

City of Columbus

POST OFFICE BOX 1408, COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39703

MAYOR
STEPHEN JONES

CITY COUNCIL
ETHEL STEWART
RODERICK SMITH
RUSTY GREENE
LAVONNE HARRIS
GREGORY JEFFERSON
JASON SPEARS

**CHIEF OPERATIONS
OFFICER**
JAMMIE GARRETT

**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

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS July 15, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

P. Mitchell A. Approve Minutes of July 1, 2025 Meeting

P. Mitchell B. Approve Minutes of July 3, 2025 Special Meeting

IV. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

J. Brigham A. Approve Docket of Claims for July 15, 2025

V. CONSENT AGENDA

N. Katona A. Approve request for the Flood Director to attend the MEMA Flood Plain Management Bureau and FEMA L0273 Course: Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP at the State Emergency Logistical Operation Center in Starkville, MS on August 18-21, 2025 and approve the use of a city vehicle and reimbursement for meals.

J. Daughtry B. Approve permit request submitted by Sammie Williams, on behalf of Northside M.B. Church, to host "Back to School Fun Day" to be held on July 19, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Northside M.B. Church, 1501 - 9th Avenue North blocking 15th Street North at 9th and 10th Avenue North.

J. Daughtry C. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Main Street Columbus Fabulous 40 Celebration" to be held on August 9, 2025, from 11:40 a.m. until 12:40 p.m. blocking one block of College Street from 4th to 5th Streets South. See attached map.

J. Daughtry D. Approve request for two (2) CPD personnel to attend "Accident Reconstruction Level 1" to be held in Pearl, Mississippi and approve payment for registration, lodging, meals and travel expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,650.00 each.

J. Daughtry E. Approve request from the Columbus Police Department to accept the donation of three (3) children's books from Friendly City Books.

R. Bonner F. Approve a request from the Facilities Director to attend the Governor's Conference to be held in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on October 1st-3rd, 2025 and approve payment for annual membership, registration, lodging, meals and travel in a city-owned vehicle in the estimated amount of \$1,355.00.

W. Langford G. Accept resignation from Diesel Mechanic, effective July 10, 2025 and authorize the Human Resources Director to begin the normal recruitment process.

G. Lewis H. Approve request for one (1) Columbus Recreation Department personnel to attend the Babe Ruth Southwestern Regional Tournament in Monroe, Louisiana and approve payment for lodging, meals, and travel expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,098.45.

- D. Hughes** I. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Fire and Rescue Firefighter, effective July 10, 2025, and approve compensation for any unused leave.
- J. Brigham** J. Approve the 2% Tourism Tax Payment of \$25,000 to Lowndes County, \$20,833.33 to Golden Triangle Development LINK, \$33,333.33 to the City of Columbus and \$160,240.69 to Columbus Visitors Bureau, in the total amount of \$239,407.35.
- J. Garrett** K. Approve request for Grant Administrator to attend the 2025 Home & HTF Workshop in Jackson, MS and approve payment for travel and meal in the amount of \$219.40.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Comments from Mayor & Council
- L. Dismukes** B. Outstanding Service Award - Men of Compassion
- W. Langford** C. Garage - June 2025 Report
- L. Dismukes** D. Community Outreach - June 2025 Report
- D. Hughes** E. Columbus Fire and Rescue Department – June 2025 Report
- N. Katona** F. Building Inspection - June 2025 Report
- W. Blunt** G. Municipal Court - June 2025 Report
- R. Bonner** H. Facilities - June 2025 Report
- J. Daughtry** I. Columbus Police Department - June 2025 Report
- G. Irby** J. Planning & Community Development, - June 2025 Report
- P. Mitchell** K. Human Resources - June 2025 Report
- C. Bush** L. Public Works - June 2025 Report
- G. Lewis** M. Columbus Recreation Department- June 2025 Report
- S. James** N. Code Enforcement Report- June 2025 Report
- G. Drake** O. IT - June 2025 Report
- J. Brigham** P. Finance - June 2025 Report
- J. Garrett** Q. Board Vacancies

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

1 Vacancy, 3-Year Term, Term Expires 03/03/2026

Whirlie Byrd Resigned June 17, 2025

Appointment will be made August 5, 2025.

David Armstrong

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Term Expires 09/05/2027

Jason Spears Resigned June 27, 2025.

Appointment will be made August 5, 2025.

Marcus Hunter

Robert Cooper

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

1 Vacancy, 4-Year Term, Term Expires 06/20/2027.

Tiffany Turner Resigned July 9, 2025.
Appointment will be made August 19, 2025.

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

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| S. James | A. | Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket |
| D. Hughes | B. | Discuss/Approve the promotion of one (1) Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from Engineer to Captain, effective date July 21, 2025. |
| D. Hughes | C. | Discuss/Approve the promotion of two (2) Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from Certified Firefighters to Engineers, effective date July 21, 2025. |
| J. Daughtry | D. | Discuss/Approve request to hire two (2) entry-level officers contingent upon successful completion of preliminary testing. |
| Z. Foster | E. | Discuss/Approve acceptance of FAA AIP Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for Phase I (site prep) of the CLCA AWOS project. |
| Z. Foster | F. | Discuss/Approve awarding of the Base Bid and Additive Alternate No. 1 for Phase I of the CLCA AWOS project to Castle Energy Group, in the total amount of \$71,243.00. |
| Z. Foster | G. | Discuss/Approve Engineering Agreement for CLCA's Open Hangar Construction project. |
| Z. Foster | H. | Discuss/Approve contract to acquire the 22 additional easements for Add Alternate A & B in the amount of \$17,699.17. |
| Z. Foster | I. | Discuss/Approve the installation of one speed hump between Warpath Road and Fallwood Drive and one speed hump between Fallwood Drive and Belmont Drive. |
| Z. Foster | J. | Discuss/Approve awarding the Pedestrian Improvements along 5th Street North Bid to the lowest responsive bidder, Burns Dirt Construction, in the amount of \$1,495,540.15. |
| J. Garrett | K. | Discuss/Approve to hire a Part-Time Interim Court Administrator at \$30.00 per hour contingent upon successful completion of preliminary testing. |
| J. Garrett | L. | Discuss/Approve the promotion of (1) Deputy Court Clerk to Chief Deputy Court Clerk, effective date July 15, 2025. |
| G. Drake | M. | Discuss/Approve fuel management system installation in the amount of \$37,384.00. |

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Personnel (1)