

RECESS MEETING OF JULY 18, 2023 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Recess Meeting at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on July 18, 2023. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present were City Attorney Robert Wilkinson, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Chief Mark Dunston, 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, and Project Manager Sarah Harris.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Impey gave the invocation and Alderman Blackman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

- a. AVL - Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022 Audit Report
Tabled until next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Adopt Resolution - Adopting and Implementing the Tax Increment Financing Plan for 1515 Government Street

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

Jamie Holloway with Government Consultants said the Jackson County Board of Supervisors adopted the Tax Increment Financing Resolution for 1515 Government Street.

Dee Frances Wichman spoke against the construction fence erected beyond the sidewalk. The Mayor responded that it was done in an abundance of safety and that the city sidewalk will be rebuilt.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Authement to adopt and implement the Tax Increment Financing Plan for 1515 Government Street. Alderman Blackman recused himself from the vote. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Papania, Alderman Impey, Alderman Cox

Nay: None

Abstain: Alderman Blackman

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Appoint two members to the Planning Commission and one member to the Historic Preservation Commission effective August 1, 2023

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to appoint Matthew Hinton and Kevin O'Connell to the Planning Commission for a three-year term expiring July 31, 2026.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to appoint Bonnie Monro to HPC for a four-year term expiring July 31, 2027.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion to reappoint Mayor Pro-tempore, Finance Committee members, and HR Committee members

No change. Alderman Cox is Mayor Pro-tempore. The Finance Committee members are Aldermen Authement, Blackman, and Impey. The Human Resources Committee members are Aldermen Burgess, Wade, and Papania.

- b. Adopt Ordinance to Vacate Undeveloped Right-of-Way (ROW) in Pecan Grove Subdivision Labeled as "REHAGE" – Planning Commission Confirmed Interested Parties

Tabled until the utility locate is in place.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda except items p, q, r, and s which are tabled until a special call meeting on July 21, 2023.

Mayor:

- a. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Hold Harmless with Mississippi Songwriter's Alliance beginning July 19, 2023
- b. Approve special event application for Family Reunion Picnic on July 22, 2023, 11:00 am - 7:00 pm, in MLK Park; no costs incurred to the city. Applicant to pay all costs.

City Clerk:

- c. Approve Minutes: July 5, 2023 Regular Meeting

Police Department:

- d. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for June 2023

Fire Department:

- e. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for June 2023
- f. Accept donation from Lowe's Gautier - three Pro-Series Pit Boss pellet grills with a total value of \$1800.00

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- g. Authorize employment of Amber Carter, Administrative/Purchasing Assistant, Step 4, \$15.64 hourly rate; effective August 7, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- h. Accept resignation of Part-Time Police Officer Maria Lopez-Ruiz, effective June 30, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- i. Accept retirement of Patrolman Charles Davis, effective July 31, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- j. Authorize removal of Firefighters Chase Overstreet and Logan Walters from probationary status to full-time status effective July 24, 2023 and July 29, 2023, respectively

- k. Authorize termination of Probationary Beautification Laborer employee #2667, effective June 26, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- l. Authorize termination of Probationary Sewer Laborer employee #2681, effective July 7, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- m. Authorize removal of Parks Maintenance Laborer A Timothy Zaldana from probationary status to full-time status effective July 19, 2023
- n. Authorize removal of Parks Maintenance Laborer David Jackson from probationary status to full-time status effective July 19, 2023

Grants Administration:

- o. Authorize Mayor to Execute Administrative Change Order for Lane Construction Co. of MS to Reduce Total Contract by \$12,763.21 and to Close the Contract – Tidelands Project: FY21-P412-01: Porter Avenue Public Access
- p. Authorize to Submit Application for the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund (GCRF) – FY24 – MS Development Authority (MDA) – Public Works Relocation, Phase 2 - 20% required match
- q. Authorize to Submit Application for the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund (GCRF) – FY24 – MS Development Authority (MDA) – City Hall Expansion Project - 20% required match
- r. Authorize to Submit Application for the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund (GCRF) – FY24 – MS Development Authority (MDA) – Front Beach Event Center Development - 20% required match
- s. Authorize to Submit Funding Application to MS Department of Marine Resource (MDMR) – GOMESA – FY24: 1) Front Beach Marina & Bulkhead Construction, and 2) Washington Avenue Utility Improvements
- t. Adopt Resolution to Request Financial Support from Jackson County for the Deana Road Improvement Project

Project Manager:

- u. Authorize to execute the agreement with Overstreet & Associates, PLLC for the Downtown Sewer System Rehabilitation Project – Phase I

Building Department:

- v. Accept Building Department Permit Report for June 2023
- w. Accept Building Official recommendations on tree applications received through July 11, 2023
- x. Accept Code Report through July 13, 2023

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 Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, 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 Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the monthly budget report.

- c. City Clerk: Accept FY 23-24 Budget Calendar

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to accept the FY 23-24 budget calendar.

- d. City Clerk: Authorize the adjustment of water/sewer accounts due to a finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and the excess usage was due to unforeseen circumstances

A motion was made by Alderman Wade, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to adjust the water/sewer accounts listed; with the finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and excess usage was due to unforeseen circumstances.

- e. Fire: Authorize to apply for Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthy Heroes Program Grant to replace playground equipment at Fort Maurepas and authorize the Mayor to execute the MOU with OSSD to teach students a healthy lifestyle

The Fire Chief explained the grant opportunity for new playground equipment at Fort Maurepas and requested authorization to apply for the grant. A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthy Heroes Program Grant to replace playground equipment at Fort Maurepas and authorize the Mayor to execute the MOU with OSSD to teach students a healthy lifestyle.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Francis Wichman asked if the city is recycling. She said both the recycling truck and the regular waste truck go to the same place. Alderman Cox responded, yes the city has recycling services but both trucks go to the same facility to be sorted and the recycling is transported to a different facility. She then said that when she purchased her home she would be allowed to rebuild her garage because the slab was still there,

but the Planning Commission had denied her application to rebuild due to the garage exceeding the neighboring property.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Burgess confirmed with the Public Works Director and Parks & Recreation Director the ongoing Ward 1 work orders are progressing.

Alderman Authement requested the paving of Cherokee Glynn be completed this week.

Alderman Wade informed the Public Works Director that there is a sinkhole around 2100 Lafitte Avenue and a water leak at 2000 Lafitte Avenue.

Alderman Papania requested the East Beach Sidewalk Project be on the August Regular Meeting for consideration.

The Mayor said the Riley Road Improvements Project received \$1.25 M this week and the project is progressing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Personnel in the Water Billing Department

A motion was made by Alderman Burgess, seconded by Alderman Cox, 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 Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss personnel in the Water Department and Parks & Recreation Department.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Papania to increase the salary of employee #2245 to \$50,481.60 at the beginning of the next pay period. The motion carried with Aldermen Authement, Papania, Cox, and Impey voting aye and Aldermen Blackman, Wade, and Burgess voting nay.

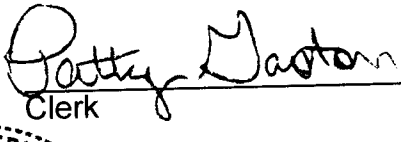
A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to terminate employee #1560 effective July 18, 2023.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously

carried to recess/adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on August 1, 2023.

The meeting ended at 7:51 p.m.

RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on August 1, 2023

 8/15/2023  8/15/2023
Mayor Date Clerk Date

