

RECESSED MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 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 August 15, 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, Project Manager Sarah Harris, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Parks & Recreation Director gave the invocation and Alderman Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PRESENTATIONS

a. Ocean Springs Library Update - Yvonne Parton
Ocean Springs Library Manager Yvonne Parton thanked the City for the support of the library, especially during the recent renovations. She expressed appreciation for the use of the Mary C as a temporary location. She said the library had a soft opening on August 14th and the ribbon cutting will be on September 6th at 11:00 a.m.

b. Ocean Springs School District 2023-2024 Ad Valorem Request
OSSD Superintendent Michael Lindsey said there is no increase in the millage rate requested for the Ocean Springs School District. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to accept the OSSD 2023-2024 Ad Valorem request.

PUBLIC HEARING

a. Request Approval of the Preliminary Plat for an 80-lot Subdivision in the R-1 (LowDensity Residential District) Using the Density Bonus Regulations – 4414

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Hanshaw Road, PID# 60126070.000 – Applicant: Elliott Land Developments, LLC
A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing.

The City Planner explained the Planning Commission recommended approval with a bond in place to pay for the replacement of the sewer force main at a bridge that will be reconstructed by Jackson County in the future.

Donovan Scruggs requested that the bond stipulation not be included in the approval of the Preliminary Plat. He said they have obtained a letter from Jackson County Supervisor Randy Bosarge stating that the force main will be included in the county's bid packet at no cost to the City.

Jon Rivera spoke against the development stating the completed traffic study that concluded no significant increase in traffic is incorrect.

Gail Bishop spoke against the subdivision development because it is near the Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge Fontainebleau Nature Trail.

Je'nell Gustafson requested the Planning Commission's requirement of the bond be upheld. She also expressed concern that the traffic study completed was incorrect and requested the MDOT traffic count be reviewed before making a decision.

James Lewis spoke against the development.

Marian Andrews spoke against the developer.

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

Alderman Cox said the MDOT Traffic Count Study was not made available to the Board. Alderman Impey said there are too many unknowns to make a decision.

A motion was made by Alderman Papania, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to table the item for more information to be provided.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Pamela Green, 3002 Government Street, item 9-c, requested tree removal be granted due to sewer line damage.

OLD BUSINESS

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

A motion was made by Alderman Wade, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to table until the survey can be reviewed for possible partial vacate.

b. Recommendation of Award and Execute contracts for Disaster Debris MONITORING Services

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Impey, and unanimously carried to table the item for further review by the committee.

c. Recommendation of Award and Execute contracts for Disaster Debris REMOVAL Services

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to table the item for further review by the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. VOID - Receipt of a notarized letter from neighbors voids the need for variance and appeal ~~–Consider the Appeal by the Applicant of the Denial Recommendations of the Zoning Adjustment Board on Variances to 1) the maximum height of a fence within the front yard area and 2) the requirement for the finished side of a fence to face outward at 409 East Beach Drive, PID# 60132310.000 – Applicant: Jesse and Anett Moskowitz~~
The item was voided and removed from the agenda.

b. Medical insurance renewal - John Lockard

John Lockard reviewed the medical insurance renewal options. He recommended remaining with United Health Care with a revised annual cost of \$1,301,300.00 which includes a premium holiday. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to accept the recommendation and renew the medical insurance for FY 23-24 with United Health Care.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda except for item ee pulled by Alderman Authement which will be addressed during Executive Session.

Mayor:

- a. Adopt Resolution to request assistance from Jackson County for funds for the maintenance and operation of the Mary C
- b. Authorize the Mayor and Arts & Culture Coordinator to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Hold Harmless Agreements with Mary C. instructors/partners: Jessica Church, Caitlin Batson, Julianna O. McRae, Unfazed Show, and Band LLC.
- c. Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Grant Agreement with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation for the Healthy Heroes Program in the City of Ocean Springs
- d. Authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Jackson County Board of Supervisors to request assistance to address the current issues with two ball fields at Gay-Lemon Ball

Park

- e. Authorize \$500 sponsorship for the Jackson County Animal Shelter Pets – “Paddle For Paws” event
- f. Approve event sponsorship for the 2023 Labor Day Artwalk on September 2, 2023, in downtown Ocean Springs
- g. Authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement to contract with The Network for Friday at the Fort on September 29, 2023, at Fort Maurepas Park, from 6:00- 9:00 p.m. The cost will be \$1,800
- h. Approve the Special Event Application for the 2023 Ocean Springs Cemetery Tour, October 12, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm and October 15, 2023, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, The Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center Lawn and Evergreen Cemetery, overtime costs for the event
- i. Approve the Special Event Application for Lighting the Coast on October 14, 2023, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the beach in front of Fort Maurepas Park, the applicant pays the associated event cost
- j. Approve the Special Event Application for Spooky Springs at The Scary C on October 27-28, 2023, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., The Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center Lawn, street closure: Government Street from Ward Avenue to Magnolia Avenue, overtime costs for the event

City Clerk:

- k. Adopt the Resolution to open the 2023 – 2024 Uniform Assessment Schedule and authorize to schedule the Public Hearing for September 5, 2022, to adopt the Uniform Assessment Schedule
- l. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting July 18, 2023
- m. Approve Minutes: Special Call July 21, 2023
- n. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting August 1, 2023
- o. Ratify check 127004 to Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce for L&N Depot building restoration for \$10,000

Police Department:

- p. Authorize Retiree Purchase of Duty Weapon
- q. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for July 2023

Fire Department:

- r. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for July 2023

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- s. Accept the resignation of Planning & Grants Coordinator Dawn Underwood, effective August 7, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- t. Authorize employment of Camille Anderson, Planning & Grants Coordinator, Step 2, \$15.44 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- u. Accept the resignation of Lieutenant Jonathan Carroll, effective August 24, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- v. Accept the resignation of Sergeant Timothy Paul Regan, effective August 20, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- w. Authorize employment of Kevin Interlicchia, Patrolman, Step 1, \$19.50 hourly rate; effective August 28, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- x. Accept resignation of Fireman Gene Gildea, effective August 8, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position

- y. Authorize termination of Probationary Street Laborer employee #2615, effective July 27, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- z. Authorize employment of Donald Tubbs, Sewer Laborer, Step 2, \$14.04 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- aa. Authorize employment of Devin Sonnier, Sewer Laborer, Step 4, \$15.00 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- bb. Authorize employment of Steve Cranfield, Maintenance/Sign Laborer, Step 5, \$14.50 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- cc. Authorize employment of Ruben Price, Beautification Laborer, Step 4, \$13.50 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- dd. Authorize employment of Martin Hubbard, Truck Driver, Step 2, \$15.48 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- ee. Accept the resignation of Animal Control Officer Adam Wilson, effective August 25, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- ff. Authorize employment of Shawn Newsome, Water Meter Technician, Step 4, \$15.00 hourly rate; effective August 16, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

Planning Commission:

- gg. Approval to Build on a Historically Platted Non-conforming Parcel at 1303 Porter Ave, PID# 60130170.000 – Applicant: Dempsey Levi

Grants Administration:

- hh. Authorization to Executed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with MS Department of Marine Resources for Maintenance of 323 Front Beach Drive
- ii. Authorization to Execute Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for GOMESA Funding – Award #3000035789 – Department of Marine Resources – OS Sewer Rehabilitation – \$1,960,000.00
- jj. Authorization to Execute Construction Engineering & Inspection (CE&I) Services by Brown, Mitchell, & Alexander, Inc. – Government Street Improvement Project – Phase 2 – Project No. STP-9064-00(010) LPA/106375

Zoning Adjustment Board:

- kk. Approve a Variance to the minimum side yard building setback distance at 506 Martin Ave., PID# 60137586.000 – Applicants: Beth and Les McMackin

Historic Preservation Commission:

- ll. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for construction of a front yard fence at 110-A Shearwater Drive, PID#: 60130590.072, Shearwater Historic District. Applicant: Owen White
- mm. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for construction of additional roof covers on sections of the rear porch at 303 Front Beach Drive, PID#: 60137429.000, Old Ocean Springs Historic District. Applicants: Charles M. and Julia R. Illanne
- nn. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for construction of a 2-story hotel consisting of 2 buildings with a swimming pool at 1007 Iberville Drive, PID#: 60119172.000; Marble Springs Historic District. Applicant: Marques Thomas

Building Department:

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oo. Accept Tree Recommendations from Building Official for tree applications received through August 8, 2023

pp. Accept Building Department Monthly Permit Report for July 2023

qq. Accept Code Report through August 10, 2023

Project Manager:

rr. Execute contracts between Graham Construction Co., Inc and Bottom 2 Top Construction, LLC for the Term Bid Contract for Water, Sewer, and Drainage Projects 2023

ss. Ratify the execution of the contract between the City and Roofing Solutions, LLC for the Taconi Roof Project

tt. Ratify the execution of the contract between the City and Hopkins Construction and Maintenance, LLC for the Fort Maurepas Stage Cover Project

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Finance: 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. 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 Burgess, 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. Building: Tree Removal Appeal for 3002 Government St

The Building Official said after his first ruling, Public Works confirmed the sewer line is being damaged by the tree roots and he now recommends removal of the tree. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to grant the appeal and allow the removal of the tree at 3002 Government Street.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Julia Illane requested the fence ordinance be reviewed and issues addressed. She stated she does not want commercial activity at the proposed marina on Front Beach.

Owen White said the speed limit on Shearwater Drive is being ignored.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Impey asked the Parks & Recreation Director if a canopy for the Trentwood Playground had been priced yet for the budget. He replied he does not have the information yet.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Personnel in the Police and Parks Maintenance Departments

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, 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 Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss personnel in the Police and Parks Maintenance Departments.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Papania and seconded by Alderman Authement to terminate employee #2327. The motion carried with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Papania, Blackman, and Impey voting aye, Alderman Wade voting nay, and Alderman Cox abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Alderman Papania, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to rescind the previous motion terminating employee #2327, Alderman Authement abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Alderman Papania, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to allow employee #2327 to resign or be terminated immediately.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Animal Control Officer Adam Wilson, effective August 25, 2023, without a payout, and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on September 5, 2023.

The meeting ended at 8:12 p.m.

Mayor

Date

Clerk

Date



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