

MAYOR
KEITH GASKIN

CITY COUNCIL
ETHEL TAYLOR
STEWART
JOSEPH W. MICKENS,
SR.
RUSTY GREENE
PIERRE BEARD SR.
STEPHEN JONES
JACKIE DICICCO

**CHIEF OPERATIONS
OFFICER**
JAMMIE GARRETT

City of Columbus
POST OFFICE BOX 1408, COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39703

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS
March 5, 2025**

**CFO/SECRETARY-
TREASURER**
JAMES BRIGHAM

POLICE CHIEF
JOSEPH M. DAUGHTRY,
SR.

FIRE CHIEF
DUANE HUGHES

**HUMAN RESOURCES
DIRECTOR**
PATRICIA MITCHELL

**INTERIM CITY PLANNING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
GEORGE IRBY

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

- A. Approve Minutes from February 18, 2025 Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes from the February 13, 2025 Work Session/Special Meeting.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- D. Hughes** A. Approve request by M. Patel to use Lot behind the City Garage for Holi-Day Celebration on March 13, 2025 with assistance from Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel.
- D. Hughes** B. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations (A & O)" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$250.00.
- D. Hughes** C. Approve request for four (4) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Emergency Medical Technician (EMS) (Hybrid)" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$5,000.00.
- D. Hughes** D. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Engine Company Operations" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$500.00.
- J. Daughtry** E. Approve permit request submitted by Ryan Munson, on behalf of Munson and Brothers, to host "St. Patrick's Day Fun Run" to be held on March 15, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., blocking Second Avenue North from Fifth Street North to Second Street North by the Farmers' Market. See attached map.
- J. Daughtry** F. Approve permit request submitted by Jason Spears, on behalf of Golden Triangle Elite Soccer Club, to host, "Columbus Orthopaedic Riverwalk Spring Invitational Soccer Tournament" to be held on April 12-13, 2025, from 6:00 a.m. on April 12, 2025, until 4:00 p.m. on April 13, 2025, at the Roger Short Soccer Complex blocking a section of Championship Loop from Second Street North to Moores Creek Road. See attached map.
- J. Daughtry** G. Approve request for one (1) Property, Evidence, Crime Scene Technician and one (1) Forensic Scientist Trainee to attend a "Property & Evidence Management Training" to be held in Opelika, Alabama and approval of payment for registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$2,408.00.
- J. Daughtry** H. Approve request for one (1) CPD Officer to attend a "Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Course" to be held in Starkville, MS at no cost to the City.

- J. Daughtry** I. Approve request for one (1) Forensic Scientist Trainee to attend "Courtroom Testimony Techniques" via online webinar with a registration fee of \$450.00.
- C. Bush** J. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Public Works truck driver, effective February 20, 2025.
- D. Hughes** K. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Mississippi Fire Investigators Spring Seminar to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$1,041.00.
- G. Lewis** L. Approve request for the use of Sim Scott Community Center by the Columbus Municipal School District (Dr. Stanley K. Ellis) to host a discussion about the district's strategic plan, school closures and openings, grade-span plans, and to answer questions on March 13, 2025, from 5:30-6:30pm.
- G. Lewis** M. Approve request for the use of Townsend Community Center by the CMSD (Dr. Stanley K. Ellis) to discuss the district's strategic plan, school closures and openings, grade span plans, and Q&A with the community on April 2, 2025, from 5:30-6:30pm.
- G. Lewis** N. Approve request for the use of Sandfield Community Center by CMSD (Dr. Stanley K. Ellis) to discuss the district's strategic plan, school closures and openings, grade span plans, and Q&A with the community on May 6, 2025, from 5:30-6:30PM.
- G. Lewis** O. Approve request for the use of East Columbus Gym by CMSD (Dr. Stanley K. Ellis) to discuss the district's strategic plan, school closures and openings, grade span plans, and Q&A with the community on May 13, 2025, from 5:30-6:30PM.
- P. Mitchell** P. Approve request for HR Director to advertise to fill budgeted full-time vacant Clerk position in the Municipal Court at \$15.00 per hour.
- J. Brigham** Q. Approve payment of Debt Service on the ESCO Project Debt in the amount of \$37,891.38.

V. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

- J. Brigham** A. Approve Docket of Claims for March 4, 2025

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Comments from Mayor & Council
- J. Garrett** B. Board Vacancies
- CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**
1 Vacancy, 3-Year Term, Jay Patel's Term Expires 03/05/2025.
Appointment will be made March 4, 2025.
Jay Patel
- BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT & APPEALS of DEVELOPMENT CODES**
1 Vacancy, 3-Year Term, Kevin Stafford's Term Expired 03/01/2025.
Appointment will be made March 4, 2025.
Kevin Stafford
- TREE BOARD**
3 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms
Appointments will be made March 4, 2025.
Caleb Aldridge

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

- J. Garrett** A. Nicole Shelton - Columbus Police Department

- J. Garrett** B. Edmond Green - Oak Manor Apartments
J. Garrett C. Dr. Stanley K. Ellis - Columbus Municipal School District Restructuring

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

- S. James** A. Discuss / Approve Derelict Property Docket
D. Hughes B. Discuss/Approve acceptance of the Columbus Fire and Rescue 2025 Annual Compliance Report
C. Bush C. Discuss/Approve promotion of one (1) Landfill Equipment Operator to Heavy Equipment Operator.
J. Turnage D. Discuss/Approve Grant Administrator assistance of the Columbus Redevelopment Authority in administering the T-HUD Grant at no cost.
G. Irby E. Discuss/Approve *Memorandum of Understanding* between Mississippi Home Corporation and the City of Columbus.
J. Garrett F. Discuss/Approve Lobbyists Contract with W.T. Consultants, not to exceed \$72,000 for the 2025 Session.
K. Stafford G. Discuss/Approve awarding Senator Terry Brown Amphitheater bids to the lowest responsive bidder.
K. Stafford H. Discuss/Approve adding \$1.2M in Use Tax Funds to Second Round of City Paving and Approve to Advertise for Bids.
K. Stafford I. Discuss/Approve paving Alexandria Lot in the amount of \$70,000.
K. Stafford J. Discuss/Approve paving Propst Park Pickleball Courts Parking Lot in the amount of \$13,000.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Personnel Matters (3)