

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS January 7, 2025

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 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, the 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. Leonardo Dismukes to offer the Invocation.

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Mayor Gaskin reported that his office received a resignation letter from Election Commissioner, George Sumrall and asked the Council how they wished to proceed.

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to table the appointment tonight and vote on both appointments at the same time.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Councilwoman Stewart made a substitute motion to vote separately on the Election Commission vacancy tonight. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion. Mayor Gaskin asked if there was any discussion. Councilwoman DiCicco remarked that the vacancies are not posted on the City's website and even other Election Commission members weren't aware of the vacancies. Mayor Gaskin responded that the first vacancy was advertised in the Packet, but at a shorter time frame due to the upcoming training.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Jones made a substitute motion to add vote on both vacant Election Commission vacancies tonight, so they can participate in the upcoming training. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve 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 17, 2024.

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of December 17, 2024. Councilwoman Stewart 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, Houston Ballard, to attend the "Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations" class to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses and any other expenses in the total estimated cost of \$400.00.
- B. Approve request for Fire & Rescue personnel, Joseph Denton, to attend the "NFPA 1021-Fire Officer" training to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, total cost of \$500.00.
- C. Ratify approval of request to send four (4) CPD Officers to the "North Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Center" in Tupelo, MS and approve cost of reimbursable tuition of \$4,000.00 per officer and clothing allowance, not to exceed \$350.00 per officer.
- D. Approve request for CPD Sergeant Sam Jackson to attend a "Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Course" to be held in Atlanta, GA, and approve payment of registration, lodging, parking, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, total cost of \$1,547.00.
- E. Accept letter of resignation from Public Works Laborer, Henry Mays, effective January 9, 2025 and request authorization to follow normal recruitment process.

- F. Approve request for payment of webmaster's service in the amount of \$658.34.

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Mickens 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:

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for January 7, 2025, in the amount of \$1,363,202.12. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion. CFO, Jim Brigham offered comments about the Docket of Claims stating that approximately \$800,000 of this amount is a one-time payment.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Mayor Gaskin began by stating that we are facing some extremely cold weather this week and reminded everyone to remember the four (4) Ps: People, Pets, Pipes and Plants. There have been some concerns about the homeless keeping warm during this weather, so we met with Emergency Management and I have invited some key people to this meeting to discuss plans: Ms. Cindy Lawrence with Emergency Management, Ms. Susan Garton with the Homeless Coalition, Rev. Leonardo Dismukes with Community Outreach, Ms. Glenda Richardson with the Columbus Police Department and Ms. Renee Sanders with United Way were present and updated the Mayor and Council on plans. A temporary Homeless Shelter will be opened at Genesis Church, located at 1820 23rd Street North. Volunteers, food, blankets, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, towels and pillows are needed. The drop-off location will be at Community Outreach. Council Member Mickens asked if the City could contribute funds to the cause. The General Counsel remarked that the City can contribute funds, providing that the agency can match the amount; however, the City cannot use City facilities for this purpose. Council Member Mickens made a motion to contribute up to \$2,000 to United Way for this cause that will be paid out of special funds. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

B. Swearing in of two (2) Fire and Rescue Firefighters

**VICTORIA CULPEPPER
JAMES DUNNAM**

Chief Hughes came forward and introduced Firefighters Victoria Culpepper and James Dunnam. Mayor Gaskin swore in both Firefighters as they recited the Oath of Office. Members of the Fire and Rescue Command Staff were present to present the Firefighters with their helmets.

C. Presentation of Commendation to Officer Dijon Shields

Officer Dijon Shields could not be present.

D. Board Vacancies

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

COLUMBUS HOUSING AUTHORITY

2 Vacancies, 5-Year Terms, Greg Lewis resigned November 20, 2024; his Term expires July 5, 2025. Glenda Richardson resigned November 20, 2024; her Term expires July 7, 2025..
Appointments will be made January 21, 2025.

APPLICANT:

Reggilond Taylor
Whirlie Byrd
Bo Harrison
Lillian Granderson-Daughtry

TREE BOARD

2 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms, Expire January 2, 2025.
Appointments will be made January 21, 2025.

There are no applicants at this time.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSION

2 Vacancies, 4-Year Terms, Lavonne Latham Harris resigned. Her Term will expire June 30, 2025. George T. Sumrall resigned. His Term will expire June 30, 2025.

Appointments will be made January 7, 2025.

APPLICANTS:

Beverly Odom
Helen Pridmore

Council Member Jones made a motion to appoint Beverly Odom and Helen Pridmore to the Municipal Election Commission for the remainder of the unexpired terms, June 30, 2025. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

2 Vacancies, 4-Year Terms, Lesia Jackson's Term Expires December 20, 2024. Kathy Goodwin's Term Expires December 31, 2024.

Appointments will be made January 7, 2025.

APPLICANT:

Lesia T. Jackson

Council Member Jones made a motion to reappoint Lesia Jackson to the Golden Triangle Regional Waste Management Authority Board for a 4-Year Term, until December 20, 2028. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

A. Patricia Shannon Evans - Burns Bottom Historic Marker Placement

Ms. Patricia Shannon Evans came before the Mayor and Council to discuss the Burns Bottom Historic Marker Placement and distributed a picture of the Marker. It will be 9' tall and she discussed the placement of this Marker with Council Members and Lowndes County Supervisors. A \$15,000 grant has been secured. She is searching for additional funds and "in-kind" donations. Ms. Evans asked the City for an "in-kind" contribution to locate the Marker near the Hitching Lot where it will be highly visible. A committee, consisting of Council Member Jones, Supervisor Smith, Mona Vance at the Public Library and a member from the CCVB, will be established. Council Member

Jones made a motion to approve the request, pending the City Engineer's approval. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

MS STATE OF TAX/SALE
c/o SEC. OF STATE/PUBLIC FUNDS
4th Avenue South
CASE NUMBER: 24-0400 Overgrown Lot

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0400**. 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 Greene 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. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

JOHN JOHNSON
2424 6th Avenue North
CASE NUMBER: 23-0401 Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0401**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated that the owner of this property has requested a 30-day extension; however, his intent is to demolish the structure. The property is in such a state of uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to give the property owner a **30-day extension** to remediate the property. Ms. James also recommends that an Order be issued

for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

JONES & FREDA ENTERPRIZE LLC

c/o FREDDIE H. JONES

2507 5th Avenue North

CASE NUMBER: 24-0402

Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0402**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated that the owner of this property has made substantial improvement to the conditions of the property and recommended giving the property owner a **7-day extension** to remediate the property. The property is in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to give the property owner a **7-day extension** to remediate the property. Ms. James also recommends that an Order be issued for the property in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, 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 remove rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

MARY P. HARRIS

208 Byrnes Circles

CASE NUMBER: 24-0404

Dilapidated / Burned Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **24-400**. Mary P. Harris, property owner came forward and stated that she plans to sell the house and has received offers. She requested more time to review the offers and consult with a legal advisor. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property is in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and recommends giving the

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property owner a **45-day extension** and to enter the proposed Order under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, finding that this property was in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. This Order should provide for such re-entry as the Statute allows. Council Member Mickens made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 to grant a **45-day extension** and for an Order stating the City may remediate the property with respect to 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 immediately following the Order, with further notice to the owner as required by law. Costs are to be assessed as allowed under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

SHANNON COCKRELL

2714 7th Avenue North

CASE NUMBER: 24-0406

Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0406**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of uncleanness 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 Beard 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

\$250.00 OR LESS CASES:

Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, presented four (4) cases, \$250.00 or less for adjudication. Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to accept the

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notices for property clean-up of properties \$250.00 and less to be adjudicated according to statute. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members present voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

THE LIST FOLLOWS:

\$250 OR LESS Derelict Properties for January 7, 2025 Mayor and City Council Meeting

Case # and Violation	Ward	Name and Address	Notes
24-0408 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	JOHNNY BOBO 1019 Moss Street	
24-0409 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	1	JOHNNY DEE JR. / ANNA BETH PRESLEY 208 20 th Street South	
24-0411 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	DWAYNE A. / VERNON L. FULTON 2612 5 th Avenue North	
24-0412 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	4	ONE MORGAN PROPERTIES LLC 96 Luxapalila Drive	

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BOBO JOHNNY
206 MICHAEL DR
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

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

RE: 1019 MOSS ST
APN: 56W20-03-04000
Case No: CE-24-0408
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: December 12, 2024

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 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 19th day of December, 2024, 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, 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 19, 2024

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 662-245-3063 or 662-245-3670.

This is the 12th day of December, 2024.

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 12, 2024

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: December 12, 2024

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 12, 2024

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

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

PRESLEY JOHNNY DEE JR / ANNA BETH
945 JAMAICA RD
VENICE, FL 34293

RE: 208 20TH ST S
APN: 61W11-01-10900
Case No: CE-24-0409
Office: Sasha James - Ward 1

Date: December 12, 2024

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 (1,500), 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 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 19th day of December, 2024, 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, 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 19, 2024

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 the expense of cleaning of 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 the 12th day of December, 2024.
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 12, 2024

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: December 12, 2024

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 12, 2024

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

ONE MORGAN PROPERTIES LLC
2141 WATERFORD CIRCLE
TUSCALOOSA, AL 35403

RE: 96 LUXAPALULA DR
APN: 61W05-01-01000
Case No. CE-24-0412
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: December 12, 2024

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 19th day of December, 2024, 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 21-19-21, and other debris, and draining cesspools and standing water therefrom.

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) (b)(6) 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 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 12th day of December, 2024.
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 required to be posted, 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 12, 2024

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: December 12, 2024

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 12, 2024

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

B. Discuss/Approve Promotion of two (2) Columbus Fire and Rescue personnel from Probation Firefighters to Certified Firefighters, effective January 7, 2025.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to promote two (2) Entry-Level Firefighters: Victoria Culpepper and James Dunnam, to Certified Firefighters with the proper pay increase. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. Discuss/Approve hiring one (1) Certified Police Officer, contingent upon successful completion of preliminary testing.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to hire Kutenia H. Brooks as a certified Police Officer, contingent on successful completion of all preliminary testing. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

D. Discuss/Approve replacing seventeen (17) low voltage LED light bulbs for 7th and 14th Avenue North, in the amount of \$7,142.04 and the upgrade cost of \$79.67 per month.

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the request to **replace seventeen (17) low voltage LED light bulbs for 7th and 14th Avenue North, in the amount of \$7,142.04 and the upgrade cost of \$79.67 per month.** Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

E. Discuss/Approve moving three (3) exempt employees to hourly status for compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to move three (3) Exempt employees to hourly status for compliance with the Fair Labor

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Standards Act. The employees are the Court Administrator, Community Outreach Coordinator and Code Enforcement Officer. Council Member Mickens 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

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