

**SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS
OCTOBER 7, 2025
5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Stephen Jones presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present. Also present were the General Counsel, the COO, the CFO, the Police Chief, HR Director, and all other Department Heads.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Stephen Jones called the meeting to order and called upon Pastor David J. Johnson, pastor of 6th Avenue Baptist Church, to give the Invocation.

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the Agenda as prepared. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion

The motion carried 6/0.

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

- A. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of August 27, 2025. (a.m.)**
- B. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of August 27, 2025. (p.m.)**
- C. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of September 3, 2026.**
- D. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of September 9, 2025**
- E. Approve Minutes for Special Meeting of September 10, 2025**
- F. Approve Minutes for Meeting of September 16, 2025**

Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the Minutes for six (6) Meetings listed above. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

IV. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS

Council Member Spears made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for October 7, 2025 in the amount of \$1,665,617.15, excluding Docket Voucher numbers: 234520 (W T Consultants) in the amount of \$6,000, 234521 (W T Consultants) in the amount of \$6,000, 234792 (Stitch Dis & Dat) in the amount of \$47,693.55 and 234793 (Stitch Dis & Dat) in the amount of \$16,240.00. Council Member Harris seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

Council Member Spears made a motion to table the voucher numbers that were noted above until the next meeting to allow for further discussion, stating that he has not heard from W. T. Consultants since he has been elected. He has read the contract and ask that they be given a 15-day notice as stated in the contract and do not renew the contract beginning October 1, 2025. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Jefferson asked the COO about W. T. Consultants' contract and the services rendered on behalf of the City. COO Garrett remarked that they were helpful in securing \$6M in funding, together with Waggoner Engineering for the Blight Elimination Program, funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Amphitheatre, funding for the Blight Program, the Northeast MS Crime Center and a fire truck. The Council engaged in a discussion of the matter. Council Member Jefferson made a substitute motion to table the request to end the contract with W. T. Consultants. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

Council Members Stewart, Smith, Harris and Jefferson voted in favor of the motion. Council Members Greene and Spears opposed the motion.

The motion carried 4/2 with Councilmember Spears and Greene voting Nay.

Council Member Spears asked for additional information regarding, Voucher Numbers 234792 and 234793 for Stitch, Dis and Dat that are coded to be paid out of Special Projects and not the Police Department's budget. CFO James Brigham explained the coding and stated that CPD did not have adequate funds in its budget for the fiscal year just ended. Following discussion, Council Member Spears made a motion to approve payment of both vouchers to Stitch Dis & Dat totaling \$63,933.55. Councilmember Greene seconded the motion. The Council then voted 6/0 in favor of the motion.

The motion carried.

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Council Member Spears made a motion not to pay the invoices for W. T. Consultants. Council Member Harris seconded the motion. Mayor Jones remarked that he was just notified that the invoices from W.T. Consultants for work during the last fiscal year were already paid. Mayor Jones also remarked that because the aforementioned invoices were removed from the docket of claims and the issue of continuing their services has been tabled, there was no reason to move not to pay the claims. No action was taken.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve request for Mayor to attend the 2026 African American Mayors Association Annual Conference in Washington, DC, April 9 – 10, 2026 and approve payment of registration, lodging, travel, and meal expenses, in the total estimated cost of \$2,700.00.
- B. Approve request for Mayor, Council Members and General Counsel to attend the 2026 Mississippi Municipal League Mid-Winter Conference in Jackson, MS, to be held January 13 – 15, 2026, and approve payment of registration fees, lodging, travel and meal expenses, in the total estimated cost of \$7,000.
- C. Approve request for Public Works Assistant Director, Bennie Coleman, to attend the 2025 Mississippi APWA Fall Conference, to be held October 15 – 17, 2025, and approve payment of registration, lodging, travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, in the total estimated cost of \$1,136.95.
- D. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Timothy C. Birmingham, Justin, to attend “*NFPA 1002 Fire Apparatus Driver Operator*” to be held in Jackson, MS and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel. Books, reimbursement of meal expenses, total estimate cost of \$735.00.
- E. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Alan Lewis, to attend “Fire Management 101 class” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, in the total estimate cost of \$485.00.
- F. Approve request for CPD personnel (*no name*) to attend “Crisis Intervention Team Training” to be held in West Point, MS, and approve use of city vehicle for travel.

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- G. Approve permit request submitted by Shane Cruse, on behalf of Victory Tabernacle Church, to host a “Fall Block Party” to be held on October 25, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at 324 5th Street South. *See attached map.*
- H. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host “The Hitching Lot Holiday Cruise In” to be held on November 22, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Hitching Lot, blocking 3rd Street North at 2nd Avenue North and 3rd Avenue North.
- I. Approve permit request submitted by Barbara Bigelow, on behalf of Main Street Columbus, Inc., to host the “Christmas Parade” to be held on December 1, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. *See attached map*
- J. 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. in downtown Columbus. *See attached information.*
- K. Approve request for CPD personnel, Kennedy Meaders, to attend “Optional OC Instructor Certification” to be held on January 13 – 15, 2026, in Hoover, AL and approve payment of a \$100 refundable security deposit, lodging, use of a city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses in the total estimated cost of \$794.00.
- L. Approve request for Grant Writer/Administrator, Susan Wilder, to travel to D’Iberville, MS for the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security FY25 Grant Implementation/Orientation meeting.
- M. Approve permit request submitted by Blaine Walters, on behalf of The Bride & Groom, Inc. to block three (3) parking spaces at 120 5th Street South to host a Mother of the Bride & Groom Sale on October 17 – 18, 2025, blocking to begin the afternoon of Thursday, October 16, 2025, and extend until the morning of Monday, October 20, 2025.
- N. Approve request for CPD personnel to attend “Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis” to be held in Aberdeen, MS and approve payment of registration, travel and reimbursement of meal expenses, in the total estimated cost of 41,068.00.
- O. Approve request for CPD personnel to attend “Decide & Deploy K-9 and Handler Training” to be held in Gulfport, MS and approve payment of lodging, use of city vehicle for travel and reimbursement of meal expenses in the total estimated cost of \$298.00.

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- P. Approve request for Columbus Recreation Department personnel, Chanda Williams, to attend "Keep Mississippi Beautiful Affiliate Conference" to be held in Louisville, MS and approve payment of lodging, travel, and reimbursement of meal expenses, in the total estimated cost of \$320.00.
- Q. Approve request to pay Mississippi Municipal Workers Compensation Group premium amount of \$170,469.41.
- R. Approve permit request submitted by Councilman Roderick Smith, to block Lawrence Drive on August 9, 2025, for the first East Columbus Day Festival.

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Spears seconded the motion. Mayor Jones called for discussion, and there being none, all Council Members voted in favor of same, with a unanimous vote.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

A. Comments from Mayor and Council

Mayor Jones asked the Victims' Advocate Coordinator to come forward and read and presented a Proclamation to Ms. Dorothy Sanders in recognition of her commitment to battered women and their children and all victims of Domestic Violence and recognized October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

- Council Member Smith recognized Miss Karen Mullens, resident in Ward II who attends EMCC, is SGA Student Body President and is running for Homecoming Queen.
- Mayor Jones announced that CPD National Night Out on Crime has been postponed and will be rescheduled due to the weather forecast.
- Presentation of Columbus High School Homecoming Court will be held this evening at Columbus High School Gym. The Parade will begin at 5:00 on Thursday, October 9, 2025, and Tailgating will be held at 5:00 on Friday, October 10, 2025, at the Tennis Courts.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and ZUMBA IN PINK will be held Saturday, October 11, 2025, on the Riverwalk Stage at 11:00 a.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Imaging Center to provide free mammograms to women who do not have insurance or cannot pay for one.

B. Board Vacancies

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

2 Vacancies, 3-Year Terms, Chuck Bigelow and MacArthur Inge's Terms Expired October 4, 2025.

Appointments will be made October 21, 2025.

APPLICANT:

Chuck Bigelow

COLUMBUS-LOWNDES LIBRARY BOARD

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Randi Robison's Term Expires October 16, 2025

Appointment will be made October 21, 2025.

APPLICANT

Randi Robison

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

Nancy Carpenter – America 250

Ms. Nancy Carpenter came before the Mayor and Council and invited them to an event centered around America 250, in commemoration of America's 250 years of existence. In celebration of the event, a mobile trailer will be in Mississippi this month and in Columbus, Thursday, October 9. A kiosk will be inside, and visitors will have the opportunity to record a statement that will be archived. The public is invited.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

GRANDVIEW INVESTMENTS LLC

2400 Highway 45 North

CASE NUMBER: 25-0379

Overgrown Lot

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0039**. The Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, reported that this property owner has made progress on remediation of the overgrown lot, but needs a little more time to finish and she recommends a **15-day extension** to allow the property owner 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. Council Member Stewart made a motion to give the property owner a **15-day extension** to

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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 Harris seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0

JAMES A. / MARY D. LEWIS
c/o Tamica Patton
2205 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
CASE NUMBER: 25-0389 Abandoned Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0389**. 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 Jefferson 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 Harris seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

C L CLAY
1315 7th avenue North
CASE NUMBER: 25-0392 Dilapidated Structure
Property Maintenance Code Violation

The General Counsel called cause number **25-0392**. 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

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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 Jefferson 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 Harris 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 five (5) cases, \$250.00 or less for adjudication. Council Member Smith made a motion to accept the notices for property clean-up of properties \$250.00 and less to be adjudicated according to statute. Councilwoman Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

THE LIST FOLLOWS:

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

Case # and Violation	Ward	Name and Address	Notes
25-0396 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	1	KAWANIS FULGHAM 102 23rd Street South	
25-0398 <i>Overgrown Lot</i>	4	MAGGIE WILLIAMS ESTATE C/O OLLIE LESTER 510 Pear Street	
25-0399 <i>Overgrown Lot</i>	4	SHEILA M. HOOD 811 21st Street North	
25-0403 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	2	KO PROPERTIES LLC 518 Airline Road	
25-0404 <i>Overgrown Lot</i>	4	OSSIE TAYLOR / AAREN HUNTER 611 Peach Street	

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

FULGHAM KAWANIS L
1633 STEENS VERNON RD
STEENS, MS 39766

RE: 102 23RD ST S
APN: 61W12-00-03401
Case No: CE-25-0396
Officer: Sasha James - Ward 1

Date: September 25, 2025

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 2nd day of October, 2025, 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.

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 21-19-1(2) (a)&(b) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: September 25, 2025

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: September 25, 2025

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

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 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-1(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 21-19-1(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 25th day of September, 2025.

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 21-19-1(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/are 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 all valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: September 25, 2025

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

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OCTOBER 7, 2025



WILLIAMS MAGGIE ESTATE C/O OLLIE LESTER
1351 ROCKDALE DR
JACKSON, MS 39213

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

RF: 510 PEAR ST
APN: 61W06-03-05700
Case No: CE-25-0398
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: September 18, 2025

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:

- [X] 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 fences(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 25th day of September, 2025, 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:
302.4 - Overgrown Lot	Cut, trim, and maintain overgrown grass, hedges, shrubs, trees, and other vegetation.	September 25, 2025

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)(6)(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 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 18th day of September, 2025,
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: September 18, 2025

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: September 18, 2025

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: September 18, 2025

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

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THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025



1100D SUEHLA M.
811 21ST STREET N
COLUMBUS, MS 39701

NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-1(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 7/1/2023)

RE: 811 21ST ST N
APN: 61W06-01-05100
Case No: CE-25-0399
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 4

Date: September 18, 2025

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 harmful 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 25th day of September, 2025, 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:
302.4 - Overgrown Lot	Cut, trim, and maintain overgrown grass, hedges, shrubs, trees, and other vegetation.	September 25, 2025

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 21-19-1(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 29-1-143, 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 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-1(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 21-19-1(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-245-2063 or 662-245-5070.

This the 18th day of September, 2025.

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 21-19-1(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: September 18, 2025

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: September 18, 2025

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: September 18, 2025

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

MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025



K O PROPERTIES LLC
562 FOREST GLEN RD
COLUMBUS, MS 39705

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

RE: 518 AIRLINE RD
APN: 62W140204700
Case No: CE-25-0403
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 2

Date: September 24, 2025

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 1st day of October, 2025, 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.

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 21-19-1(2) (a)(8) 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 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 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the prerequisites of Section 21-19-1(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 21-19-1(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 24th day of September, 2025.
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 21-19-1(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: September 24, 2025

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

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: September 24, 2025

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: September 24, 2025

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

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

B. Discuss/Approve Short Term Rental Ordinance

Nathan Katona, Building Inspector/Zoning Coordinator, presented the terms of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance and answered questions. Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the Resolution of the Mayor and City Council approving the levy of a tax upon Short Term Rentas and passage of the Ordinance regulating Short Term Rentals. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and after a thorough discussion of the Resolution and Ordinance, considering the pros and cons of such, and after providing an opportunity for public comment on the subject, the Mayor called for the voted upon the same and recorded them as follows:

Council Member Stewart	voted:	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Smith	voted:	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Greene	voted:	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Harris	voted:	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Jefferson	voted:	<u>YES</u>
Council Member Spears	voted:	<u>YES</u>

The Mayor then stated that the Resolution and Ordinance, having received a majority of the votes of the Mayor and City Council, was hereby passed and ordained on this the 7th day of October 2025.

THE RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

**Resolution of Mayor and City Council approving the levy of a tax upon Short Term Rentals
and passage of ordinance regulating Short Term Rentals**

Council Member Smith moved for the adoption of a Resolution approving the adoption of a Short-Term Rental Ordinance, which Resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, with growing frequency, property owners in Columbus are renting their dwellings to third parties for short terms at significant profit; and

WHEREAS, without ordinances to regulate such rentals and activities at such properties, activities by short term renters stand a likelihood to jeopardize the peaceful enjoyment of the owners of the neighboring property; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council understand that property owners stand to enjoy significant profits from engaging in short term, as opposed to longer-term rentals; and

WHEREAS, Section 27-65.23.1 of the Mississippi Code provides for the collection of added sales taxes upon short term rentals upon passage of a resolution by the Mayor and City Council and the County Board of Supervisors declaring their intention to include such entities for purposes of the collection of a "hotel" and "motel" tax upon the entities described in said Mississippi Code Section; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1069 of the 1985 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature provided for an added 2% added tax on Motel and Hotel rentals, to be used for the purposes of providing funds for the promotion of conventions and the construction and maintenance of convention spaces and that such rentals outside the City be paid to the County Supervisors and such rentals inside the City be paid to the governing authorities of incorporated areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council find that, passage of this Resolution and Ordinance will improve the health, safety, general welfare, happiness and organized growth and general improvement of the quality of life of the residents of City and the County that this Resolution and Ordinance be adopted;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the above and foregoing Resolution be adopted and that the below and following ordinance be passed, approved and adopted, effective 30 days after passage of this Resolution

**MEETING OF
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OCTOBER 7, 2025**

and ordinance and that the tax be levied as soon as possible 30 days after the County Board of Supervisors passage of a similar Resolution declaring their approval of such rentals within Lowndes County.

Article I. Short-Term Rental Definitions

- Short-Term Rental ("STR"): A residential dwelling or portion thereof offered for rent for periods of fewer than 30 consecutive days. This excludes licensed hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, hospitals, group homes, tents, campers, RVs, and other temporary or mobile lodging. This definition notwithstanding, for purposes of the collection of taxes upon such rentals, the definition shall include (regardless of how such term is defined in a local and private law) any entity or individual engaged in the business of furnishing, facilitating, arranging, brokering or providing one or more rooms intended or designed for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes that at any one time will accommodate transient guests and includes every building or other structure kept, used, maintained or advertised as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping accommodations are supplied for pay or other consideration to transient guests regardless of the number of rooms, units, suites or cabins available, excluding nursing homes or institutions for the aged or infirmed as defined in Section 43-11-1 and personal care homes.

- Local Property Manager: A designated individual who resides within Lowndes County, available 24/7 to respond to guest complaints, emergency concerns, or compliance issues, and who acts as the liaison with the City of Columbus.

Article II. Permit & License Requirements

- No short-term rental may operate within the city without:
 1. Permitted Use approval recommended by the Columbus Planning Commission and approved by the Mayor and City Council for districts that require permission (see Chart of Permitted Uses).
 2. Compliance with State of Mississippi occupancy tax registration and remittance.
 3. A valid Privilege License from the City of Columbus.
- All permits must be renewed annually and are non-transferable.

Article III. Application Process & Fees

- Application must include:
 1. Legal address and parcel ID.
 2. Floor plan identifying bedrooms, occupancy limits, and ingress/egress.
 3. Parking plan (on-site parking requirements).
 4. Trash disposal and collection procedures.
 5. Contact details for owner and Local Property Manager as such term is defined above.
 6. Acknowledgment of compliance with applicable ordinances and building codes.
- Fee Structure:
 - Application Fee: For permitted use cases - current Planning Commission application fee as set by ordinance. For districts where allowed by right, \$100 or fee as it may be revised.
 - Annual Renewal Fee: \$50 or fee as it may be revised for comparable special-use permits or as established by city fee schedules.

**MEETING OF
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OCTOBER 7, 2025**

Article IV. Public Notice Requirements

- Public notice for new STR applications shall follow existing notification requirements applicable to permitted use applications and zoning changes per the Columbus Zoning Ordinance.

Article V. Zoning Eligibility

- Short-Term Rentals (STRs) are permitted in various zoning districts as outlined in the City of Columbus Chart of Permitted Uses, subject to Planning Commission recommendation and Mayor and City Council approval when required.

Article VI. Health & Safety Standards

- Prior to permit issuance or renewal, properties must meet:
 1. All current Columbus Building Code and Property Maintenance Code requirements.
 2. All fire and life safety codes, including smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, address visibility, emergency egress, etc. as determined by the City's Building Official.
 3. Any additional health and safety measures specified by city ordinances now or hereafter enacted.

Article VII. Ongoing Operations & Posting Requirements

- Each permitted short-term rental must:
 1. Post the following information in a visible location inside the unit:
 - Maximum occupancy.
 - Approved parking locations.
 - Noise and nuisance policies.
 - Trash disposal requirements.
 - Emergency contact information.
 - Current STR license and city-issued permit number.
 2. Post a weather-resistant sign not larger than 5x7 inches which must be either near or on the front door, or in a conspicuous location by the street, and clearly legible from the public street, displaying:
 - The STR license number,
 - The contact number of the Local Property Manager, and
 - The contact number of the City of Columbus permit office for complaints or violations.
 - Historic District properties are to follow Historic Preservation Commission guidelines for sign placement and design.

Article VIII. Complaints, Violations & Revocation

- All complaints should first be addressed to the Owner or designated Local Property Manager.
- Unresolved issues or complaints may be reported to the City Building Department or Police Department.
- Violations may result in:
 - Written notice and opportunity to cure.
 - Suspension or revocation of the STR permit upon failure to correct.
 - Issuance of a municipal offense citation to the Owner and/or the Local Property Manager
 - An appeal process will be available to the permit holder before the Board of Adjustment or other designated city body and from there as allowed by law.

Article IX. Enforcement & Severability

- This ordinance shall be enforced as are all other applicable City of Columbus codes and regulations.
- If any provision of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

Council Member Stewart seconded the motion and after a thorough discussion of the Resolution and Ordinance, considering the pros and cons of such, and after providing an opportunity for public comment on the subject, the Mayor called for the votes upon the same and recorded them as follows:

	Yes	Nay
Council Member Stewart	_____	_____
Council Member Smith	_____	_____
Council Member Greene	_____	_____
Council Member Harris	_____	_____
Council Member Jefferson	_____	_____
Council Member Spears	_____	_____

The Mayor then stated that the Resolution and Ordinance, having received a majority of the votes of the Mayor and City Council, was hereby passed and ordained on this the 7th day of October, 2025.

Mayor Stephen Jones

Certification of Mayor's Signature:

James Brigham, Municipal Clerk and Secretary/
Treasurer

C. Approve partnering with Mississippi State University's Cobb Institute of Archaeology and the Department of Anthropology to use remote sensing equipment to identify and mark graves in the historic Sandfield Cemetery.

Susan Wilder, Grant Writer/Administrator, apprised the Mayor and Council of an opportunity to partner with Mississippi State University's Cobb Institute of Archaeology and the Department of Anthropology to use remote sensing equipment to identify and mark graves in the historic Sandfield Cemetery and utilize the assistance of students. Ms. Wilder remarked that she would contact Columbus Marble Works for scrap/left over stones. Council Member Stewart made a motion to Approve partnering with Mississippi State University's Cobb Institute of Archaeology and the Department of Anthropology to use remote sensing equipment to identify and mark graves in the historic Sandfield Cemetery. Council Member Spears seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

D. Approve applying for the Urban and Community Forestry Grant through the Mississippi Forestry Commission to conduct a tree inventory at Friendship Cemetery with no match requirement.

Susan Wilder requested to apply for the Urban and Community Forestry Grant through the Mississippi Forestry Commission to conduct a tree inventory at Friendship Cemetery with no match requirement. The Forestry Commission will assess every tree to ensure life. Council Member Stewart made a motion to approve the request to apply for the Urban and Community Forestry Grant through the Mississippi Forestry Commission to conduct a tree inventory at Friendship Cemetery with no match requirement. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

E. Discuss/Approve request to hire five (5) Entry-Level Firefighters, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.

Council Member Stewart made a motion to approve the request to hire: Terrance Colister, Jacorey Douglas, Frederick Lewis, Tyrese Lewis, Matthew McSwain as Entry-Level firefighters, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing. Council Member Harris seconded the motion.
All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

The motion carried 6/0.

F. Discuss/Approve request to hire one (1) Entry-Level Police Officer, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the hiring of Diamond Lee as an Entry-Level Police Officer, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing. Council Member Spears seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

G. Discuss/Approve request to fill vacant Accounts Payable Clerk, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing.

Council Member Stewart made a motion to approve the request to hire Latoya Harris as Accounts Payable Clerk at \$18.00 per hour, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing. Council Member Harris seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

H. Discuss/Approve Municipal Compliance Questionnaire.

CFO James Brigham presented the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for approval, stating that it must be approved at the first regular meeting of the governing body following the end of the fiscal year. The CFO also stated that he answered "NO" to the question 11 regarding the annual audit and question 17 regarding fixed assets/inventory. Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

Municipal Compliance Questionnaire

As part of the municipality's audit, the governing authorities of the municipality must make certain assertions with regard to legal compliance. The municipal compliance questionnaire was developed for this purpose.

The following questionnaire and related certification must be completed at the end of the municipality's fiscal year and entered into the official minutes of the governing authorities at their next regular meeting.

The governing authorities should take care to answer these questions accurately. Incorrect answers could reduce the auditor's reliance on the questionnaire responses, resulting in the need to perform additional audit procedures at added cost.

Information

Note: Due to the size of some municipalities, some of the questions may not be applicable. If so, mark N/A in answer blanks. Answers to other questions may require more than "yes" or "no," and, as a result, more information on this questionnaire may be required and/or separate work papers may be needed.

1. Name and address of municipality: CITY OF COLUMBUS

523 MAIN STREET

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39701
2. List the date and population of the latest official U.S. Census or most recent official census:

2020 CENSUS 23,853

3. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of officials (include elected officials, chief administrative officer, and attorney).
SEE ATTACHED

4. Period of time covered by this questionnaire:
From: 10/01/2024 To: 09/30/2025

5. Expiration date of current elected officials' term: JULY 1, 2029

MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025

MUNICIPAL COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE
Year Ended September 30, 20__

Answer All Questions: Y - YES, N - NO, N/A - NOT APPLICABLE

PART I - General

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Have all ordinances been entered into the ordinance book and included in the minutes? (Section 21-13-13) | <u>Y</u> |
| 2. Do all municipal vehicles have public license plates and proper markings? (Sections 25-1-87 and 27-19-27) | <u>Y</u> |
| 3. Are municipal records open to the public? (Section 25-61-5) | <u>Y</u> |
| 4. Are meetings of the board open to the public? (Section 25-41-5) | <u>Y</u> |
| 5. Are notices of special or recess meetings posted? (Section 25-41-13) | <u>Y</u> |
| 5. Are all required personnel covered by appropriate surety bonds? | |
| Board or council members (Sec. 21-17-5) | <u>Y</u> |
| Appointed officers and those handling money, see statutes governing the form of government (i.e., Section 21-3-5 for Code Charter) | <u>Y</u> |
| Municipal clerk (Section 21-15-38) | <u>Y</u> |
| Deputy clerk (Section 21-15-23) | <u>Y</u> |
| Chief of police (Section 21-21-1) | <u>N/A</u> |
| Deputy police (Section 45-5-9) (if hired under this law) | <u>Y</u> |
| 7. Are minutes of board meetings prepared to properly reflect the actions of the board? (Sections 21-15-17 and 21-15-19) | <u>Y</u> |
| 8. Are minutes of board meetings signed by the mayor or majority of the board within 30 days of the meeting? (Section 21-15-33) | <u>Y</u> |
| 9. Has the municipality complied with the nepotism law in its employment practices? (Section 25-1-53) | <u>Y</u> |
| 10. Did all officers, employees of the municipality, or their relatives avoid any personal interest in any contracts with the municipality during their term or within one year after their terms of office or employment? (Section 25-4-105) | <u>Y</u> |
| 11. Does the municipality contract with a Certified Public Accountant or an auditor approved by the State Auditor for its annual audit within twelve months of the end of each fiscal year? (Section 21-35-31) | <u>N</u> |

IV-B1

**MEETING OF
THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OCTOBER 7, 2025**

12. Has the municipality published a synopsis or notice of the annual audit within 30 days of acceptance?
(Section 21-35-31 or 21-17-19)

Y

PART II - Cash and Related Records

1. Where required, is a claims docket maintained?
(Section 21-39-7)
2. Are all claims paid in the order of their entry in the claims docket? (Section 21-39-9)
3. Does the claims docket identify the claimant, claim number, amount and fund from which each warrant will be issued?
(Section 21-39-7)
4. Are all warrants approved by the board, signed by the mayor or majority of the board, attested to by the clerk, and bearing the municipal seal? (Section 21-39-13)
5. Are warrants for approved claims held until sufficient cash is available in the fund from which it is drawn?
(Section 21-39-13)
6. Has the municipality adopted and entered on its minutes a budget in the format prescribed by the Office of the State Auditor? (Sections 21-35-5, 21-35-7 and 21-35-9)
7. Does the municipality operate on a cash basis budget, except for expenditures paid within 30 days of fiscal year end or for construction in progress? (Section 21-35-23)
8. Has the municipality held a public hearing and published its adopted budget? (Sections 21-35-5, 27-39-203, & 27-39-205)
9. Has the municipality complied with legal publication requirements when budgetary changes of 10% or more are made to a department's budget? (Section 21-35-25)
10. If revenues are less than estimated and a deficit is anticipated, did the board revise the budget by its regular July meeting? (Section 21-35-25)

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

N/A

**MEETING OF
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- | | |
|--|----------|
| 11. Have financial records been maintained in accordance with the chart of accounts prescribed by the State Auditor? (Section 21-35-11) | <u>Y</u> |
| 12. Does the municipal clerk submit to the board a monthly report of expenditures against each budget item for the preceding month and fiscal year to date and the unexpended balances of each budget item? (Section 21-35-13) | <u>Y</u> |
| 13. Does the board avoid approving claims and the city clerk not issue any warrants which would be in excess of budgeted amounts, except for court-ordered or emergency expenditures? (Section 21-35-17) | <u>Y</u> |
| 14. Has the municipality commissioned municipal depositories? (Sections 27-105-353 and 27-105-363) | <u>Y</u> |
| 15. Have investments of funds been restricted to those instruments authorized by law? (Section 21-33-323) | <u>Y</u> |
| 16. Are donations restricted to those specifically authorized by law? [Section 21-17-5 (Section 66, Miss. Constitution) -- Sections 21-19-45 through 21-19-59, etc.] | <u>Y</u> |
| 17. Are fixed assets properly tagged and accounted for? (Section II - Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide) | <u>N</u> |
| 18. Is all travel authorized in advance and reimbursements made in accordance with Section 25-3-41? | <u>Y</u> |
| 19. Are all travel advances made in accordance with the State Auditor's regulations? (Section 25-3-41) | <u>Y</u> |
| PART III - Purchasing and Receiving | |
| 1. Are bids solicited for purchases, when required by law (written bids and advertising)? [Section 31-7-13(b) and (c)] | <u>Y</u> |
| 2. Are all lowest and best bid decisions properly documented? [Section 31-7-13(d)] | <u>Y</u> |
| 3. Are all one-source item and emergency purchases documented on the board's minutes? [Section 31-7-13(m) and (k)] | <u>Y</u> |
| 4. Do all officers and employees understand and refrain from accepting gifts or kickbacks from suppliers? (Section 31-7-23) | <u>Y</u> |

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PART IV - Bonds and Other Debt

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 1. | Has the municipality complied with the percentage of taxable property limitation on bonds and other debt issued during the year? (Section 21-33-303) | <u>Y</u> |
| 2. | Has the municipality levied and collected taxes, in a sufficient amount for the retirement of general obligation debt principal and interest? (Section 21-33-87) | <u>Y</u> |
| 3. | Have the required trust funds been established for utility revenue bonds? (Section 21-27-65) | <u>N/A</u> |
| 4. | Have expenditures of bond proceeds been strictly limited to the purposes for which the bonds were issued? (Section 21-33-317) | <u>Y</u> |
| 5. | Has the municipality refrained from borrowing, except where it had specific authority? (Section 21-17-5) | <u>Y</u> |

PART V - Taxes and Other Receipts

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | Has the municipality adopted the county ad valorem tax rolls? (Section 27-35-167) | <u>county</u> |
| 2. | Are interest and penalties being collected on delinquent ad valorem taxes? (Section 21-33-53) | <u>Y</u> |
| 3. | Has the municipality conducted an annual land sale for delinquent ad valorem taxes? (Section 21-33-63) | <u>county</u> |
| 4. | Have the various ad valorem tax collections been deposited into the appropriate funds? (Separate Funds for Each Tax Levy) (Section 21-33-53) | <u>Y</u> |
| 5. | Has the increase in ad valorem taxes, if any, been limited to amounts allowed by law? (Sections 27-39-320 and 27-39-321) | <u>Y</u> |
| 6. | Are local privilege taxes collected from all businesses located within the municipality, except those exempted? (Section 27-17-5) | <u>Y</u> |
| 7. | Are transient vendor taxes collected from all transient vendors within the municipality, except those exempted? (Section 75-85-1) | <u>Y</u> |
| 8. | Is money received from the state's "Municipal Fire Protection Fund" spent only to improve municipal fire departments? (Section 83-1-37) | <u>Y</u> |

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- | | |
|--|----------|
| 9. Has the municipality levied or appropriated not less than 1/4 mill for fire protection and certified to the county it provides its own fire protection or allowed the county to levy such tax? (Sections 83-1-37 and 83-1-39) | <u>Y</u> |
| 10. Are state-imposed court assessments collected and settled monthly? (Section 99-19-73, 83-39-31, etc.) | <u>Y</u> |
| 11. Are all fines and forfeitures collected when due and settled immediately to the municipal treasury? (Section 21-15-21) | <u>N</u> |
| 12. Are bids solicited by advertisement or, under special circumstances, three appraisals obtained when real property is sold? (Section 21-17-1) | <u>Y</u> |
| 13. Has the municipality determined the full and complete cost for solid waste for the previous fiscal year? (Section 17-17-347) | <u>Y</u> |
| 14. Has the municipality published an itemized report of all revenues, costs and expenses incurred by the municipality during the immediately preceding fiscal year in operating the garbage or rubbish collection or disposal system? (Section 17-17-348) | <u>Y</u> |
| 15. Has the municipality conducted an annual inventory of its assets in accordance with guidelines established by the Office of the State Auditor? (MMAAG) | <u>N</u> |

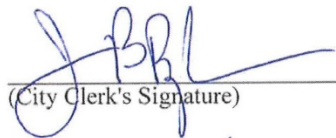
**MEETING OF
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(MUNICIPAL NAME)

Certification to Municipal Compliance Questionnaire

Year Ended September 30, 2025_

We have reviewed all questions and responses as contained in this Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for the Municipality of Columbus MS, and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, all responses are accurate.


(City Clerk's Signature)

10/6/2025
(Date)


(Mayor's Signature)

10/6/2025
(Date)

Minute Book References:

Book Number _____

Page _____

(Clerk is to enter minute book references when questionnaire is accepted by board.)

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**I. Discuss/Approve Petition and Resolution to Vacate and Abandon
Municipal Street**

General Counsel Turnage apprised the Mayor and Council on a Petition and Resolution to Vacate and Abandon a Municipal Street. Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the Petition and Resolution to Vacate and Abandon Municipal Street. Council Member Smith seconded the motion and after discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the Motion and recorded the votes as follows:

Council Member Stewart	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Smith	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Greene	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Harris	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Jefferson	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Spears	voted: <u>YES</u>

The Mayor declared that the Motion, having received the unanimous vote in favor was hereby APPROVED.

THE PETITION AND RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

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**BEFORE THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI**

INCANDESCENT, LLC

PETITIONER

PETITION TO CLOSE AND VACATE RIGHT-OF-WAYS

Comes now, Incandescent, LLC, and files this its Petition to Close and Vacate Right-of-Ways, and respectively alleges as follows:

1. Incandescent, LLC, bought what was formerly Carrier Lodge parcel from the State of Mississippi and MUW in the City of Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi. The property had been vacant and unused for many years.

2. 1st Street South dead-ends to an unopened area which is owned by Incandescent, LLC; 8th Avenue South also dead ends to an unopened area which is also owned by Incandescent, LLC; 9th Avenue South also ends to an unopened area which is owned by Incandescent, LLC; Also an unopened area by the name of Cedar Street that runs through the property owned by Incandescent, LLC.

3. The portions of these streets sought to be closed serve no useful purpose to the travelling public and would not affect any person or entity by the closing of said streets. Incandescent, LLC, owns the property on both sides of the streets and there are no abutting landowners entitled to compensation under *Mississippi Code* §21-37-7.

4. If said Petition is granted, Incandescent, LLC, plans to improve the property on the herein described property which would enhance and promote development and security for the City of Columbus.

5. Therefore, pursuant to *Mississippi Code* §21-37-7, as amended, Petitioner hereby petitions the City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, to close and vacate said right-of-ways, more particularly described as follows:

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SEE EXHIBIT "A"

6. Petitioner fully, finally and forever waives, releases and discharges the City of Columbus, Mississippi, of any and all rights of every kind, nature and description whatsoever which it may have relative to said right-of-ways, including but not limited to, any and all rights of due compensation, right of access and other rights relative thereto. Provided, however, the within waiver, release and discharge shall apply only to the City's closing and vacating of said right-of-ways.

DATED: September 1, 2025

Incandescent, LLC,

BY: /s/ Joseph H. Van Every
Joseph H. Van Every
Attorney for Incandescent, LLC

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EXHIBIT "A"

Unopened Street Rights-of-Way In and Adjacent to Parcels 2 and 36
City of Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi:

All that certain land consisting of the full width (right-of-way line to right-of-way line) of the Unopened public street rights-of-way shown on *Exhibit B (Carrier Lodge map)*, page 1, lying in and/or traversing Parcel 2 in Lowndes County, MS, parcel number as 60W130000200 and Parcel 36 in Lowndes County, MS full parcel number 61W160203600 more particularly described in four tracts as follows. The intent is to include the entirety of each Unopened segment as depicted on Exhibit B, together with all reversionary rights thereto.

Tract 1. An unopened and unimproved section of First Street South beginning at the southern edge of 8th Avenue South, and continuing South across 9th Avenue South to the southern property line of Incandescent, LLC where First Street South terminates at the northern rail right-of-way of a railroad line running East and West along the property line of Incandescent, LLC; and

Tract 2. An unopened and unimproved section of 8th Avenue South beginning at the western edge of First Street South where it terminates within Incandescent, LLC's property;

Tract 3. An unopened and unimproved section of 9th Avenue South lying West of 2nd Street South beginning at the Northern rail right-of-way and continuing westerly until it terminates; and

Tract 4. An unopened and unimproved section of roadway named Cedar Street on the beginning at the northern right-of-way of a railroad line running East and West along the southern property line of Incandescent, LLC to the northern property line of Incandescent, LLC near an unopened section of 8th Avenue South in the City of Columbus

The above description is intended to capture the entirety of each Unopened right-of-way segment referenced above as depicted on Exhibit B, including any reversionary interest to the centerline/right-of-way lines, as applicable under Mississippi law, and to support a petition to close and vacate municipal right-of-way.

Final bearings, distances, and areas, if required for recordation, shall be established by a Mississippi-licensed land surveyor by reference to municipal right-of-way records and monuments of record; in the event of any discrepancy, the survey shall control.

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**RESOLUTION VACATING AND ABANDONING
MUNICIPAL STREET**

Upon Petition of Incandescent, LLC, Council Member _____ moved for passage of the following resolution, closing, and vacating certain unopened rights of way described herein, which Resolution states:

WHEREAS, Incandescent, LLC has petitioned the Mayor and City Council, pursuant to the authority of Section 21-37-7 of the Mississippi Code, to close and vacate the following portions of streets and avenues South of Main Street in Columbus:

1. An unopened and unimproved section of First Street South beginning at the southern edge of 8th Avenue South, and continuing South across 9th Avenue South to the southern property line of Incandescent, LLC where First Street South terminates at the northern rail right-of-way of a railroad line running East and West along the property line of Incandescent, LLC; and
2. An unopened and unimproved section of 8th Avenue South beginning at the western edge of First Street South where it terminates within Incandescent, LLC's property;
3. An unopened and unimproved section of 9th Avenue South lying West of 2nd Street South beginning at the Northern rail right-of-way and continuing westerly until it terminates; and
4. An unopened and unimproved section of roadway named Cedar Street on the beginning at the northern right-of-way of a railroad line running East and West along the southern property line of Incandescent, LLC to the northern property line of Incandescent, LLC near an unopened section of 8th Avenue South in the City of Columbus

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council find the unopened streets and avenues described above are no longer needed for municipal purposes;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. The above and foregoing described portions of First Street South, Eighth Avenue South, Ninth Avenue South and Cedar Street are no longer needed for municipal purposes, and are hereby closed and vacated, with the Petitioner waiving any due compensation and the other relief stated in the said Petition.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member _____ and after discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the Motion and recorded the votes as follows:

Council Member	Yes	Nay
Stewart	_____	_____
Smith	_____	_____
Greene	_____	_____
Harris	_____	_____
Jefferson	_____	_____

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Spears _____

The Mayor, declared that the Motion, having received the unanimous vote in favor was hereby APPROVED.

This the 16th day of October, 2025.

By: Stephen Jones, Mayor

Attest:

By: James Brigham, Secretary/Treasurer

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Council Member Spears recused himself and exited the meeting room.

J. Discuss/Approval disposal of surplus property.

General Counsel Turnage presented the request for disposal of surplus property; an open parking lot located immediately south of First Methodist Church on the east side of 6th Street North and the north side of College Street. Attorney Gordon Flowers, Trustee and Legal Representative for First Methodist Church, came before the Mayor and Council regarding the purchase of the property. Council Member Stewart made a motion to approve the Resolution Declaring that the City of Columbus, Mississippi, Declare Certain Property Surplus, not needed for Municipal Purposes and to engage a Mississippi Licensed Real Estate Broker (Legacy Real Estate) to negotiate for the sale of same at a fee of \$1,000. Council Member Harris seconded the motion and after discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the Motion and recorded the votes as follows:

Council Member Stewart	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Smith	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Greene	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Harris	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Jefferson	voted: <u>YES</u>
Council Member Spears	voted: <u> </u> Recused himself

The Mayor declared that the Motion, having received the unanimous vote in favor was hereby APPROVED.

Council Member Spears returned to the meeting.

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There came on for consideration the matter of the sale of certain property to First Methodist Church, located in the City of Columbus, Mississippi, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Council Member _____ offered and moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, DECLARE CERTAIN PROPERTY SURPLUS, NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND TO ENGAGE A MISSISSIPPI LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER TO NEGOTIATE FOR THE SALE OF SAME.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, acting for and on behalf of the City of Columbus, Mississippi (the "City"), is authorized by Section 21-17-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended to sell and convey real property belonging to said City which has ceased to be used for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized and empowered to sell said property for the purposes herein set forth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The property is real property depicted on the attached composite Exhibit attached hereto with tax office information is owned by the City and is Parcel Number 61W460001200, PPIN 17829;

Section 2. The property is not needed for governmental or related purposes and is not to be used in the operation of the City;

Section 3. That the sale of the desired property via advertising and thereafter hoping to receive sealed competitive bids is not necessary or desirable for the financial welfare of the City;

Section 4. The sale of the property to the First Methodist Church will promote and foster the development and improvement of the community in which it is located as well as the civic, social, educational, cultural, moral and economic welfare thereof;

Section 5. In any deed of conveyance from the City the City shall retain all mineral rights that it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same;

Section 6. It is in the best interest of the City to enter into a contract for the professional services of Kalina Richardson, a Mississippi licensed real estate broker to assist the municipality at a fee of \$1,000 which is a reasonable fee and constitutes a usual and customary fee for similar work; and

Section 7. The City will convey such property via special leasehold warranty deed, and if the buyer desires a survey that such survey shall be paid by the buyer.

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Council Member _____ seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Councilmember Steward voted: _____
Councilmember Roderick Smith voted: _____
Councilmember Rusty Greene voted: _____
Councilmember Lavonne Harris voted: _____
Councilmember Gary Jefferson voted: _____
Councilmember Jason Spears voted: _____

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Governing Body present, being a quorum of said Governing Body, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted this ____th day of October, 2025.

By _____
Stephen T. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:

By _____
James Brigham, Secretary/Treasurer and Municipal Clerk

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61W46001200 Card 1 of 1 Date Printed 07/07/2025 COLUMBUS CITY OF
Alt: 61W46001200 Map: Lowndes County 2025 Landroll
TD 5118 STR 16 18S 18W Block Card 1 of 1
COLLEGE ST /00/ PPIN 17829 MS 39701
Field Work by DEED-6595 0390 BLOCK 5 08/30/1974
SOUTH OF MAIN

Land Value Buildings Total Value 21600
Lot Size Acres Use Code 80X113

61W46 /
Type Size Price D/F Adj Desc \$/ft Value C
80.00X 113 300.00 .90 270.00 21600 1

Bld Type Foun Base Adjust Base Adjust Cost Replace Year T
Type dati Class Uni Area Area Rate Rate per Ft Cost G% Buil Value SL C Old Value

Exterior Walls Roof Type Roof Material Floors
Interior Walls Interior Ceiling Plumbing Electricity Adjustments

Date Printed 00/00/0000 Parcel 61W46001200 Name COLUMBUS CITY OF PPIN 17829
61W46001200 Card 1 of 1
Alt: 61W46001200 " PARKING LOT "
(EXEMPT)

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Property Link
LOWNDES COUNTY, MS

Current Date 10/ 7/2025 Tax Year 2024
Records Last Updated 10/ 6/2025

PROPERTY DETAIL
OWNER COLUMBUS CITY OF ACRES : **NA**
LAND VALUE : **NA**
COLUMBUS MS 39701 IMPROVEMENTS : **NA**
TOTAL VALUE: **NA**
ASSESSED : **NA**

PARCEL 61W460001200
ADDRESS COLLEGE ST

TAX INFORMATION
YEAR 2024
COUNTY TAX DUE PAID BALANCE
0.00 0.00 0.00
CITY 0.81 0.81 0.00
SCHOOL 0.00 0.00 0.00
PENALTY & OTHER 0.03 0.03 0.00
TOTAL 0.84 0.84 0.00

A Print Fee May Apply, Contact County For Total.

LAST PAYMENT DATE 8 / 6 / 2025

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
EXEMPT CODE LEGAL 2 AVE
HOMESTEAD CODE None BLOCK 5
TAX DISTRICT 5110 SOUTH OF MAIN
PPIN 017829
SECTION 16
TOWNSHIP 18S
RANGE 18W B 0505 P 0390 08/30/1974

Book 0505

Page 0390

TAX PAID HISTORY
Year **Owner** **Total Tax Paid(Y/N)**
2023 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 8/ 1/2024
2022 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 8/24/2023
2021 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 8/ 8/2022
2020 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 8/24/2021
2019 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 8/ 6/2020
2018 COLUMBUS CITY OF 0.81 Y
LAST PAYMENT DATE 7/30/2019

K. Consider/approve access Agreement for Environmental testing

General Counsel Turnage apprised the Mayor and Council of this Agreement, stating that Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust LLC completed sampling activities in accordance with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approval Proposed North 27th Street Ditch Sampling Memorandum to evaluate potential levels of contaminants. Council Member Greene made a motion to approve access Agreement for Environmental testing. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

L. Discuss/Approve Employee Dress Code Policy

Human Resources Director Pat Mitchell presented an Employee Dress Code Policy for adoption. Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the Employee Dress Code Policy that will be effective November 1, 2025. Council Member Jefferson seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 6/0.

THE DRESS CODE POLICY FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

CITY OF COLUMBUS

Dress Code Policy

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes guidelines for appropriate workplace attire at the City of Columbus to promote a professional and inclusive environment while allowing for comfort and practicality. Employees are expected to maintain a neat, clean, and professional appearance in alignment with their roles.

GENERAL DRESS CODE

The City of Columbus operates under a **business casual** dress code for office staff. Employees should dress in attire that reflects professionalism and respect for the workplace. Acceptable business casual attire includes, but is not limited to:

- Collared shirts, blouses, and professional tops
- Slacks, chinos, dress pants, and skirts of an appropriate length
- Dresses with modest hemlines (should be knee length when seated) and necklines
- Sandals, closed toe or professional footwear
- Sweaters and cardigans
- Dark, well-maintained denim **ONLY** when approved
- Modest jewelry, no large hoops

PROHIBITED ATTIRE: The following clothing items are not permitted in the workplace

- Ripped, frayed, or pants with holes in them
- Leggings, and excessively short skirts/dresses and shirts
- Tank Tops with thin straps or shirts that show stomach area
- T-shirts with inappropriate slogans, logos, or graphics
- Flip-flops, athletic slides, crocs, or overly casual footwear
- Athletic wear (sweatpants, yoga pants, gym shirts, etc.)
- Hats, caps, durags, bonnets, or hoodies (unless for religious, medical or outdoor work-related purposes)
- Excessively tight, revealing or otherwise inappropriate clothing

PERSONAL HYGIENE

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- All personal grooming should be completed prior to arriving at work.

EXCEPTIONS & DEPARTMENT-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

- **Maintenance Staff, I. T., Inspectors, Code Enforcement, Animal Control, Garage, Recreation Department, & Public Works:** Due to the nature of their work, these employees are permitted to wear job-appropriate attire, including uniforms, safety gear, and work boots.
- **Special Events & External Meetings:** Employees representing the City at formal events or external meetings should adhere to **business professional** attire unless otherwise directed.
- **Weather Accommodations:** Reasonable exceptions may be made during extreme weather conditions while maintaining professionalism.
- **Mayoral Discretion:** The Mayor may make exceptions on a case-by-case basis and may declare casual days as he sees fit.

ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE

Department Heads and/or Supervisors are responsible for ensuring compliance with the dress code. Employees in violation of this policy may be asked to change into appropriate attire. Repeated violations may result in disciplinary action.

INCLUSIVITY & ACCOMMODATIONS

The City recognizes and respects individual dress preferences based on religious, cultural or medical reasons. Employees requiring accommodations should speak with Human Resources.

This policy is subject to periodic review and updates as needed to reflect organizational and industry standards.

COMPLIANCE

Non-compliance with City policies, rules and regulations are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Acknowledgement of Understanding

I have read and agree to the terms of this policy governing compliance with the City of Columbus Dress Code. I understand that violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including possible termination.

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Employee's Signature

Date

Print Name

Date

This policy will go in effect 11/1/2025.

ORGANIZATION CHART

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the Organization Chart. Council Member Stewart seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Council Member Greene made a substitute motion to table the approval of the Organization Chart. Council Member Spears seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION (2nd)

Council Member Jefferson made a substitute motion to approve the Organization Chart and review in one (1) year. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

Council Members Stewart, Smith and Jefferson voted in favor of the motion.
Council Members Greene, Harris and Spears opposed the motion.

Mayor Jones voted in favor of the second substitute motion, and it carried 4/3.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, Mayor Jones announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

Approved by: _____
Stephen Jones, Mayor

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