

RECESSED MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 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 in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on September 19, 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, Police Captain Ryan Lemaire, Fire Chief Derek McCoy, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, City Planner Wade Morgan, 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

Mr. James Lewis gave the invocation and Alderman Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PROCLAMATION

- a. Commending Police Chief Mark Dunston for his 22 years of service to the City of Ocean Springs Police Department upon his retirement

The Mayor presented a proclamation to Police Chief Mark Dunston for his 38 years of service in the police force and declared September 29, 2023, Mark S. Dunston Day.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Jazzy Johnz Quote for 2023 Crusin' the Coast and Peter Anderson Festival for a total of \$7,800.00

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to authorize the payment of \$7,800 to Jazzy Johnz for the 2023 Cruisin' the Coast and Peter Anderson Festival.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Authorize the Mayor to request Mississippi Power to add a street light on Hanley Road near the railroad tracks
- b. (Amended) Authorize the use of Ward 5 funds to install power to the median at the entrance to Heron Bayou for a total of \$2,666.48

City Clerk:

- c. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting September 5, 2023
- d. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting September 6, 2023
- e. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting September 13, 2023
- f. (Amended) Authorize the purchase of an Evergreen Cemetery lot #B3103A for \$3,000.00 to correct a marking error

Mary C:

- g. (Amended) Authorize the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding and Hold Harmless Agreement with J&E Night & Day

Item was pulled during Alderman's Forum.

Police Department:

- h. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for August 2023
- i. Authorize Retiring Officer to Purchase Duty Weapon

Fire Department:

- j. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for August 2023

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- k. Authorize employment of Christopher Bernard, Patrolman, Step 3, \$22.50 hourly rate; effective October 2, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

Grants Administration:

- l. Authorize to Execute Subaward Agreement for Use of Jackson County ARPA Funds – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) / MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) – MDEQ Agreement # 127-2-SW-5.6 – FORT BAYOU STORM DRAIN SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS - \$3,600,000.00
- m. Authorize to Execute Subaward Agreement for Use of Jackson County ARPA Funds – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) / MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) – MDEQ Agreement # 470-2-SW-5.6 – STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS: WEEKS BAYOU, HALSTEAD BAYOU, INNER

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HARBOR - \$2,800,000.00

- n. Authorize to Execute Subaward Agreement for Use of Jackson County ARPA Funds – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) / MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) – MDEQ Agreement # 482-2-CW-5.5 – UTILITY EVALUATION – CLEAN & VIDEO LINES - \$500,000.00

Project Manager:

- o. Execute the contract between the City and Overstreet and Associates, PLLC for the GIS project with a total cost of \$75,000.00

Zoning Adjustment Board:

- p. Approve a Variance to the minimum side yard setback requirement to allow a building to encroach 2.5 feet into the required side yard on the north side of the property, 1278 Ocean Springs Rd., PID# 60122105.000 – Applicant: KC Consultants LLC – ZAB recommends approval

Historic Preservation Commission:

- q. Approve amendment to a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a new dwelling at 506 Martin Ave., Parcel No.: 60137580.000. Applicants – Elizabeth and Lester McMackin - HPC Recommends Approval
- r. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for construction of a new dwelling at 317 Lovers Lane, PID#: 61058001.000, 61058003.000 and 61058005.000, Old Ocean Springs Historic District. Applicants: Craig and Beth Joachim - HPC Recommends Approval
- s. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Construction of a Single Family Dwelling at 802 Iberville Drive / PID# 61030003.000 /– Applicant: Cay T. Wisner – HPC Recommends Approval

Building Department:

- t. Tree Applications with Building Official's Recommendations for applications received through Sept. 12, 2023
- u. Monthly Building Report - August 2023
- v. Accept Code Report through September 13, 2023

Parks & Recreation Department:

- w. Approve Facility Use Agreement for Ocean Springs Baseball Organization for the Hwy 57 Sports Complex September 10 - December 31, 2023
- x. Approve Facility Use Agreement for Ocean Springs Girls Softball for the use of the Hwy 57 Sports Complex September 12 - November 20, 2023

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. City Clerk: (Amended) Approve payment: Docket of Claims, all expenditures are September 19, 2023 - Recess Meeting Minutes

appropriate and authorized by law, and spread summary on the Minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, 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: 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 Impey, 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.

- c. City Clerk: Authorize the close out of funds and transfer the remaining balances to the municipal reserve fund for a total of \$1,021,658.55

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to authorize the close out of funds and transfer the remaining balances to the municipal reserve fund for a total of \$1,021,658.55.

- d. City Clerk: (Amended) Authorize Budget Amendments

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the budget amendments as presented.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion with the public, the Mayor, and the Board concerning the City's proposed Urban Renewal Plan. Public speakers: Amy Carter and Ester Payton.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Authement said he intended to pull item g from consent. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Impey, an unanimously carried to unauthorize the presented MOU and Hold Harmless with J&E Night & Day with the Mary C. to be amended to include contact name and information, additional terms, and COI listing the City but to allow the use during the Songwriters Festival this upcoming weekend.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to authorize \$5,000.00 to the Historic Ocean Springs Association for Marshall Park to contribute \$2,500.00 to the public art installation and \$2,500.00 to the landscaping plan.

Alderman Cox asked about the donated Christmas decorations being moved to Marshall Park. He said that some of them would need to be touched up with paint.

Alderman Impey asked the City Clerk what the balance of the reserve fund is now that the transfer of funds has been added. She replied the balance would now be around \$2.4M.

The Mayor announced that JCUA has dismissed their annexation litigation and the official document needs to be signed by our legal team. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the execution of the Order to Dismiss.

The Mayor said the Urban Renewal Plan will be amended to read zero families may be displaced. The City Attorney explained the amendment cannot be made until after the Public Hearing set for October 2, 2023. The Mayor reminded all that a Comprehensive Plan meeting will take place at the Civic Center on September 20th. He said it will be held by Slaughter & Associates and city officials would not be present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, 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 personnel in the Public Works Department and ongoing litigation with The Sands.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Wade and seconded by Alderman Authement to advertise for an Assistant Public Works Director. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: Alderman Papania, Alderman Burgess, Alderman Blackman

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Impey, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on October 3, 2023.

The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.


Mayor  Date  10/3/23
City Clerk Date 10/3/23