

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 September 16, 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 September 2, 2025 Meeting

IV. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

A. Approve Docket of Claims for September 16, 2025

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- D. Hughes** A. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$975.00.
- D. Hughes** B. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Mississippi Fire Investigators Association Fall Conference" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$935.00.
- D. Hughes** C. Approve request for two (2) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Tactical Emergency Casualty Care" 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.
- J. Daughtry** D. Approve permit request submitted by Irena McClain, on behalf of Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi, to host "Mississippi's Walk for Diabetes — Columbus/Golden Triangle" to be held on October 26, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Riverwalk. See attached map.
- D. Hughes** E. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel, effective October 1, 2025, and approve compensation for any unused leave.
- J. Daughtry** F. Approve permit request submitted by Janice Richmond and Jaquise Frison, on behalf of Mt. Zion M.B. Church, to host "Mt. Zion M.B. Church Annual Parade" to be held on November 1, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. starting at Genesis Church, 1820 - 23rd Street North to 14th Avenue North at Mt. Zion M.B. Church to a lot at 2010 - 14th Avenue North which is across from Wells Cleaners and next to Skeets.

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| J. Garrett | G. | Approve request for City Council to attend the Foundations of Municipal Government CMO Elective Course on November 20, 2025, in Oxford, MS and payment of registration fee(s) and mileage. |
| J. Garrett | H. | Approve permit request submitted by Victim's Advocate to host a "Domestic Violence Awareness Candlelight Vigil" to be held on October 7, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the Municipal Complex, 1501 Main Street. |
| J. Garrett | I. | Approve request for Administration Personnel to become a Notary Public at an approximate cost of \$250.00. |
| J. Daughtry | J. | Approve permit request submitted by Rosalynn Merchant, on behalf of First Methodist Church, Annunciation Catholic Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, to host a "Fall Festival" to be held on October 26, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. See attached map. |
| J. Daughtry | K. | Approve request for one (1) CPD personnel to attend "Accident Reconstruction Level II" to be held in Pearl, Mississippi and approve payment for registration, lodging, meals and travel in the estimated amount of \$1,700.00. |
| J. Daughtry | L. | Approve request for three (3) CPD personnel to attend the "Annual Police Motorcycle Skills Training" to be held in Gonzales, Louisiana and approve payment for registration, lodging, meals and travel expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,344.33 each. |
| D. Hughes | M. | Ratification of request to purchase A/C Unit for Fire Station 2 in the amount of \$6,458.57 charged to 001-016-559-000. |
| J. Brigham | N. | Approve 2% Tourism Tax payment of \$25,000 to Lowndes County, \$20,833.37 to Golden Triangle Development LINK, \$33,333.37 to the City of Columbus and \$144,458.49 to Columbus Visitors Bureau, all disbursements totaling \$223,625.23. |

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

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| | A. | Comments from Mayor & Council |
| J. Spears | | Highway 45 South Drain Project Update |
| G. Jefferson | | 4th Avenue North, 15 Street North & Lee Park Update |
| R. Smith | | Gaylane Drive ditch-North of Highway 182 Update |
| E. Stewart | | 15th Street South and 10th Avenue South Update |
| W. Langford | B. | Garage - August 2025 Report |
| R. Bonner | C. | Facilities - August 2025 Report |
| J. Daughtry | D. | Columbus Police Department - August 2025 Report |
| C. Bush | E. | Public Works - August 2025 Report |
| S. James | F. | Code Enforcement - August 2025 Report |
| G. Lewis | G. | Columbus Recreation Department - August 2025 Report |
| P. Mitchell | H. | Human Resources - August 2025 Report |
| D. Hughes | I. | Columbus Fire & Rescue - August 2025 Report |
| G. Drake | J. | Information Technology - August 2025 Report |
| N. Katona | K. | Building Inspection - August 2025 Report |
| L. Dismukes | L. | Community Outreach - August 2025 Report |
| G. Irby | M. | Planning & Community Development - August 2025 Report |

J. Brigham N. Finance - August 2025 Report

J. Garrett O. Board Vacancies

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

2 Vacancies, Chuck Bigelow and MacArthur Inge's Terms Expire 10/04/2025
Appointments will be made October 21, 2025.

Chuck Bigelow

COLUMBUS-LOWNDES LIBRARY BOARD

1 Vacancy, Randi Robison's Term Expires 10/16/2025.
Appointment will be made October 21, 2025.

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD

1 Vacancy, Chris Chain's Term Expires 09/15/2025.
Appointment will be made September 16, 2025.

Chris Chain

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

1 Vacancy, William Bart Lawrence Jr's Term Expires 09/20/2025.
Appointment will be made September 16, 2025.

Mary Jeter

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

J. Garrett A. Joe Dillon - FOIA Cost

J. Garrett B. Brad Morris - PFAS Lawsuit

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

S. James A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

K. Stafford B. Discuss/Approve Internet Sales Tax Plan.

G. Irby C. Consider/Approve reopening Emergency Repair Grant Program.

J. Turnage D. Consider/Approve Resolution approving PSA, Redevelopment Agreement, Escrow Agreement, Option to Purchase, Memorandum of Option and Real Estate License Agreement.

J. Turnage E. Discuss/Approve Resolution Vacating and Closing portions of unopened and unimproved section of First Street South beginning at the southern edge of 8th Avenue South, and continuing South across 9th Avenue South, unopened and unimproved section of 8th Avenue South beginning at the western edge of First Street South and unopened and unimproved section of 9th Avenue North lying West of 2nd Street South.

G. Lewis F. Discuss/Approve request to fill the vacant Sim Scott Supervisor position in the Recreation Department pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.

R. Bonner G. Discuss/Approve price increases for Friendship Cemetery lots, grave openings/closings and exhumations.

J. Garrett H. Discuss/Approve request to fill two (2) Deputy Court Clerk vacancies in the Court Division, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.

J. Garrett I. Discuss/Approve proposed Organization Chart.

J. Brigham J. Discuss/Accept the 2022 Audit.

J. Garrett K. Discuss/Approve awarding Propst Park Activity Center Bid to the lowest responsive bidder, Turner Excavating and Erosion, LLC in the amount of \$41,800.

R. Bonner L. Discuss/Approve repairs to the chiller at the J.M. Convention Center.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

 A. Personnel Matters (8)