

MAYOR
STEPHEN JONES

CITY COUNCIL
ETHEL STEWART WARD 1
RODERICK SMITH WARD 2
RUSTY GREENE WARD 3
LAVONNE HARRIS WARD 4
GREGORY JEFFERSON WARD 5
JASON SPEARS WARD 6

City of Columbus

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GENERAL COUNSEL
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CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER
JAMMIE GARRETT

CFO/SECRETARY-TREASURER
JAMES "JIM" BRIGHAM

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS August 18, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

- V. Stewart A. Approve Minutes for Meeting of July 21, 2026.
V. Stewart B. Approve Minutes for Work Session of July 30, 2026.
V. Stewart C. Approve Minutes for Meeting of August 4, 2026.

IV. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS.

- J. Brigham A. Approve Docket of Claims for August 18, 2026.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- G. Ward A. Approve permit request submitted by Tiffany Jefferson, on behalf of Columbus High School, to host the "Homecoming Parade" to be held on September 24, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. leaving Fairview Baptist Church parking lot at South Browder Street, right on Alabama Street, left on North McCrary Road, and ending at the tennis courts in front of the high school. See attached map.
- G. Ward B. Approve request for two (2) CPD personnel to attend "Critical Incident Negotiations Level II" to be held on August 31 - September 4, 2026, in Pearl, Mississippi and approve payment for registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,172.50 each.
- G. Ward C. Approve permit request submitted by Kevin Wright, on behalf of Christian Jeep Association, to host "Jeepin' and Fishin' the Tenn-Tom Waterway Jeep Parade" to be held on August 29, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. See attached map.
- G. Ward D. Approve request for one (1) CPD personnel to attend "Supervisor Leadership Institute" to be held in Oxford, Mississippi and approve payment for registration, lodging, travel and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$1,935.00.
- G. Ward E. Approve permit request submitted by Renee Sanders, on behalf of United Way of the Golden Triangle Region, to host the "United Way 2027 Campaign Kick-Off" to be held on September 3, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in Catfish Alley. See map attached.
- G. Ward F. Approve request for one (1) CPD personnel to attend "Glock Training Class Armorer Course-Gen 5 Plus" to be held in Fulton, Mississippi and approve payment for registration and travel in the estimated amount of \$350.00.
- C. Yarbrough G. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "NFPA 1021 Fire Officer II" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$485.00.
- C. Yarbrough H. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "Machine Rescue Technician" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$475.00.

- C. Yarbrough** I. Approve request for one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend “NFPA 1033 Fire Investigator” to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of registration, hotel, travel, books, meal expenses, and any other expenses in the amount of \$970.00.
- C. Yarbrough** J. Accept letter of retirement from one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel, effective September 1, 2026, and approve compensation for 240 hours of accrued vacation leave as permitted by PERS.
- C. Yarbrough** K. Accept letter of resignation from one (1) Fire and Rescue personnel, effective September 1, 2026, and approve compensation for any unused vacation leave.
- G. Lewis** L. Approve the placement of the Fossil Park shadow boxes at the Propst Park Main Office and the Welcome Center.
- C. Bush** M. Approve request for the Public Works Director to attend the "2026 Public Works Fall Conference" to be held in Biloxi, MS, and approve payment for registration, lodging, travel, and meal expenses in the estimated amount of \$880.35.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Comments from Mayor & Council
- S. Jones** B. Swearing-In of Garland J. Ward as Chief of Police and Terence Ware as Assistant Chief.
- G. Ward** C. Presentation to six (6) CPD Officers
* Assistant Chief Terence Ware
* Lt. Mark Underwood
* Sgt. Nicholas Hairston
* Sgt. Kimberly Hayes
* Sgt. Ian Halbert
* Sgt. Antonious Sellers
- C. Yarbrough** D. Columbus Fire and Rescue Department — July 2026 Report
- W. Langford** E. Garage — July 2026 Report
- M. Armstead** F. Municipal Court — July 2026 Report
- G. Ward** G. Columbus Police Department — July 2026 Report
- R. Bonner** H. Facilities — July 2026 Report
- N. Katona** I. Building Department — July 2026 Report
- G. Lewis** J. Columbus Recreation Department — July 2026 Report
- C. Bush** K. Public Works — July 2026 Report
- G. Irby** L. Planning & Community Development — July 2026 Report
- C. Gilman** M. Forensic Lab — July 2026 Report
- J. Brigham** N. Finance — July 2026 Report
- D. Davis** O. Human Resources — July 2026 Report
- G. Drake** P. Information Technology — July 2026 Report
- J. Turnage** Q. Board Vacancies

GOLDEN TRIANGLE LINK DEVELOPMENT

1 Vacancy, 2-Year Term, Bill West's Term Expires 09/30/2026.
Appointment will be made September 15, 2026.

COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Marthalia Porter's Term Expires 09/01/2026
Appointment will be made September 1, 2026.

Howard Dodd

Marthalia Porter

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

1 Vacancy, 4-Year Term, Rita Felton's Term Expires 08/15/2026
Appointment will be made August 18, 2026.

Rita Felton

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA

- J. Turnage** A. Supervisor Leroy Brooks and Sheriff Eddie Hawkins -- Community Crime Prevention Task Force

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

- N. Katona** A. Discuss/Approve recommendations from the August 10, 2026, Planning Commission public meeting.
- N. Katona** B. Discuss/Accept lowest qualified bid for Farmers' Market rollup doors and wall remodel to store convention center transportation in the amount of \$13,571.00.
- N. Katona** C. Discuss/Accept lowest qualified bid for AC Unit change out at Propst Park Activity Center in the amount of \$16,388.26.
- N. Katona** D. Discuss/Accept lowest and best bid in the amount of \$28,203.00 submitted by Advance Air , for the replacement of the Patrol Room AC Unit.
- G. Ward** E. Discuss/Approve request to hire one (1) and re-hire three (3) certified officers contingent upon successful completion of preliminary testing.
- G. Ward** F. Discuss/Approve promoting one (1) CPD personnel to Assistant Chief (P2).
- G. Irby** G. Discuss/Approve request to purchase properties (1606 Bell Avenue, 624 26th Street North, 2604 5th Avenue North and 1007 Shady Street) for the Blight Program in the amount of \$46,000.
- G. Irby** H. Discuss payment of Task 5 of 6 in the amount of \$9,360.00 for the Northside Neighborhood Historic Resource Digital Draft Survey Report for the Blight Elimination Program.
- J. Turnage** I. Discuss/Approve amendment to the purchase/sale agreement and redevelopment agreement between Friendly City Development and Columbus Redevelopment Authority.
- G. Lewis** J. Discuss/Approve payment of dinosaur skull replicas in the amount of \$3,612.50.
- G. Lewis** K. Discuss/Approve allocating funding for the in-kind match of \$85,000.00 for the Kayak Launch.
- G. Lewis** L. Discuss/Accept Propst Park Kayak Launch Agreement.
- R. Bonner** M. Discuss/Accept the lowest bid in the amount of \$545.00 weekly based on the Grounds Maintenance Contract Proposal submitted by BAM LLC, for the upkeep and maintenance of Sandfield Cemetery located on the Eastside of 25th Street South (Martin Luther King Drive).

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Personnel Matters
- B. Potential Litigation