of the Columbus Cultural Heritage Foundation, to host "Catfish in the Alley 5K" that was held May 22, 2021 from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. (*See attached map.*)

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

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA

- A. General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members**

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There were no General Comments from the Mayor and Council Members.

B. BOARD VACANCIES

David Armstrong, COO, announced vacancies on various boards and remarked that no appointments can be made tonight.

CITY UTILITIES COMMISSION

- 1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term for Charlie Newell expires 06/21/2021.
- Appointment will be made June 15, 2021.

APPLICANT:

Quinn Brislin

MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSION

- 3 Vacancies, 4-Year Terms for Penesha McDowell Harrison, Diane Sloan and Roy M. Hicks will expire 6/30/2021.
- Appointments will be made July 6, 2021.

APPLICANTS:

- Penesha McDowell Harrison
- Roy Milton Hicks

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

VIII. POLICY AGENDA

A. Ratify Agreement with Ring Doorbell to enroll Columbus Police and Columbus Fire in the Neighbors for Public Safety Program, at no cost to the City.

Joe Dillon, Public Information Officer, came forward and remarked that he was asked to participate in the program 2 – 3 weeks ago, at no cost to the City. This is a Ring APP used to make neighborhoods safer. Neighbors is a free app created for residents to connect and share hyper-local safety updates and information from reliable sources. Neighbors Public Safety Service is an interface that allows local public safety agencies to join Neighbors to help keep residents safe and informed by volunteering to allow the Police and Fire Departments access only the information that was shared. Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Neighbors for Public Safety Program, at no cost to the City. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

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All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

B. Approve Intent Resolution for 10-year ad valorem tax exemption on value added by renovations by owner, TGV Properties, to its property located at 322 – 5th Street North

There came on for consideration the matter of providing tax exemption for capital improvements in the City of Columbus, Mississippi, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Council Member Box offered and moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution Declaring the Intention of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi to Grant Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions Pursuant to sections 17-21-5 and 27-31-31 of the Mississippi Code, Which sections authorize them to grant such exemptions, in their discretion for new improvements or renovations to structures within the Central Business District and for improvements to structures within the City's Historic District. Council Member Jones seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution, and the question being put a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Ethel Taylor Stewart	voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Joseph Mickens, Sr.	voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Charlie Newell	voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Pierre Beard, Sr.	voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Stephen Jones	voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Bill Gavin	voted:	<u>Yes</u>

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Governing Body present, being a quorum of said Governing Body, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted this the 1st day of June, 2021.

By _____
Robert E. Smith, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

By _____
Deliah Vaughn, Municipal Clerk / Secretary-Treasurer

THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

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VIII.3.

There came on for consideration the matter of providing tax exemption for capital improvements in the City of Columbus, Mississippi, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Council Member Box offered and moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI TO GRANT AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 17-21-5 AND 27-31-31 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE, WHICH SECTIONS AUTHORIZE THEM TO GRANT SUCH EXEMPTIONS, IN THEIR DISCRETION FOR NEW IMPROVEMENTS OR RENOVATIONS TO STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT AND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CITY'S HISTORIC DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "Governing Body"), acting for and on behalf of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "City"), is authorized by Sections 17-21-5 and 27-31-31 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time to grant exemptions from municipal ad valorem taxes, but not school taxes and not 16th Section lease obligations, for a period of years not exceeding seven years or ten years upon renovations of and improvements to existing structures within the central business district and/or the preservation and revitalization of historic landmark sites or historic preservation districts; and

WHEREAS, Thomas G. Velek, for and on behalf of TGV Properties, hereinafter called the "Applicant" intends to renovate and upgrade the improvements to real property located at 322 5th Street South for the purpose of offering retail and apartment accommodations including approximately 1,400 square feet of retail space and approximately 4,200 square feet of living space, (the "Project") contingent upon the passage of Resolutions by the Governing Body of the City, and the Governing Body of Lowndes County, Mississippi (the "County") announcing their intention to grant ad valorem tax exemptions, pursuant to the authority described above; and

WHEREAS, The Governing Body of the City finds and determines that the Project is located within and would help revitalize the central business district, and would harmonize with the businesses in the central business district and would preserve and revitalize an historic structure located entirely within the City's historic preservation district; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council approve of and are in favor of the Project and find that it would enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Columbus and bring the property itself and the historic district into more favorable notice;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

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VIII. B.

SECTION 1. All of the matters and things recited in the premises sections of this resolution are found and determined to be true and accurate.

SECTION 2. This resolution is adopted pursuant to the Statutes referred to herein and other applicable laws of the State.

SECTION 3. The Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, hereby declares its intention to grant a Seven (7) year exemption from ad valorem taxes upon the new renovations and improvements to the structures described herein pursuant to Section 17-21-5 of the Mississippi Code and upon expiration of the said seven (7) year exemption, then three (3) additional years of exemption pursuant to Section 27-31-31 of the Mississippi Code, for a total of ten years, said exemption(s) commencing upon completion of the project and expiring ten years thereafter.

SECTION 4. Once the Applicant completes the project as described herein and makes application to the Governing Body of the City for the said exemptions, then upon granting the exemption described in Section 3 herein, the Governing Body shall direct the municipal clerk/secretary treasurer to record the application and the Order in a book kept in her office for that purpose and file one copy of the application and the order of exemption with the Chairman of the Department of Revenue.

SECTION 5. If any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any of the other provisions of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision or provisions had not been contained herein.

Council Member Jones seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Ethel Taylor Stewart voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Charlie Box voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Joseph Mickens voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Pierre Beard voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Stephen Jones voted:	<u>Yes</u>
Bill Gavin voted:	<u>Yes</u>

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Governing Body present, being a quorum of said Governing Body, the Mayor declared the

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Motion carried and the resolution adopted this the 1st day of June, 2021.

By _____
Robert E. Smith, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

By _____
Deliah Vaught, Municipal Clerk / Secretary-Treasurer

C. Consider an Appeal filed by Wilbur Colom of ZBA Case #21-03, held on May 11, 2021.

ZBA Request 21-03
Case No. 21-03
Request for Variance
202 – 8th Avenue South

Mr. Wilbur O. Colom appealed the ZBA's decision to grant a Variance at 202 – 8th Avenue South, Case No. 21-03, citing the reasons he believes the variance should be denied, and hence, appealed:

- 1) *Ms. Bowen could comply with all of the requirements for R-1, except for front setback, By simply demolishing two of the houses except for front set back.*
- 2) *The purpose of the variance is merely to obtain R-1 status while maintaining multi-family density.*
- 3) *By permitting this variance it would allow a non-conforming property to become permanent.*
- 4) *Such variances have normally been allowed only when the non-conforming properties have historically been used as single-family residences while these have been rental properties.*
- 5) *Under Article VII, Section 1.3, occupancy without compliance **shall not** be allowed when the property has been vacant for a continuance period of six months. Here, three of the four properties have been vacant for more than six months.*
- 6) *The variance would allow additionally because there will be no parking spaces at the dwelling, so all parking would be on a very narrow street.*

Mr. Colom was not present.

Council Member Gavin moved that the facts and findings of the Zoning Board be adopted as the facts and findings of the Mayor and City Council, and that the recommendation of the Zoning Board to grant request the variance be upheld as originally approved. Council Member Beard 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.

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D. Discuss/Approve request to fill vacant Diesel Mechanic position, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to hire **Kelvin Bryant**, as a Diesel Mechanic at \$16.22 per hour, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

E. Discuss/Approve hiring one (1) Site Supervisor for the Recreation Department.

Council Member Jones made a motion to hire **Veleria Scott** as Site Supervisor for Sim Scott Community Center at \$10.00 per hour & 30 hours per week, contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

F. Discuss/Approve Installation of a Speed Hump on Shannon Avenue.

Kevin Stafford dba Neel-Schaffer, Inc. appeared before the Mayor and Council with a request to install a speed hump on Shannon Avenue to force reduced speed on this street. Council Member Gavin made a motion to approve the request to install a Speed Hump on Shannon Avenue. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

G. Discuss/Approve Installation of a Speed Humps on Bennett Avenue.

Kevin Stafford reported that a qualifying petition was submitted to request two (2) Speed Humps to be installed on Bennett Avenue to calm cut-through traffic from Lehmberg Road to Catalapa Street. Council Member Box made a motion to approve the request to install two (2) Speed Humps on Bennett Avenue. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. Council Member Mickens asked Mr. Stafford if other cities install as many Speed Humps as Columbus. Mr. Stafford stated that he didn't believe so and one reason is that other cities require 80% of the signature of residents on the street while Columbus only require 60%.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

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The motion carried.

H. Discuss/Approve Acceptance of Drainage Easement for Fairway Drive Drainage Relief.

For and in consideration of the mutual benefits accruing to both parties, including the City of Columbus, Mississippi, making certain improvements to the drainage ditch (the "Project"), **MCD PROPERTIES, LLC, a Mississippi Limited Liability Company**, ("Grantor") does hereby grant, bargain, convey and warrant unto the **CITY OF COLUMBUS**, its agents, employees and assigns (Grantee"), a permanent drainage easement over, along, across or under the hereinafter described property to be used as a general drainage easement with the permanent right of ingress and egress for maintenance of the drainage ditch over and across the hereinafter described property, which said permanent easement is over, along, across or under lands of the Grantor, being Lowndes County tax parcel number, 56W110005303. Council Member Gavin made a motion for the City to approve this request from Geraldine Davis and her son, Todd Davis, to accept the Drainage Easement for Fairway Drive Drainage Relief, that will also help other residents. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOLLOW:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

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VIII. H.

PREPARED BY: Marc Schaffter
P.O. Box 2100
Columbus, MS 39704
662-328-4547

INDEXING INSTRUCTIONS: East 1/2, SW 1/4, Range 3, T-18S, R-13W,
Lowndes County, Mississippi

GRANTOR
MCD Properties, LLC
P.O. Box 2225
Columbus, MS 39704
662-327-1806

GRANTEE
City of Columbus, Mississippi
P.O. Box 1469
Columbus, MS 39700
662-328-7571

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF LOWNDES

PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual benefits accruing to both parties, including the City of Columbus, Mississippi, making certain improvements to the drainage ditch (the "Project"), **MCD PROPERTIES, LLC**, a Mississippi Limited Liability Company, ("Grantor") does hereby grant, bargain, convey and warrant unto the **CITY OF COLUMBUS**, its agents, employees and assigns ("Grantee"), a permanent drainage easement, over, along, across or under the hereinafter described property to be used as a permanent drainage easement with the permanent right of ingress and egress for maintenance of the drainage ditch over and across the hereinafter described property, which said permanent easement is over, along, across or under lands of the Grantor, being Lowndes County tax parcel number, 56W113D05303.

The permanent drainage easement is described in Exhibit "A". Exhibit "B", the location of the easement, is known to, and agreed to by Grantor.

Exhibit "A"

A Permanent Drainage Easement being further described as follows:

The following description is based on the Mississippi State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 83 grid values, US Feet, using a scale factor of 0.9999691755653 and a convergence angle of +30 degrees 14 minutes 24.23 seconds developed at the approximate center of the following described area:

Commencing at a found 1/2" rebar at the Southeast corner of Lot 1 of Viles on the Green, Columbus, Mississippi, on file in the Chancery Clerk's Office of Lowndes County at PR 5 PC 37; thence, along the North right-of-way of a public road known as Glenwood Drive, South 40 degrees 09 minutes 20 seconds East a distance of 297.30 feet to a found 1/2" rebar at the Southwest corner of a tract of land shown in Deed Book 2035 Page 4216 or file in the Chancery Clerk's Office of Lowndes County said point being the Point of Beginning of the herein described easement; thence, continuing along said North right-of-way, South 40 degrees 09 minutes 23 seconds East a distance of 15.01 feet to a set 1/2" rebar, thence leaving said right-of-way, North 52 degrees 00 minutes 48 seconds East a distance of 106.00 feet to a set 1/2" rebar; thence North 40 degrees 09 minutes 20 seconds West a distance of 15.01 feet to a set 1/2" rebar on the West line of said tract; thence, along the West line of said tract, South 52 degrees 00 minutes 48 seconds West a distance of 106.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 3.057 acres (1560.03 square feet), more or less, and lying in the East 1/2 of the Southwest Quarter of Section 3, Township 18 South, Range 15 West, Lowndes County, Mississippi.

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Grantor fully understands that it has the right to receive just compensation for the easements herein described based on an appraisal of said property. The Grantor acknowledges that it has the right to accompany the appraiser, if it so choose. Grantor hereby waives its right to appraisal and to receive just compensation and donates said easements herein described to the **CITY OF COLUMBUS**.

TOGETHER WITH all rights and privileges necessary or convenient for the full enjoyment or use thereof, including the right of ingress and egress to and from said drainage ditch and maintenance thereof.

The permanent drainage easement conveyed hereby shall be effective upon the date of execution hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed this instrument on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

MCD Properties, LLC

By: _____
GERALDINE M. DAVIS, Manager

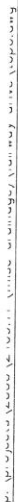
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF LOWNDES

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for said county and state, on this the ____ day of _____, 2015, within my jurisdiction, the within named Geraldine M. Davis, who acknowledged that he/she is Managing Member of MCD Properties, LLC and that in said representative capacity he/she executed the above and foregoing instrument, having the consent and approval of the membership of the LLC.

NOTARY PUBLIC

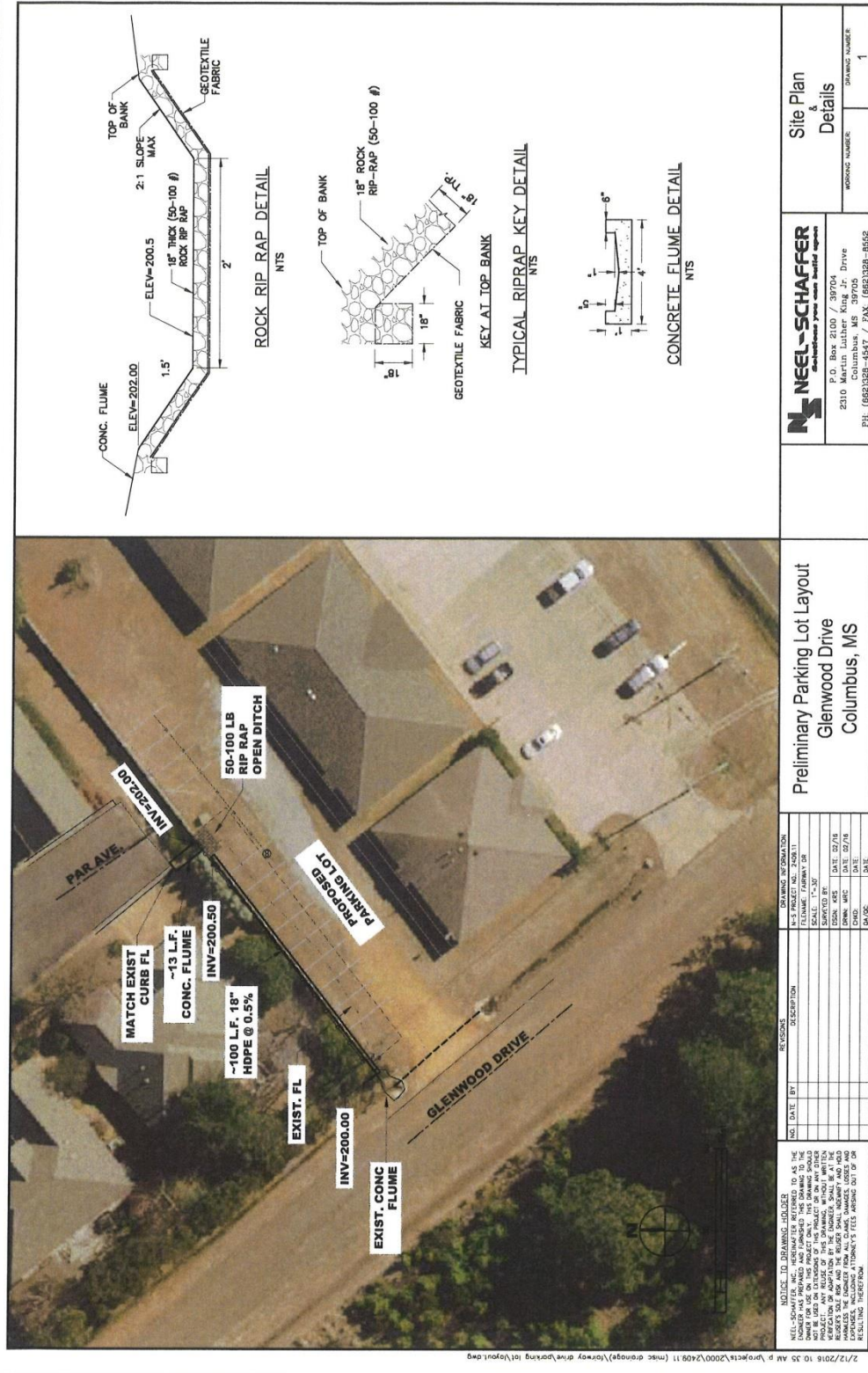
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:
_____ (SEAL)

IV. H



 NEEL-SCHAFFER Solutions you can build upon	<i>PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT "Exhibit B"</i>	<i>PARCEL NO. 56W110005303</i>
2310 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Columbus, MS 38705 P.O. Box 2180 / 38704 DRA - MECHANICAL & CIVIL - REGISTERED ENGINEERS	<i>DATE: November 10, 2015</i>	<i>2409-11 Fairway Dr.</i>

IV. H.



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I. **Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket**

ELOISE B. SMITH AND EMMA F. RUSH
1605 Bell Avenue
Case Number 20-0277 Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **20-0277**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and asked the Mayor and Council to adjudicate the property as such and that an Order be entered to such effect, requested **immediate abatement** and that an Order be issued for the property. Council Member Jones made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, and for an Order stating the City may remove dilapidated buildings or dilapidated fences up to six (6) more times in the twelve (12) month period immediately following the Order and cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

ROBBIE FOLLINS
817 – 10th Avenue South
Case Number 21-0102 Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0102**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and asked the Mayor and Council to adjudicate the property as such and that an Order be entered to such effect, requested **immediate abatement** and that an Order be issued for the property. Council Member Jones made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, and for an Order stating the City may remove dilapidated buildings or dilapidated fences up to six (6) more times in the twelve (12) month period immediately following the Order and cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

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All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

HATCHER INVESTMENT PROPERTY, LLC
2603 – 5th Avenue North
Case Number 21-0053 Maintenance Code and Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0053**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and asked the Mayor and Council to adjudicate the property as such and that an Order be entered to such effect, requested **immediate abatement** and that an Order be issued for the property. Council Member Jones made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, and for an Order stating the City may remove dilapidated buildings or dilapidated fences up to six (6) more times in the twelve (12) month period immediately following the Order and cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Gavin seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

MAXIE JUNCTION, LLC
808 – 9th Avenue South
Case Number 21-0103 Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0103**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property has been **remediated** by the owner, and it is his recommendation to enter the proposed Order under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, finding that this property was in such a state of uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This Order should provide for such re-entry as the Statute allows. Council Member Gavin made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11, and for an Order stating the City may remediate the property with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

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The motion carried.

MARGIE M. GUNTER
911 – 8th Street South
Case Number 21-0104 Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0104**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property has been **remediated** by the owner, and it is his recommendation to enter the proposed Order under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, finding that this property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This Order should provide for such re-entry as the Statute allows. Council Member Gavin made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11, and for an Order stating the City may remediate the property with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

THOMAS MORGAN and FAYE MORGAN
2119 Oleary Lane
Case Number 21-0084

**Maintenance Code, Vegetation,
Rubbish and Garbage**

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0084**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property has been **remediated** by the owner, and it is his recommendation to enter the proposed Order under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, finding that this property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This Order should provide for such re-entry as the Statute allows. Council Member Gavin made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11, and for an Order stating the City may remediate the property with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

HILBERT WILLIAMS
1809 – 3rd Avenue South
Case Number 21-0075

Vegetation

The General Counsel called cause number **21-0075**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property has been **remediated** by the owner, and it is his recommendation to enter the proposed Order under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, finding that this property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This Order should provide for such re-entry as the Statute allows. Council Member Gavin made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11, and for an Order stating the City may remediate the property with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

J. Discuss/Approve promoting a mechanic to Assistant Garage Superintendent.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to promote **Robert C. Wright** to the vacant position of Assistant Garage Superintendent with a pay increase from \$17.50 per hour to \$20.15 per hour/\$41,912.00 annually. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

K. Discuss/Approve the City of Columbus being awarded three (3) Dizzy Dean State Tournaments, to be held June 24, 2021 at Propst Park and approve payment for Referee fees and trophy expenses.

Council Member Box made a motion to approve the City of Columbus being awarded three (3) Dizzy Dean State Tournaments, to be held June 24, 2021 at Propst Park and approve payment for Referee fees and trophy expenses. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

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CLOSED DETERMINATION:

Council Member Jones made a motion to go into closed session to determine whether it is necessary to go into Executive Session. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

All members of the public, with the exception of the Mayor, the Council, the General Counsel, the COO, the Police Chief, and the HR Director, exited the meeting.

Mayor Smith apprised the Council of one (1) Personnel matter and remarked that this matter warrants being heard in Executive Session. Council Member Beard made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter involving the medical condition of an employee. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

The Chief Operations Officer then announced to the general public outside the Council Chambers that the Council was going into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

OPEN SESSION:

Council Member Beard made a motion to end the discussion of this matter and return to Open Session. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

The Chief Operations Officer then announced to the general public outside the meeting room that the Council was back in Open Session.

The General Counsel reported that the Mayor and Council went in Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter from an employee requesting an extension of Family Medical Leave until June 3, 2021, which was granted.

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ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, Council Member Jones moved that the meeting be adjourned. Upon second by Council Member Gavin and unanimous vote, the Mayor announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

Approved by: _____
Robert E. Smith, Sr., Mayor

Deliah T. Vaughn
CFO- Secretary-Treasurer