

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS January 2, 2024

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 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 on Rev. Therman Cunningham, Sr., pastor of Oak Grove M. B. Church, to offer the Invocation.

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

COO, Jammie Garrett, requested to add Derelict Property to the Policy Agenda as Item "A" and move all other items down. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to adopt the Agenda as amended. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MEETING OF DECEMBER 19, 2023:

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of December 19, 2023. Council Member Greene 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 and Rescue personnel, Donald Buckner, to attend "NFPA 1021-Fire Officer" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of \$615.00 for registration, use of the City vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses.

- B. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Kyler Kidder, to be reimbursed for successfully completion of the National Registry Exam, in the amount of \$104.00.
- C. Approve request for Forensic Lab Technician to attend a “Public Speaking and Effective Testimony Course” via on-line webinar and approve payment of \$79.00 for registration.
- D. Approve request for Forensic Lab Director to attend a “Forensic SOP Crash Course via on-line webinar and approve payment of \$100.00 for registration.
- E. Approve permit request submitted by Jimmy Woodruff, on behalf of the Frank P. Phillips Memorial YMCA, and to host the “YMCA Centennial Celebration Block Party” to be held on April 27, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. with streets being blocked on Friday, April 26, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2024. *See attached map.*

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared. Councilwoman 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, 6/0.

V. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS:

CFO Jim Brigham remarked that the Per Diem rate changed 1/1/2024 and those traveling to Jackson mileage check was increased, with a net total of \$39.68. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for January 2, 2024, in the amount of \$910,134.45. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Mayor Gaskin wish everyone a happy, positive and prosperous new year. He continued by making the following announcements:
 - MLK Breakfast and Day of Service 2024 will be held Monday, January 15, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at Lions Hill Center and Gold Club. The keynote speaker will be Pastor Darren Leach. Sponsors include EMCC, MUW, CAFB and United Way of Lowndes and Noxubee.

Council Member Jones offered condolence to Rev. Leonardo Dismukes as he mourn the loss of his mother.

B. Swearing-In of one (1) Fire & Rescue Firefighter

- **KYLER KIDDER**

Chief Hughes came forward and introduced Firefighter Kyler Kidder. Mayor Gaskin swore in Firefighter Kidder as he recited the Oath of Office. The Fire and Rescue Department were present to present Firefighter Kidder with his helmet.

C. Swearing In of two (2) CPD Officers

- **Kelvin Burdine (Certified)**
- **Kennedy Meaders (Certified)**

Chief Daughtry came forward and introduced new certified employees in the Police Department. Mayor Gaskin swore in the two (2) new Police Department personnel listed above as they recited the Oath of Office. Kelvin Burdine was hired as a Lieutenant and Kennedy Meaders was hired as a Captain over PD Administration.

D. Board Vacancies

Jammie Garrett, COO announced vacancies on various boards, as follows:

GOLDEN TRIANGLE REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
1 Vacancy, 4-Year Term, Roger Burlingame's Term Expires 12/31/2023.
Appointment will be made January 2, 2024.

APPLICANT:
James "Jim" Brigham

Council Member Beard made a motion to appoint CFO, James "Jim" Brigham to the Golden Triangle Regional Waste Management Authority for a 4-Year Term, until December 31, 2027. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

Council Member Mickens cautioned the Council about appointing City employees to City Boards. Mayor Gaskin called for the vote.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion except Council Member Mickens, who opposed.

The motion carried 5/1.

COLUMBUS HOUSING AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Vivian S. Irby resigned and her term was due to expire July 7, 2025.

Appointment to fill the remainder of the term, until July 7, 2025.

APPLICANT

Glenda Richardson

Council Member Beard made a motion to appoint Glenda Richardson to the Columbus Housing Authority for the remainder of Vivian S. Irby's term, which expires July 7, 2025. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS OF DEVELOPMENT CODES

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Bryan Brown's Term Expires January 2, 2024.

Appointment will be made January 2, 2024.

APPLICANT:

Bryan Brown

Council Member Beard made a motion to reappoint Bryan Brown to the Board of Adjustments & Appeals of Development Codes for a 5-Year Term, until January 2, 2029. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

2 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms, Wythe Rhett and Quinn Brislin's Terms Expire 1/20/2024.

Appointment will be made January 16, 2024.

APPLICANTS:

Wythe Rhett

Quinn Brislin

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

Pastor Therman Cunningham, Sr. and Keith Worshaim, RE: The 5th Little Girl – Sarah Collins Rudolph

Pastor Cunningham and Keith Worshaim came forward and announced that Mrs. Sarah Collins Rudolph will be in Columbus at Oak Grove M. B. Church on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Rudolph, The 5th Little Girl, is the only survivor of the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing in Birmingham, Alabama on September 15, 1963. The public is invited.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

CAMERON D. MILLER
1113 1st Street North
CASE NUMBER: 23-0637

Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage
Wrecked/Discarded Vehicles
Storage of Travel Trailer or Motor
Homes

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0637**. 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. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

RICHARD F. JOHNSTON SR. AND
MAGGIE P. JOHNSTON
115 14th Street North
CASE NUMBER: 23-0645

Burned and Dilapidated Structure

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024

The General Counsel called cause number **23-0645**. 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. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

SHANNON J. MERCHANT
c/o SHANNON BOWEN
1015 Park Circle
CASE NUMBER: 23-0146 Burned Structure

This case was previously heard May 16, 2023. Council Member Jones made a motion to grant a **14-day extension** to remediate the outside by cutting the grass and a **6-month extension** for the structure.

Ms. Roechelle Morgan, General Counsel with Webb Sanders & Williams, PLLC appeared at the Council Meeting and reported that State Farm does not have opposition to the City's proceeding with demolition of the burned home located at 1015 Park Circle. Mrs. Bowen, property owner has failed to comply with the terms and conditions of her insurance policy, to include making temporary repairs and prevent further damage to the structure. Council Member Jones made a motion to give the property owner until February 2, 2024 to either remediate or abate the property, demolish or rehabilitate, then the City will proceed with abatement. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

\$250.00 OR LESS CASES:

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024

Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, presented four (4) 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. Council Member Jones 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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MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024

\$250 OR LESS Derelict Properties for January 2, 2024 Mayor and City Council Meeting

Case # and Violation	Ward	Name and Address	Notes
23-0648 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	2	DAVID MURRAY 309 Wynhurst Court	
23-0643 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	JASON LANG 1011 Moss Street	
23-0644 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	THE DEXTER GROUP TRUST 1012 Moss Street	
23-0646 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	JULIA BROWN / KEVIN BALDWIN 715 20 th Street North	



MURRAY DAVID S.
309 WYNHURST CY
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

Date: December 21, 2023

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

RE: 309 WYNHURST CT
APN: 62W14-04-01800
Case No: CE-23-0648
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 2

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 described in the encroachment 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 28th day of December, 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.	December 28, 2021

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 OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AT THE CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE OF PUBLIC NOTICE FOR A PERIOD OF 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 THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL SHALL BE FURNISHED TO THE MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING 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. If the cost assessed against the property exceeds Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), the municipality may, after giving notice to the property owner, require the property owner to pay the cost assessed against the property 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 if the property owner fails to cause the property to be cleaned, the governing authority has the right to enter 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, shabby structures, junk cars, piles of debris, refuse, litter, trash, garbage, household appliances, furniture, and other dilapidated fences and outside toilets, and no more than once per year on personal property and other debris on the lands and premises owned or controlled by the property owner. The cost of cleaning shall be assessed against 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 cost of cleaning as the cost assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 29-1-145, not less than the actual cost of cleaning. A written demand for payment of the cost assessed against the property shall be mailed to the property owner by registered mail. If the property owner does not pay the cost assessed against the property, the governing authority may petition the court to have the property owner's name placed on a lien against the property. Upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, or the Department of Transportation, the governing authority may select a contractor to inspect and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs determined in this subsection, except that, penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. As prescribed made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2)(c), the governing authority may determine that the condition of property or a particular area requires immediate attention. In such event, the governing authority may suspend the requirement of a hearing to replace a hearing (if Section 29-1-11(1)) is later utilized by the community when the prerequisites of Section 29-1-11(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 the 21st day of December, 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: December 21, 2023

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: December 21, 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:
December 21, 2023

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

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024



LANG JASON
270 SWEDENBURG CIRCLE
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

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

RE: 1011 MOSS ST
APN: 56W20-03-04400
Case No: CE-23-0643
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: December 13, 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 20th day of December, 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.	December 20, 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 13th day of December, 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.

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MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024



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

THE DEXTER GROUP TRUST
520 SILICON DR. STE 110
SOUTH LAKE, TX 76092

RE: 1012 MOSS ST
APN: 56W20-03-05400
Case No: CE-23-0644
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: December 13, 2023

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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 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 in 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 13th day of December, 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: December 13, 2023

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: December 13, 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: December 13, 2023

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

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2, 2024



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

BROWN JULIA / KEVIN J. BALDWIN
98 AZALEA DR
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

RE: 715 20TH ST N 723
APN: 61W06-01-07600
Case No: CE-23-0646
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: December 13, 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 20th day of December, 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, appliances, 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.	December 20, 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, within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of 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 the 13th day of December, 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: December 13, 2023

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

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This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: December 13, 2023

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

B. Discuss/Approve Promotion of one (1) Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from a probationary Firefighter to Certified Firefighter, with the proper pay adjustment, effective January 8, 2024.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request from Columbus Fire and Rescue to Promote Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from a probationary Firefighter to Certified Firefighter, with the proper pay adjustment, effective January 8, 2024. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. Discuss/Approve request from the Columbus Police Department to apply for the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Police Traffic Service Grant, in an approximate amount of \$207,000.00 for FY24 and \$400,000.00 for FY25. These grants do not require a match.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request quote from the Columbus Police Department to apply for the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Police Traffic Service Grant, in an approximate amount of \$207,000.00 for FY24 and \$400,000.00 for FY25. These grants are Public Safety Traffic Grants and do not require a match. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, the Mayor announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

Approved by: _____
Keith Gaskin, Mayor

James "Jim" Brigham
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer/Clerk