

CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS - MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Special Call Meeting May 27, 2025 - Minutes

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Special Call Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 5:00 p.m. on May 27, 2025. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Aldermen Burgess and Authement were late to the meeting but were present during executive session votes. Also present were City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, and Interim Community Development Director Wade Morgan.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the agenda.

The object of the meeting will be any matters pertaining to:

1. Executive Session: Personnel - All Departments

The Mayor explained they will be discussing personnel matters related to the Fire Chief position, as well as personnel in the Police Department, Planning Department, and City Clerk's Department. He said because these discussions may lead to matters involving other departments or positions, the agenda has been written broadly to include all departments. He reminded all that during a special call meeting, only items listed on the agenda may be discussed.

A motion was made by Alderman Wade, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to go into a closed session to determine the necessity of going into an executive session.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss city personnel issues, specifically the Fire Chief position, Police Department personnel, Planning Department personnel, and the City Clerk position.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to come out of the executive session where the following actions were taken:

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Impey to change the Police Chief's starting salary to \$83,000; the motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Wade and Cox voting nay.

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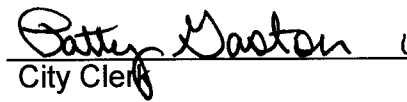
A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Impey to change the Fire Chief's starting salary to \$80,000; the motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Wade and Cox voting nay.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Impey to extend a counteroffer of \$80,000 to Fire Chief applicant Archie Fitch; the motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Wade and Cox voting nay.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 6:25 p.m.

 6/17/25
Mayor

 6/17/25
City Clerk





Mayor & Board of Aldermen
SPECIAL CALL MEETING

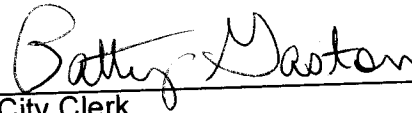
Tuesday, May 27, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Location: City Hall Boardroom - 1018 Porter Avenue - Ocean Springs, MS 39564

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1. Executive Session: Personnel - All Departments


Mayor


City Clerk