

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS April 4, 2023

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Keith Gaskin presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present. Also present were the General Counsel, the COO, CFO, Police Chief, HR Director, and all other Department Heads.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION:

Mayor Gaskin called the meeting to order and called upon Pastor and Officer Victor Salter to offer the Invocation.

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Councilwoman Diccio made a motion to adopt the Agenda as presented. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2023

Councilwoman Diccio made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of March 21, 2023. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approve request for Fire & Rescue personnel: Justin Martin, to attend the "*Vehicle Extrication/Rescue Technician*" course to be held in Pearl, MS, and approve payment of \$400.00 for registration, \$50.00 for fuel and use of city vehicle and reimbursement of meal expenses.

B. Approve request for Fire & Rescue personnel: Thomas Parsons, to attend "*NFPA 1041 I – II Fire Service Instructor Class*" to be held in Pearl, MS, and

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approve payment of \$6000.00 for registration, \$100.00 for fuel and use of city vehicle, and reimbursement for meal expenses.

- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel: James Dunnam, to attend "*Vehicle Extrication/Rescue Technician*" to be held in Pearl, MS, and approve payment of \$50.00 for fuel and use of city vehicle, and reimbursement of meal expenses.
- D. Approve permit request on behalf of Zion Gate Baptist Church Outreach Ministry, to host a "Clothing Giveaway" to be held on April 15, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Shields Sims housing Complex, Avenue A and 4th Street South.
- E. Approve request for CPD Police Chief to attend the "*2023 MS Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference*" to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of \$350.00 for registration, \$100.00 for fuel and use of city vehicle, and reimbursement of meal expenses.
- F. Accept letter of resignation from CPD Investigator Bentley Holcombe, effective March 30, 2023; Officer Lance Luckey, effective March 29, 2023; Officer Jevarcus Gooch, effective April 13, 2023 and Office Austin Green, effective April 15, 2023.
- G. Approve request for to pay for webmaster's service in the amount of \$658.34.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilwoman Dickey 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. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS:

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for April 4, 2023, in the amount of \$265,150.41. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion, except Councilwoman Dickey, who opposed.

The motion carried 5/1.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

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- A.** Mayor Gaskin asked the Council Members if they had any comments/announcements.

Council Member Beard announced that the Easter Festival, scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2023 has been cancelled due to forecast of inclement weather.

Councilwoman Stewart announced that the State of the Ward Meeting for Ward 1 will be held Thursday, March 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Townsend Community Center.

Vice-Mayor Mickens announced that his church will be taking a trailer of donated items, along with gift cards, to Rolling Fort, MS for victims affected by the recent tornado on Thursday, April 13, 2023. They will leave at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Gaskin proceeded with the following observations/remarks:

I'd like to thank the Council, city employees, citizens, organizations, individuals and the community as a whole for the outpouring love and support shown to me and my family during the loss of his loving mother. Thank you all so much and I ask you to keep the prayers coming. I'd also like to thank you for the donations, volunteerism, and assistance provided to all those who were affected by the tornadoes.

I'd like to recognize the ladies at Sim Scott Community Center (there were in attendance) for their active commitment to community involvement.

Next, I ask Dorothy Sanders, the City's Victims' Advocate, along with Bianca Suggs, Staff member with Safehaven, to come forward and presented a Proclamation in recognition of National Crime Victims' Right Week.

Congratulations to Jim Brigham, CFO, for completion of one year on the job.

SAVE THE DATE REMINDERS:

Catfish in the Alley is set for April 13 – 15.

Tales from the Crypt is scheduled for April 12, 14, 19, and 21, 2023 in Friendship Cemetery at 7:00 p.m. each day.

- B. Swearing-In of two CPD Officers:**

Mayor Gaskin swore in new Columbus Police Department Police Officers as the officers recited the Oath of Office. Chief Daughtry presented Police

Officers Roderick Clark and Victor Salter their badge and insignia. Congratulations!

Next, Chief Daughtry presented a Certificate of Recognition and Completion to Officer Melvin Shirley for completion of CPD Spring MELOA 2023 Motor Officer Class, held in Flowood, MS and rating in top of his class. Chief presented a video of the Officer in training. Officer Shirley thanked the Mayor and Council and Chief for believing in him and supporting his efforts in this endeavor. Congratulations!

C. BOARD VACANCIES:

Ms. Jammie Garrett announced vacancies on various boards and remarked that no appointments will be made tonight.

TREE BOARD:

2 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms, Michael Foster and Mildred Monroe Terms Expired 12/03/2022.

Appointment will be made April 4, 2023.

APPLICANT:

Jill Drouillard

Council Member Mickens made a motion to appoint Jill Drouillard to the Tree Board for a 3-Year Term, until 12/03/2025. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

TREE BOARD:

2 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms, Bruce Sansing's Term expires 4/07/2023 and Reid Nevin's Term Expires 4/19/2023.

Appointments will be made April 18, 2023.

No applicants at this time.

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

A. Drayco Elamin – Emerald Drive Issues

Mr. Elamin did not appear.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

SAMMIE WILSON TAL-EST

c/o Carolyn McDaniel

925 18th Street North

CASE NUMBER: 23-0068 Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0068**. No one appeared. 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 Beard 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. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

DON PHIFER

c/o Donnell Wooten

1314 5th Street South

CASE NUMBER: 23-0070 Dilapidated Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0070**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James remarked that the property owner requested an extension and she recommended a **45-day extension** to remediate the property. 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. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion give the property owner a **45-day extension** to remediate the property, and that an Order be issued for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC

113 Mill Street

CASE NUMBER: 23-0081 Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0081**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James remarked that the property owner requested an extension and she recommended a **45-day extension** to remediate the property. 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. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion give the property owner a **45-day extension** to remediate the property, and that an Order be issued for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

LESLEY DENISE JONES

2006 Washington Avenue

CASE NUMBER: 23-0091 Burned Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0091**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James remarked that the property owner requested an extension and she recommended a **45-day extension** to remediate the property. 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. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion give the property owner a **45-day extension** to remediate the property, and that an Order be issued for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

JULIA M. BROWN
1016 Waterworks Road
CASE NUMBER: 23-0085 Dilapidated Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0085**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James remarked that the property owner requested an extension and she recommended a **10-day extension** to remediate the property and if not remediated, for Public Works to clean the property. 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. Councilwoman Diccio made a motion give the property owner a **10-day extension** to remediate the property, and that an Order be issued for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

BANKERS TRUST CO OF CA NA TR
c/o Stan Weathers
1407 5th Street North
CASE NUMBER: 23-0094 Abandoned Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0094**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property has been **remediated** by the owner, and it is her 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 Beard 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 Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

LIVINGSTON RENTAL PROPERTY LLC

Waterworks Road

CASE NUMBER: 23-0096

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0096**. 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. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

\$250.00 OR LESS CASES:

Code Enforcement Officer presented three (3) cases, \$250.00 or less for adjudication. Council Member Greene made a motion to accept the notices for property clean-up of properties \$250.00 and less to be adjudicated according to statute. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

THE LIST OF PROPERTIES FOLLOWS:

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\$250 OR LESS Derelict Properties for April 4, 2023 Mayor and City Council Meeting

Case # and Violation	Ward	Name and Address	Notes
23-0115 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage</i>	3	Jordan Miller Warpath Road	
23-0116 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage</i>	5	Hardin Properties LLC 311 12th Street North	
23-0024 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage</i>	5	Sylvester and Ramonia Clark 1424 Schoolhouse Avenue Re-Entry	

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MILLER JORDAN
71 CHESTNUT DRIVE
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-11(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 7/1/2022)

RE: WARPATH ROAD
APN: 62W05-01-00100
Case No: CJC-23-0115
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 3

Date: March 15, 2023

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or her assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) as determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice is/are one or more of the following:

- [X] The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
- [X] The presence of rubbish/garbage and other debris
- [X] The presence of abandoned building
- [X] The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
- [X] The presence of burned structure
- [X] The presence of dilapidated building(s), slabs or personal property
- [X] The presence of property maintenance code violation
- [X] The presence of standing water in cesspools
- [X] The presence of cistern(s), standing water and cesspools

You are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land as described is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and as such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do to himself, on or before the 22nd day of March, 2023, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling cisterns, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fences, outside toilets, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris; and draining cesspools and standing water therefrom.

Code Section:	Corrective Action:	Compliance Date:
107.1 - Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage	Remove all trash and debris from the property. All equipment, appliance, and/or material must be stored away from public view and/or stored in an enclosed structure. Generally, any equipment, materials or furnishings that would ordinarily not be used outdoors may not be stored outdoors.	March 22, 2023

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICES ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-11(2) (a)&(b) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjudicate the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The cost and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, and/or, at the option of the governing authority, an assessment against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means either the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract executed by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjudicated in need of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and consistent with the municipal official's determination as authorized, a municipality may reenter the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or hearing no more than six (6) times in any twelve-month period with respect to removing abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, dilapidated fences and outside toilets, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twenty-four-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may assess the same actual costs, administrative costs, and penalty for each time the property or land is cleaned as otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 29-1-145, nor shall a municipality clean a parcel owned by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice. Upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may forgo the notification process that is prescribed in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs as prescribed in this subsection, except that penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. A determination made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-11(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-11(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-11(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-245-5063 or 662-245-5070.

This 15th day of March, 2023.

Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-11 (2).

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except where the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant, AND to the address where the ad valorem tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting ad valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: March 15, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: March 15, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: March 15, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

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NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-11(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 7/1/2022)

HARDIN PROPERTIES LLC
10015 FAULKNER DR
ABERDEEN, MS 39730

RE: 311 12TH ST N
APN: 61W10-01-09600
Case No: CB-23-0116
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 5

Date: March 20, 2023

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or her assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) as determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice is/are one or more of the following:

- ☐ The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
- ☒ The presence of rubbish/garbage and other debris
- ☐ The presence of abandoned building
- ☐ The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
- ☐ The presence of burned structure
- ☐ The presence of dilapidated building(s), slabs or personal property
- ☐ The presence of property maintenance code violation
- ☐ The presence of standing water in cesspools
- ☐ The presence of cistern(s), standing water and cesspools

You are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land as described is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and as such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do so himself, on or before the 27th day of March, 2023, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling cisterns, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fences, outside toilets, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris, and draining cesspools and standing water therefrom.

Code Section:	Corrective Action:	Compliance Date:
107.1 - Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage	Remove all trash and debris from the property. All equipment, appliance, and/or material must be stored away from public view and/or stored in an enclosed structure. Generally, any equipment, materials or furnishings that would ordinarily not be used outdoors may not be stored outdoors.	March 27, 2023

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICES ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-11(2) (a)(6)(b) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjudicate the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The cost and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, and/or, at the option of the governing authority, an assessment against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means either the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract executed by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjudicated in need of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and consistent with the municipal official's determination as authorized, a municipality may reenter the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or hearing no more than six (6) times in any twelve-month period with respect to removing abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, dilapidated fences and outside toilets, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twenty-four-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may assess the same actual costs, administrative costs, and penalty for each time the property or land is cleaned as otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 29-1-145, nor shall a municipality clean a parcel owned by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice. Upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may forego the notification process that is prescribed in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs as prescribed in this subsection, except that, penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. A determination made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-11(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-11(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-11(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-245-5063 or 662-245-5070.

This 20th day of March, 2023.

Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-11 (2).

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except where the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant, AND to the address where the ad valorem tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting ad valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: March 20, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: March 20, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: March 20, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

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NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-1(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 7/1/2022)

CLARK SYLVESTER/RAMONIA
P O BOX 8603
COLUMBUS, MS 39705

RE: 1424 SCHOOLHOUSE AVE
APN: 56W18-02-15800
Case No: CE-23-0024
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 5

Date: January 31, 2023

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or her assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) as determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice is/are one or more of the following:

- ☐ The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
- ☒ The presence of rubbish/garbage and other debris
- ☐ The presence of abandoned building
- ☐ The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
- ☐ The presence of burned structure
- ☐ The presence of dilapidated building(s), slabs or personal property
- ☐ The presence of property maintenance code violation
- ☐ The presence of standing water in cesspools
- ☐ The presence of cistern(s), standing water and cesspools

You are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land as described is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and as such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do so himself, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling cisterns, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fences, outside toilets, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris, and draining cesspools and standing water therefrom.

Code Section:	Corrective Action:	Compliance Date:
307.1 - Accumulation of Rubbish and Garbage	Remove all trash and debris from the property. All equipment, appliance, and/or material must be stored away from public view and/or stored in an enclosed structure. Generally, any equipment, materials or furnishings that would ordinarily not be used outdoors may not be stored outdoors.	February 7, 2023

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICES ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-1(2) (a)(b) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjudicate the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The cost and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, and/or, at the option of the governing authority, an assessment against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means either the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract executed by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjudicated in need of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and consistent with the municipal official's determination as authorized, a municipality may reenter the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or hearing no more than six (6) times in any twelve-month period with respect to removing abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, dilapidated fences and outside toilets, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twenty-four-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may assess the same actual costs, administrative costs, and penalty for each time the property or land is cleaned as otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 29-1-145, nor shall a municipality clean a parcel owned by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice. Upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may frugal the notification process that is prescribed in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs as prescribed in this subsection, except that, penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. A determination made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-1(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-1(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-245-5063 or 662-245-5070.

This the 31st day of January, 2023.
Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-1(2).

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except where the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant, AND to the address where the ad valorem tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting ad valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: January 31, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: January 31, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: January 31, 2023

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

B. Discuss/Approve request to hire one (1) Boom Truck Operator, pending successful completion of a pre-employment drug screen and medical exam.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to hire **DEMEATRIS WILLIS** as a Boom Truck Operator at \$15.00 per hour, pending successful completion of a pre-employment medical exam and drug screen. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. Discuss/Approve request to fill the vacant position of Records Clerk in CPD and authorize the HR Director to begin the normal recruitment process.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to transfer **SHAKONDA THOMPSON** from the Building Inspection Department to the Police Department as Records Clerk with the same rate of pay and authorize the HR Director to begin the normal recruitment process. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

D. Discuss/Approve naming Columbus-Lowndes County Airport Terminal in honor of Lt. Colonel Alva Temple.

Dan Duston, Fixed Base Operator at the CLCA and Yvette Bailey-Jamison, Community Outreach Coordinator, came forward and elaborated on this request to honor Mr. Temple during the 70th Anniversary Celebration of the Airport. Lowndes County Board of Supervisors voted to support the naming. Dan Duston also recognized some of Mr. Temple's grandchildren, who were present. Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to name Columbus-Lowndes County Airport Terminal in honor of Lt. Colonel Alva Temple. Councilwoman Dickey seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

E. Discuss/Approve shared funding with Lowndes County for Tuskegee Airmen Rise Above Presentation.

Council Member Jones moved to approve the expenditure of \$6,000.00 from 001-043-559-001 (Advertising City Resources) and find that said amount is a legitimate expense that will advertise and bring into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus. This expense is for the mobile Tuskegee Airmen Rise Above bus. Councilwoman Diccio seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

F. Discuss/Approve engaging the TRVWMD to clean drainage along Hwy, 69, from Dean Acres to the Lux.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to engage the TRVWMD to clean drainage along Hwy. 69, from Dean Acres to the Lux. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

G. Discuss/Approve engaging Lowndes County to trap beavers in drainage areas around Hwy. 69.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve request to engage Lowndes County to trap beavers in drainage areas around Hwy. 69. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

H. Discuss/Approve the Public Works cleaning drainage associated with Pandora Drive.

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the request for Public Works to clean drainage associated with Pandora Drive. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

I. Discuss/Approve use of ARPA funding to clean two (2) drainage sub-basins near MUW and 15th Street South, contingent upon award of State matching funds.

Kevin Stafford, dba Neel-Schaffer, Inc., remarked that the combined cost of both projects will cost \$382,360.60. Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the use of ARPA funding to clean two (2) drainage sub-basins near MUW and 15th Street South, contingent upon award of State matching funds. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members seconded the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

J. Discuss/Approve Propst Park Youth Baseball Improvements.

Kevin Stafford dba NSI, Greg Lewis, Director of Recreation and the Mayor and Council engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the request to approve Propst Park youth Baseball Improvements. The City's Engineer provided bids detailing the cost for this project that, if approved, will not begin this fiscal year. Following discussion, Council Member Greene moved to table this request until the Mayor, Council, and other stakeholders can discuss it further. Councilwoman Diccio seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Jones moved to allow Mr. Brigham, CFO, to explore the City's creditworthiness if the Council chooses to take on more debt. Council Member Beard seconded the motion. Council Member Mickens asked how long this will take. Mr. Brigham answered, stating he has spoken with the City's Bond Council, Lynn Norris and Government Consultants and will see how soon they are available to meet. Kevin Stafford remarked that the bids are dated March 6, 2023 and are good for 90 days. If approved, the project will begin July 1, 2023 and be finished before baseball season in 2024.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Council Member Greene, who opposed.

The motion carried 5/1.

K. Discuss/Approve Columbus Parks & Recreation's hiring of six (6) seasonal workers and one (1) seasonal laborer, pending completion of a pre-employment drug screen.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to hire six (6) seasonal workers and one (1) seasonal laborer, pending completion of a pre-employment drug screen. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

L. Discuss/Approve request to increase the pay of six (6) seasonal workers from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and one (1) seasonal laborer from \$10.00 to \$12.00.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to increase the pay of six (6) seasonal workers from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and one (1) seasonal laborer from \$10.00 to \$12.00. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

M. Discuss/Approve request to hire four (4) Entry-Level Police Officers, pending completion of all preliminary testing and approval from Civil Service Commission.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to hire four (4) Entry-Level Police Officers, pending completion of all preliminary testing and approval from Civil Service Commission. Councilwoman Diccio seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

N. Discuss/Approve revision of Fleet Leasing Program

CFO, Jim Brigham, remarked that the Police Chief requested a larger Police package vehicle (Tahoe) and he supports that request. This cost will be included in a budget amendment. Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the revision of the Fleet Leasing Program. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 4, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Approved by: _____
Keith Gaskin, Mayor

James "Jim" Brigham
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer

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