

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 18, 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 of March 5, 2025 Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of February 27, 2025

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- J. Daughtry** A. Approve request for two (2) CPD personnel to attend a "Peer Support Course" to be held in Brandon, Mississippi, and approve payment for lodging, travel and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,844.00.
- J. Daughtry** B. Approve permit request submitted by Alan Aldridge, on behalf of himself and Munson and Brothers, to host "Porch Fest" to be held on April 11 -12, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. each day, blocking Third Street North at Third Avenue North and Second Avenue North and remaining blocked until the end of the event.
- J. Daughtry** C. Approve permit request submitted by Jerry Fortenberry on behalf of the Tennessee Williams Tribute and Columbus Arts Council to host a "Stella Shouting Contest" to be held on April 12, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. blocking College Street at Fifth Street South and Fourth Street South. See attached map.
- J. Daughtry** D. Approve request from Tennessee Williams Tribute and Columbus Arts Council to have beer available on College Street at Fifth Street South and Fourth Street South by donation during the "Stella Shouting Contest" on April 12, 2025.
- 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 29, 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.
- G. Irby** F. Approve request for Interim Planner and Councilman Joseph Mickens to attend Civil Rights Movement Sites Symposium in Atlanta, GA on April 10-11, 2025 in the estimated amount of \$1,200.00.
- S. Wilder** G. Approve request for Grant Writer to attend Science Discovery on Main Street Meeting in Philadelphia, PA in the estimated amount of \$815.34.
- P. Mitchell** H. Approve request to publish notice for Legal Advertising Bid.
- D. Hughes** I. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Fire and Rescue Firefighter, effective March 16, 2025, and approve compensation for any unused vacation leave.
- J. Daughtry** J. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) CPD personnel effective March 8, 2025.

- J. Brigham** K. Accept letter of resignation from Accounts Payable Clerk, effective March 20, 2025.
- C. Bush** L. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Public Works laborer, effective March 6, 2025, and authorize the HR Director to begin the normal recruitment process.
- W. Blunt** M. Accept letter of resignation/retirement from Municipal Judge.

V. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

- J. Brigham** A. Approve Docket of Claims for March 18, 2025

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Comments from Mayor & Council
- K. Wiegel** B. Building Inspection - February 2025 Report
- D. Hughes** C. Columbus Fire and Rescue - February 2025 Report
- R. Bonner** D. J. M. Trotter Convention Center-Cemeteries February 2025 Report
- L. Dismukes** E. Community Outreach - February 2025 Report
- P. Mitchell** F. Human Resources - February 2025 Report
- W. Langford** G. Garage - February 2025 Report
- S. James** H. Code Enforcement Department - February 2025 Report
- J. Daughtry** I. Columbus Police Department - February 2025 Report
- C. Bush** J. Public Works - February 2025 Report
- W. Blunt** K. Municipal Court - February 2025 Report
- G. Lewis** L. Columbus Recreation Department - February 2025 Report
- G. Drake** M. Information Technology - February 2025 Report
- J. Brigham** N. Finance Report - February 2025 Report

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

- J. Garrett** A. George Lowe - Community Development Survey/Art Initiative
- J. Garrett** B. Jason Spears - Columbus Orthopaedic Riverwalk Spring Invitational Soccer Tournament
- J. Garrett** C. Brittany Harris - Stop the Violence
- J. Garrett** D. Robert J (Bobby) Sanderson - Forensic Audit
- J. Garrett** E. Vanita Phinisey - 6th Annual Battle of the States Tennis Tournament
- J. Garrett** F. Glenn Lautzenhiser -Lowndes County Sports Hall of Fame

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

- S. James** A. Discuss / Approve Derelict Property Docket
- C. Bush** B. Discuss/Approve request to fill one (1) vacant Boom Truck Operator position, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.
- Z. Foster** C. Discuss/Approve applying for FY2026 MDOT Multimodal grant for the construction of an open hangar.

- S. Wilder/G. Lewis** D. Discuss/Approve applying for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant for access steps, an ADA exploration station and information brochures for the Propst Park Fossil Park in the amount of \$50,000 with no match.
- S. Wilder/W. Blunt** E. Discuss/Approve applying for the MS Office of Homeland Security Grant for a metal detector and fencing for the Municipal Complex with no match.
- S. Wilder/D. Hughes** F. Discuss/Approve applying for the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant to purchase generators with a twenty-five percent match in the estimated amount of \$62,500.
- C. Bush** G. Discuss/Approve request to fill vacant Truck Driver position in the Public Works Department, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.
- R. Bonner** H. Discuss/Approve awarding the Farmers' Market Renovations to the lowest responsive bidder.
- P. Mitchell** I. Discuss/Approve Amendments to the Employee Personnel Handbook.
- J. Brigham** J. Discuss/Approve Resolution to approve the 2025 COLA Payment as outlined in Mississippi Code Annotated in 21-29-247 9 (3) and (5).
- J. Garrett/J. Brigham** K. Discuss/Approve reimbursable election workers' pay for the April 1, 2025 Primary Election made payable April 2, 2025.
- J. Garrett** L. Discuss/Approve *Resolution for Adopting the District 4 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan*.
- W. Blunt** M. Discuss/Approve Municipal Judge's request to fill in on a full-time basis until a new Judge is hired.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Prospective Litigation (1)
- B. Pending Litigation (1)
- C. Personnel Matters (3)