

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS April 1, 2025

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the City Hall Court Room, located at 523 Main Street, 2nd Floor. 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:

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. 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 MARCH 18, 2025.

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of March 18, 2025. 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: William Boyd, to attend "Firefighter Intervention Rescue Survival Techniques" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$500.00.

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025

- B. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Donald Buckner and Roderick Dillard, to attend “NFPA 1033-Fire Investigator+ to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$1,500.00.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Eric Minga, to attend “Machine Rescue” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel, and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$500.00.
- D. Approve request for five (5) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend “Graduation – NFPA 1001-Basic Firefighter” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve use of city vehicles for travel, total estimated cost of \$150.00.
- E. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Clayton Aldridge, to “FDIC International Fire Conference” to be held in Indianapolis, IN, and approve use of city vehicle for travel and fuel cost, and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$250.00.
- F. Approve request for CPD personnel, Chief Joseph Daughtry and Assistant Chief Doran Johnson, to attend the “2025 MS Association of Chiefs of Police Summer Educational Conference” to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel, and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$2,641.91.
- G. Approve request for CPD personnel, Kutenia Brooks and Mark Underwood, to attend “Mississippi Command College” to be held in Oxford, MS, and approve payment for registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimated cost of \$2,670.00.
- H. Approve permit request submitted by Mary Coleman, on behalf of “We Are Southside,” to host a “Southside Homecoming Parade” to be held on July 4, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., starting at Mitchell Elementary School, 15th Street South to Hank Aaron Park, 11th Avenue South. *See attached map.*
- I. Approve permit request submitted by Joyce Dumas, on behalf of the Family Advocacy Program, to host a “Chile Abuse Awareness Parade with Stokes Beard Elementary School” to be held on April 17, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., starting at Stokes Beard Elementary School, 311 South Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, right on Highway 182, right on 24th Street North, right on 5th Avenue North and back to 311 MLK Jr. Drive.

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025

- J. Approve permit request submitted by Johnathan West, on behalf of Carter's Funeral Services, to host "VPC Memorial and Community Fellowship" to be held on April 19, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., at 602 14th Street North, blocking 14th Street North at 6th Avenue North and 7th Avenue North..
- K. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Annual Partnership and Awards Celebration" to be held on April 17, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Leadership Plaza, the 400 Block of College Street and to serve beer/wine on a complimentary basis. *See attached map.*
- L. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Market Street Festival" to be held on May 3, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in downtown Columbus and to sell beer during the festival. *See attachments.*
- M. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Armed Forces Appreciation Day" to be held on May 17, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- N. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Lemonade Day and Summer Sidewalk Sale" to be held on June 14, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- O. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Downtown Art Walk" to be held on October 11, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- P. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Downtown Christmas Open House" to be held on November 7 – 9, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- Q. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Small Business Saturday" to be held on November 29, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- R. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Wassail Fest" to be held on December 5, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.

- S. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Game Day Kick-Off" to be held on August 23, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- T. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host "Let's Flamingle Downtown" to be held on July 11, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Leadership Plaza.
- U. Approve permit request submitted by Sharon Johnson, on behalf of Columbus-Lowndes Convention & Visitors Bureau, to host a Memorial Day Event, to be held on May 24, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Riverside Park Stage.
- V. Approve Annual Market Street Festival Funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 pursuant to the Inter-local Agreement.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Greene 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 April 1, 2025, in the amount of \$763,333.80. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion. CFO, Jim Brigham thanked Linda Holliman and Pat Mitchell for taking on these added tasks and preparing the Docket of Claims.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Mayor Gaskin reminded citizens that today is the Municipal Primary Election and encouraged them to go VOTE.

The City experienced a delay in transporting ballot boxes to one precinct this morning at 7:00 a.m., which caused the polls to open at that location approximately forty-five (45) minutes late. We have obtained a court order to leave that polling place open until 7:45 p.m. This matter was cleared through the Secretary of State and Judge Kitchens.

Mayor Gaskin thanked the Election Commissioners, Poll Workers, Resolution Board and all that worked with the election.

B. Shirley Ann Verdell – 58 Years of Service to Head Start

Councilwoman Stewart and Council Member Jones offered a Special Presentation and Proclamation to Ms. Shirley Ann Verdell, who has rendered 58 years of dedicated service to Coleman Head Start Center. Council Member Stewart remarked that Ms. Verdell is an Educator and has taught him and his twin sister in Head Start. Today is her birthday and we wish her a happy birthday. Councilwoman Stewart read a Proclamation honoring Ms. Shirley Ann Verdell for 58 years of tireless service as an Educator, providing foundational education for thousands of students. Ms. Verdell is also an evangelist, traveling throughout Mississippi teaching the Gospel of Christ, and proclaimed today, April 1, 2025 as “SHIRLEY ANN VERDELL DAY” in Columbus, Mississippi. Ms. Verdell offered words of thanks and appreciation, remarking that she loves children and she loves seeing them prosper.

C. Board Vacancies

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

Tony L. Woodfin, Jr. – Fathers’ Rights

Mr. Tony Woodfin, Jr. appeared before the Mayor and City Council with concerns for Fathers’ Rights, stating that as a new father at age 36, he is not permitted to see his 2-month old son. His purpose of being here tonight is for awareness, stating that he is in favor of mothers’ rights, but he should not be withheld from seeing and holding his child. Something should be done. Mr. Woodfin’s concerns were taken under consideration.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

212 INVESTMENTS LLC
c/o SCOTT ESSICK
1201 7th Street North
CASE NUMBER: 25-0064

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0064**. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated that the owner contacted her and requested an extension of time to remediate this property and she 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

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025

Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code. Council Member Mickens 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. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

ROBERT TURNIPSEED

1423 8th Avenue North &

803 15th Street North

CASE NUMBER: 25-0069

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0069**. Mr. Turnipseed appeared and offered remarks, stating that he was working on the house and was ordered to cease work. Council Member Jones made a motion to table action on this case until the April 15, 2025 Council Meeting. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

CHARLIE / TAMAKA JOHNSON

1801 Washington Avenue

CASE NUMBER: 25-0063

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0063**. 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 Mickens 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.

CANA PROPERTIES
c/o WILLIAM D. SMITH
1201 4th Street South
CASE NUMBER: 25-0065

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0065**. 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. Councilwoman Stewart 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 DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

BEN STINSON
1317 7th Avenue North
CASE NUMBER: 25-0070

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0070**. The Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, reported that this property owner has requested a **30-day** extension to remediate the property. 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. Council Member Jones 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

ANDRA WILLIAMS

711 7th Street South

CASE NUMBER: 25-0072

Abandoned Structure

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0072**. 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. Councilwoman Stewart 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 DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0

RICHARD / CREOLA DUFF YOUNG

2024 College Street

CASE NUMBER: 24-0369

Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0369**. Richard & Creola Duff Young appeared and the General Contractor, Marvin Lyles, participated in the meeting via ZOOM. The General Contractor remarked that the structure has integrity and is now structurally sound, now, cosmetic work is needed. Building Official, Kenny Wiegel verified the statement. The Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, reported that this property the property owners have made significant progress and requested an enlargement of time. The Contractor added that he is not the hold up; the property owners need to raise more funds before additional work can be completed. The Council engaged in

a discussion and suggested to the property owners to do what they can, noting that they normally give a **45-day extension** and they can return to the Council and give an update on their progress. Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James stated that 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 **45-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 Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0

B. Discuss/Approve the Installation of two (2) Speed humps on 11th Avenue North between 18th Street and 20th Street.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to approve the Installation of two (2) Speed humps on 11th Avenue North between 18th Street and 20th Street. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

C. Discuss/Approve Professional Services Contract for Drainage Easement Creation and Acquisition Services in the amount of \$64,954.61.

Kevin Stafford, dba Neel-Schaffer, Inc., appeared and discussed this project and stated that the City can use ARPA funds for reimbursement. 45 of the 85 easements have been acquired. Council Member Greene made a motion to table this request. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

D. Discuss/Approve Closeout Change Order items for the Propst Park Softball Field contracts.

Greg Lewis, Director of Recreation, came before the Mayor and Council and requested Closeout Change Order items that developed when the contractor was completing work in the amount of \$9,128.20. Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the Closeout Change Order items for the Propst Park Softball Field contract. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

THE CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025

CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER

OWNER: CITY OF COLUMBUS

CONTRACTOR: WEATHERS CONSTRUCTION, INC.

DATE: 04/02/2025

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 PROJECT NO.: NS.02409.023.019.01

PROJECT NAME: Propst Park – Lower Fields Softball Conversion: Infield Dirt Conversion

REASON FOR CHANGE: Wood Protection on Slab, Additional Fill (Owner Change of Fields), Demolish and Fill Unknown Underground Box, Additional Anchors (Owner requested)

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED TO COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES FROM THE CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF REQUIRED)

ITEM NO.	PAY ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL CONTRACT ADJUSTMENT
1	Install 2x6 boards on infield side of concrete.	LS	1	\$3,805.00	\$3,805.00
2	Select Fill	LS	1	\$1,556.00	\$1,556.00
3	Demolish and Fill Unknown Underground Box	LS	1	\$3,367.20	\$3,367.20
4	Three (3) Additional Base Anchors Installed	LS	1	\$400.00	\$400.00
NET CHANGE (INCREASE) THIS CHANGE ORDER					\$9,128.20
ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT					\$161,600.00
CURRENT CONTRACT AMOUNT					\$161,600.00
CHANGE (INCREASE) PER CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1					\$9,128.20
REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT					\$170,728.20
CURRENT CONTRACT TIME (Calendar Days)			Calendar Days		90
TIME EXTENSION REQUIRED BY CHANGE			Calendar Days		0
REVISED CONTRACT TIME			Calendar Days		90

THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT AND ALL PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACT WILL APPLY.

RECOMMENDED BY: Carina Grieve 4/2/2025
ENGINEER DATE
ACCEPTED BY: John S. White 04/02/2025
CONTRACTOR DATE
APPROVED BY: Keith Galk 04/02/2025
OWNER DATE

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025



"Serving The South Since 1982" 1396 Hwy. 69 South • Columbus, MS 39702 • Phone (662) 327-1402 • Fax (662) 327-7086

February 27, 2025

Quote # 25045

Carisa Grieve, P.E.
Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
P: 660.238.3922

RE: 2" x 6" Concrete Protection

Mrs. Grieve,

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this work for you. This quote is for the following scope of work:

- Provide and install approx. 464' of 2"x6" treated wood for Concrete Protection.
 - 2" x 6" x 12' treated lumber
 - 1/4" x 2-3/4" Tapcons
 - Tools & Labor
 - Tax & Bond
- Utilizing the excerpt from C5.00 "Attached" WCI proposes to provide the above-mentioned items for the total sum of **\$3,805.00**

*If any item or feature of work is not stated above it will be considered an exclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this project for you, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Lee Colvin

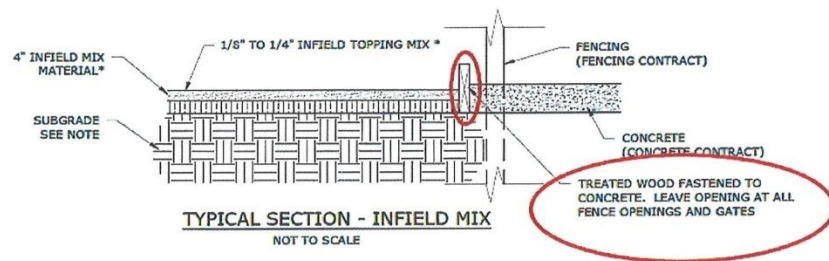
Lee Colvin
Weathers Construction, Inc.

NOTE: WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THIS BID IF NOT ACCEPTED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

ACCEPTED BY: _____

DATE: _____

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025



MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025



"Serving The South Since 1982"

1396 Hwy. 69 South • Columbus, MS 39702 • Phone (662) 327-1402 • Fax (662) 327-7086

March 7, 2025

Quote # 24262-PCO2r2

Carisa Grieve, P.E.
Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
P: 660.238.3922

RE: PCO 2r2 - Select Fill for Two (2) Fields at Propst Park

Mrs. Grieve,

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this work for you. This quote is for the following scope of work:

- Change Order – Select Fill for Patterson & Garton Fields

No existing grades were given on the Revision Plans Dated 12/08/2024 "Change Project Fields". After Grading we have discovered areas that need fill and to be graded out to make the fields comply with project plans and specifications. This portion of the project has already been completed as of 3/06/2025 and the breakdown and total are below.

• (32) Yards Plus Hauling Patterson & Garton fields Select Fill	\$ 480.00
• Equipment – CatD4, Skid Steer, Packer	\$ 400.00
• Labor – (1) Operators, (1) Laborers	\$ 676.00
	Total: \$1,556.00

*If any item or feature of work is not stated above it will be considered an exclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this project for you, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Lee Colvin

Lee Colvin
Weathers Construction, Inc.

NOTE: WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW THIS BID IF NOT ACCEPTED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

ACCEPTED BY: _____

DATE: _____

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025



"Serving The South Since 1982" 1396 Hwy. 69 South • Columbus, MS 39702 • Phone (662) 327-1402 • Fax (662) 327-7086

March 17, 2025

Quote # 24262-PCO3

Carisa Grieve, P.E.
Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
P: 660.238.3922

RE: PCO3 – Reveal and Fill Unknown Underground Box

Mrs. Grieve,

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this work for you. This quote is for the following scope of work:

- Provide Materials, Labor, & Equipment
- Removal & Disposal of 2" Creosote Boards
- No Mobilization added
- Materials: Two Prices Given Below, one (1) with select fill & one (1) with sand

(Select Fill)	52yards \$15.00 per yard delivered	\$ 780.00
• Labor - (1) Superintendent, (1) Operator		\$1,176.00
• Sod		\$ 300.00
• Equipment – (Select Fill)		
▪ Skid Steer		\$ 200.00
▪ Mini Excavator		\$ 175.00
▪ 54" Compactor		\$ 175.00
▪ Overhead and Profit		\$ 561.20
(Select Fill)		Total: \$3,367.20

(Sand)	64 tons \$20.00 a Ton delivered	\$1,280.00
• Labor – (1) Superintendent, (1) Operator		\$1,176.00
• Sod		\$ 300.00
▪ Equipment – (Sand)		
▪ Skid Steer		\$200.00
▪ Mini Excavator		\$175.00
▪ 54" Compactor		\$175.00
▪ Water Truck + Water		\$300.00
▪ Overhead and Profit		\$721.20
(Sand)		Total: \$4,327.20

*If any item or feature of work is not stated above it will be considered an exclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this project for you, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

E. Discuss/Approve applying for LCF Grant for the Columbus Recreation Department Fossil Park, in the amount of \$20,000.00 with no match.

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the request to apply for LCF Grant for the Columbus Recreation Department Fossil Park, in the amount of \$20,000.00 with no match. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

F. Discuss/Approve Resolution applying for the Mississippi Recreational Trails Grant for the Propst Park Fossil Park, in the amount of \$90,353.00 with a 20% match in the amount of \$17,526.60.

Susan Wilder, Grant Writer/Administrator appeared before the Mayor and City Council and requested to approve the Resolution to apply for the Mississippi Recreational Trails Grant for the Propst Park Fossil Park, in the amount of \$90,353.00 with a 20% match in the amount of \$17,526.60 and added that she feel assured that she can raise the funds. The City will be required to pay the amount in full and get reimbursed.. If the grant is awarded and the matching funds are not available, the City has the right to reject the grant. Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the request to apply for the Mississippi Recreational Trails Grant for the Propst Park Fossil Park. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion and the Mayor called for the vote as follows:

Ethel Stewart	voted: <u>YES</u>
Joseph Mickens, Sr.	voted: <u>YES</u>
Rusty Greene	voted: <u>YES</u>
Pierre Beard, Sr.	voted: <u>YES</u>
Stephen Jones	voted: <u>YES</u>
Jacqueline DiCicco	voted: <u>YES</u>

The Mayor declared the Resolution adopted this the 1st day of April, 2025.

THE RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 1, 2025

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

AUTHORIZATION OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI TO APPLY FOR A RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS FOR A CRETACEOUS WALKING TRAIL AND GEOLOGICAL TIMELINE AT PROPOST PARK AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE APPLICATION.

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks is accepting applications for their Recreational Trails Grant Program; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus, Mississippi desires to participate in this grant program to enhance Propst Park's educational opportunities through the development of a Cretaceous Fossil Park, specifically a Cretaceous Walking Trail and Geological Timeline, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus will have available local matching funds to fulfill its share of the grant should it be awarded; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus will provide adequate funding for on-going operations and maintenance of the park and recreation facility improvements should the grant funds be awarded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The City Council demonstrates its support for the submittal of a grant application to the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Recreational Trails Program Grant for the development of a Cretaceous Walking Trail and Geological Timeline at Propst Park.

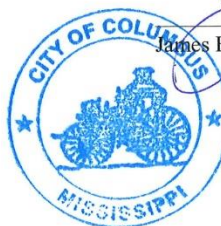
Section 2: This Resolution shall be effective following its adoption by the City Council.

At a regular meeting of the Columbus City Council, a motion was made by Greene to authorize the submittal of the Recreational Trails Program Grant and to authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City, and seconded by DiCicco.

Councilwoman Ethel Taylor Stewart –	Ward 1	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Joseph Mickens –	Ward 2	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Rusty Green -	Ward 3	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Pierre Beard -	Ward 4	<u>Yes</u>
Councilman Stephen Jones -	Ward 5	<u>Yes</u>
Councilwoman Jackie DiCicco -	Ward 6	<u>Yes</u>

Attest:

Keith Gaskin
Keith Gaskin, Mayor



James Brigham
James Brigham, City Clerk

G. Discuss/Approve to hire one (1) seasonal worker for grass cutting at the Columbus Recreation Department and six (6) summer workers to supervise children at the Community centers during the summer for the Columbus Recreation Department.

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the request to hire one (1) seasonal worker for grass cutting at the Columbus Recreation Department and six (6) summer workers to supervise children at the Community centers during the summer for the Columbus Recreation Department. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

H. Approve request to purchase flowers from Murray's Nursery for \$9,205.00

Councilwoman Stewart made a motion to approve the request to purchase flowers from Murray's Nursery in Moss Point, MS in the amount of \$9,205.00. Main Street Columbus, Inc. has committed to paying ½ the cost. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

I. Discuss/Approve request to hire six (6) entry-level Police Officers, three (3) certified officers, one (1) lateral hire with rank, contingent upon successful completion of all preliminary testing.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to hire six (6) entry-level Police Officers: Genevia Buckhalter, Ladarrius Evans, Jalin Smith, Michael Vail, Michelle Prewitt and Dyana Weston, three (3) certified officers: Larry Rayburn, Marques Randolph, and Gregory Finney and one (1) lateral hire with rank, Scote Renfro, contingent upon 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.

J. Discuss/Approve extending Healthy Workplace Health Fair Incentive of up to twelve (12) hours with pay to be taken by May 31, 2025 for those employees who received an annual wellness physical.

HR Director reported that the deadline to take advantage of the Healthy Workplace Health Fair Incentive was set for March 31, 2025; however, there are some employees that have not been able to take the wellness day due to various circumstances. We are requesting an extension through May 31, 2025. Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the extension of Healthy Workplace Health Fair Incentive of up to twelve (12) hours with pay to be taken by May 31, 2025 for those employees who received an annual wellness physical. Council Member Beard 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, Councilwoman Stewart moved that the meeting be adjourned. Upon second by Council Member Greene and unanimous vote, the Mayor announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

Approved by: _____
Keith Gaskin, Mayor

James "Jim" Brigham
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer/Clerk

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)