

REGULAR MEETING (AMENDED) OF APRIL 4, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Regular Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 2023. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present were City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Captain Shane Tiner, Fire Chief Derek McCoy, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, Planning & Grants Administrator Carolyn Martin, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, Project Manager Sarah Harris, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Mike Barnett with First Baptist Church gave the invocation and Boy Scout Troop 271 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance - Boy Scout Troop 271

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

PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Recognition of employment years of service: 15 Years ~ Police Lieutenant Steven Dye, Police Lieutenant Leonard Ordonez; 10 Years ~ Payroll Technician Jennifer Ferrell; 5 Years ~ Sr Records Clerk Amanda Dixon and Parks Maintenance Laborer A Henry Lamb

Police Lieutenant Leonard Ordonez and Payroll Technician Jennifer Ferrell were present to accept their certificates.

- b. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

Police Captain Tiner accepted the Proclamation.

- c. Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

Fire Chief McCoy accepted the proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Approval of Zoning Change from the R-D (Two-Family Residential District) to the CMX-1 (Neighborhood Commercial / Mixed Use District) 813 General Pershing Avenue / Parcel No.: 60119394.000

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing.

The Planning & Grants Administrator explained that the requested change to CMX-1 is the least intense commercial zoning and the Planning Commission recognized there was a demonstrated, significant change in the neighborhood.

Donovan Scruggs spoke in favor of the zoning change, as the agent for the applicant.

Aldermen Cox, Papania, and Authement expressed concern of spot zoning. Alderman Authement asked if the neighbors support the change and then stated the neighbors he has spoken with do not support the zoning change.

The Planning & Grants Administrator said the Planning Commission will be addressing the Short Term Rental ordinance including removing the existing Downtown Overlay District from the cap of the total allowed Residential Short Term Rental Properties. This property is located within that overlay district.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to close the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, and seconded by Alderman Papania to deny the zoning change from the R-D (Two-Family Residential District) to the CMX-1 (Neighborhood Commercial / Mixed Use District) 813 General Pershing Avenue / Parcel No.: 60119394.000. The motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Papania, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Cox and Blackman voting nay.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Adopt a Resolution approving the Urban Renewal Map

Alderman Cox said he does not agree with the current map, stating that some areas that were removed should be included and area 6 should not be included.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Blackman. The motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Cox and Wade voting nay.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Authorize the Mayor to execute the contract with Clark Auctions for an online auction of surplus property

Alderman Cox requested the Fire Trailer that is on the auction list be removed to determine if it could be converted to a bathroom trailer. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to execute the contract with Clark Auctions for an online auction of surplus property.

- b. UPDATES to the Adopted Fee Schedule – Residential and Commercial Short-Term Rental Application and Renewal

The Planning & Grants Administrator explained that the existing Short Term Rental (STR) ordinance allows for the fee to be changed with the fee schedule by the Board of Aldermen. She explained that a fee increase was discussed by the Planning Commission as part of the ordinance modification at a previous meeting, and requested to amend the Commercial and Residential STR fees for both application and renewal to be in line with the work required and similarly to other cities in the area. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to amend the adopted fee schedule for an increase of the Commercial and Residential STR fees for application and renewal as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Approval to allow the Ocean Springs Education Foundation - Crawfish & Cornhole for Classroom use of 90 barricades for their event on Friday, April 28 from 6-9 p.m. at The Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center. This event will promote and advertise the resources of the City of Ocean Springs.

- b. Approval to waive the \$300 deposit for use of the Ocean Springs Civic Center for the Supervisor of Shipbuilding Change of Command Ceremony on August 3, 2023.
- c. Approve Run/Walk Permit Application for the Mississippi Municipal Service Company 5K on June 28, 2023 from 6:30 am until 9:00 am; Beach Pathway route beginning and ending at Fort Maurepas, no cost to the City, the applicant pays associated event cost

City Clerk:

- d. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting March 21, 2023
- e. Opioid Settlement participation authorization
- f. Accept the March 2023 Aged Receivable Report for utility billing

Fire Department:

- g. Authorization to Declare Surplus

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- h. Human Resources Action Items (Amended):
 - a. Authorize removal of Sr Records Clerk Amanda Dixon from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
 - b. Accept the resignation of Planning/Grants Coordinator Amanda Moser, effective April 21, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
 - c. Authorize termination of Probationary Truck Driver employee #2186, effective March 3, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
 - d. Accept the resignation of Parks Laborer Steven Stratton, effective March 31, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
 - e. Authorize removal of Court Clerk James Martin from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
 - f. Authorize removal of Deputy Court Clerk II Latena Wallace from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
 - g. Accept the resignation of Camp/Special Events Coordinator April Chewning, effective March 31, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
 - h. Authorize employment of Thaddeus Thomas, Parks Maintenance Laborer, Step 1, \$12.36 hourly rate; effective April 10, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

Grants Administration:

- i. DMR Tidelands: OS Front Beach Infrastructure Maintenance: FY18-P501-02 OS
Authorization to Accept and Execute Close Out Documents for the Front Beach Sidewalk Repair Project with Jay Bearden Construction, Inc.

Building Department:

- j. Accept Building Official Tree Recommendations - Tree applications through March 29, 2023
- k. Accept the Code Enforcement Report through March 30, 2023

Parks & Recreation Department (Amended):

- l. Approve the Facility Use Agreement for Ocean Springs Upper Elementary
- m. Declare items surplus and add to the City's upcoming online auction

Public Works: (Amended)

- n. Declare items surplus and add to the City's upcoming online auction

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. City Clerk: Approve payment: Docket of Claims, all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread summary on the Minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to approve the Docket of Claims finding that all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread the summary on the minutes.

- b. City Clerk: Accept Monthly Budget Report

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve the monthly budget report.

- c. Building: Appeal of Tree Removal denial

The Building Official said the appeal was back before the Board because the applicant could not attend the previous meeting. Alderman Burgess spoke on behalf of the applicant in favor of the removal of the trees due to hardship. A motion was made by Alderman Burgess, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to allow the tree removals at 3405 and 3407 Nottingham Road.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Bachman commended Public Works on the proper pruning and treatment of the Crepe Myrtles.

Bill Moore thanked all for helping with the Springs Arts Festival's success.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Burgess asked the Parks & Recreation Director for the status of the repair of the scoreboard at Baseball Field #3, he replied they are still waiting on a part.

Alderman Authement asked the Planning & Grants Administrator about the Downtown overlay district. She replied that it would remove the current Residential STR within the Downtown overlay footprint from the capped amount within the City with all other residential process requirements still in effect.

Alderman Cox requested the authority to close the streets for the Clydsales Parade because he doesn't feel the rolling roadblock doesn't work efficiently. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to allow the closure of streets on the parade route if deemed necessary.

Alderman Papania requested that while the STR ordinance is being amended, it addresses that two STR properties must be 500 feet apart.

Alderman Impey said the moratorium on apartment buildings expired on February 28, 2023, but the same conditions that required it remain. A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Authement to extend the moratorium on multifamily dwellings for 12 months. The motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye and Alderman Cox voting nay.

The Mayor reminded all that the Boilin' on the Beach event will be on April 29, 2023, and the first Friday at the Fort will be the night before, featuring Dwayne Doopsie as the musical guest. He also reminded all that the State of the City Address will be on April 20th at 5:30 p.m. at the Mary C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The City Clerk returned to the meeting and announced that a motion was made by Alderman Burgess, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss the Securix contract.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to send a 90-day termination of contract to Securix.

RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on April 18, 2023

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on April 18, 2023.

The meeting ended at 7:24 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk