

REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 2023 MINUTES

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 at 6:00 p.m. on October 3, 2023. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present were City Attorney Robert Wilkinson, City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Interim Police Chief Ryan Lemaire, Fire Chief Derek McCoy, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladhier, 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

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

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

PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Recognition of employment years of service:

- 30 Years - Firefighter Ron Farr

- 25 Years - Heavy Equipment Operations Supervisor Daniel Spicer

Daniel Spicer was present to accept his certificate of service from the Mayor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Approve the Sketch Plat for a 4-lot Subdivision in the R-1 (Low-Density Residential) District – 3072 Pabst Road, PID# 60127630.025 – Applicant: Shelley Jean Wild, Representative: Charles Taylor – Planning Commission recommends approval

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and

unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing.

The Planning & Grants Administrator explained the sketch plat is conceptual and determines if the development configuration is feasible. She said there is a large lot to be divided into four and the current house will remain on one of the parcels. She said the applicant will address the sewer main that does not extend to the properties during the preliminary plat phase. She said the Planning Commission recommended approval.

No public comment.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to approve the sketch plat for a 4-lot subdivision in the R-1 District at 3072 Pabst Road.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Frances Wicham, agenda item 7-x, asked about the short-term rental cap. The Planning & Grants Administrator responded that the cap was increased in June to 115 divided between two zones.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Adopt an Ordinance to remove the Community Development & Planning Director from Civil Service protection

The Human Resources & Risk Management Director explained that all department heads, except the Fire and Police Chiefs, were removed from Civil Service protection several years ago by ordinance and there was not a Community Development & Planning Director position at that time. A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Burgess to adopt an Ordinance to remove the Community Development & Planning Director from Civil Service protection. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Approve Run Permit for St. Alphonsus Night of Neon 5K and Fun Run on November 3, 2023, from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., using the Night of Neon route, the applicant is to pay all costs
- b. Approve the Special Event Application for the Down the Road Block Party on November 25, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr., the applicant will pay for any incurred costs
- c. Approve special event application for Junior Tennis State Championship Tournament on December 1-3, 2023, 7:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m., Halstead Tennis Courts; no costs incurred to the city, the applicant to pay all costs
- d. Approve the Run Application for the 13th annual Bridge for Life HIV/AIDS Walk, December 2, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Front Beach/Bridge Route, the applicant will pay any applicable costs
- e. Approve run application for Mississippi Gulf Coast 5K on December 9, 2023, 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m., Front Beach/Bridge; no costs incurred to the city, the applicant to pay all costs

City Clerk:

- f. Accept the September 2023 Aged Receivable Report for utility billing
- g. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting September 19, 2023
- h. Authorize UPDATE to the Adopted Fee Schedule – Commercial Short Term Rental Application and Renewal

Police Department:

- i. Authorize the Mayor to execute the TEMCO Routine Maintenance Service Plan Agreement for the Police Department building

Fire Department:

- j. Authorize to declare 2005 Ford Free Star Van, Tag # G 35528, Vin # 2FMZA57695BA45225, and Asset # 2246 surplus, utilize for training, and dispose

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- k. Accept the resignation of Police Chief Mark Dunston, effective September 29, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- l. Authorize appointment of Police Captain Ryan Lemaire as the Interim Police Chief, effective September 30, 2023
- m. Authorize removal of Patrolman Daniel Wanhala from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately

- n. Authorize employment of Tyrone Patterson, Parks Maintenance Laborer, Step 1, \$13.00 hourly rate; effective October 4, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- o. Authorize termination of Parks Maintenance Laborer employee #2678, effective September 21, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- p. Authorize termination of Administrative Assistant employee #2622, effective September 28, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position

Planning Commission:

- q. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 608 Azalea Lane – Chad Wade – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- r. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 206 Audrey Circle – Patrick Tomey – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- s. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 504 Dewey Avenue – Bryan & Melissa Blaker – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- t. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 712 Forest Hill Drive – Brett Orrell – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- u. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 1015-A Lafontaine Street – Frederick Pattison Mannino – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- v. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 1015-B Lafontaine Street – Frederick Pattison Mannino – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- w. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 103 Myrtle Avenue – Stephen Johnston – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- x. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 1502 Porter Avenue – Michelle Hodges – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- y. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 516 Shadowlawn Circle – Aaron Goetsch – Planning Commission Recommends Approval

Grants Administration:

- z. Authorize to Execute Contract with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering Services – MDOT Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) – STP-9059-00(001) LPA/109329-701000 – Riley Road Improvements; project funded by state appropriations from HB 1353
- aa. Authorize Contract with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. for Engineering Services – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) / MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) – MDEQ Agreement # 108-1-CW-5.5 – EAST SIDE SEWER DIVERSION PROJECT - Design and Construction Oversight not to exceed \$174,500

Building Department:

bb. Tree Applications with Building Official Recommendations for Tree Applications Taken Through September 26th, 2023

cc. Accept Code Report through September 27, 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 Authement, 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. Finance: Adopt Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2023 and spread upon the minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to adopt the Municipal Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2023 and spread the summary on the minutes.

- c. Finance: Accept the Monthly Budget Report

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

James Lewis requested the crosswalk at Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and Dr. Jesse Lee Trotter Senior Street be restriped. He suggested that the crosswalk be changed to one that is similar to the crosswalk on Government Street near Broomes II.

Ester Payton requested to submit documents to the Mayor and Board as a record that the homes in the Urban Renewal Map are not blighted. She spoke against the Alderman for Ward 2 voting for the Urban Renewal Map.

Dee Francis Wichman spoke against the closing and development of Cash Alley.

Lottie Gipson spoke against the blighted designation of 815 General Pershing Avenue in the Urban Renewal Plan.

Rana Oliver, owner of the Carter/Callaway Steamboat House at 916 State Street,

asked about emergency egress in downtown neighborhoods during festivals. The Public Works Director responded that the signs will be posted tomorrow and that Handy Avenue and Robinson Street will be open for residents.

Leslie Oliver suggested allowing property owners to opt into the Urban Renewal Plan rather than opt out.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Authement asked the Public Works Director if all was ready for Cruisin' beginning Thursday in Ocean Springs.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the re-hire of Patrolman Dimitrius Cruz, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

The Mayor said Cruisin' the Coast will begin this week. He announced the Cemetery Tour will be Thursday, October 12th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, October 15th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. He also announced that the Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center has a photo exhibition celebrating the 60 year anniversary of James Meredith exhibit desegregating the University of Mississippi and will be hosting the artist and James Meredith on October 14th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The City Planner said the MS Chapter of the American Planning Association has awarded Washington Avenue the "Great Street Award" for 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to recess/adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on October 17, 2023.

The meeting ended at 6:32 p.m.

RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on October 17, 2023



Mayor [Signature] Date 10/3/2023 Clerk Betty Norton Date _____