

RECESSED MEETING OF DECEMBER 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 at 6:00 p.m. on December 19, 2023. Mayor Pro-Tempore Cox presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Mayor Holloway was absent. Also, present were City Attorney Robert Wilkinson, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Chief Ryan Lemaire, 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 Pro-Tempore called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Mike Barnett gave the invocation and Alderman Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PRESENTATIONS

a. Downtown Crosswalk Project - Starting January 2024

The Project Manager gave an update on the Downtown Crosswalk Project starting January 2024. She said MLK Avenue and Government Street will be closed from January 8th to the 10th, Government Street and Washington Avenue will be closed from January 29th to 31st, and Washington Avenue and Porter Avenue will be closed from February 19th to 21st.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Frances Wichman, agenda item 6-y, requested the home be moved rather than demolished.

Rocky Rasonet, agenda item 6-y, responded that the house cannot be insured as is and presented photos of the proposed replacement home.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. UPDATED: Adopt ORDINANCE for Designation of the Church as a Landmark Site – 1418 Government Street; Parcel ID # 60137052.000 – St. James United Methodist Church – Historic Preservation Commission Report

A motion was made by Alderman Authement and seconded by Alderman Blackman to adopt an Ordinance for the Designation of St. James United Methodist Church as a Landmark Site at 1418 Government Street Parcel ID # 60137052.000 (ORD 2023-15). The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey
Nay: None

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Authorize waiving the rental fee of the Civic Center for the Rotary Club of Ocean Springs on Friday, December 29, 2023, for their Red Cross blood drive; to advertise the resources of the City
- b. Authorize payment of the invoice after the New Year's Eve performance to The Tree-Oh for \$650.00
- c. Approve the Run/Walk/Bike Permit Application for the Frosty Kroc Race on January 6, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Front Beach/OS Bridge Route; the applicant will pay any cost for the event
- d. Authorize the Mayor to sign Singing River Health System's Patient Transportation Program's Section 5310 Operating and Capital Grant through FTA. This is an annual grant that Singing River Health System applies to assist the community in their transportation needs.
- e. Authorize waiving the rental fee of the Civic Center for the Hospice of Light's Veteran Resource Fair on March 21, 2024; to advertise the resources of the City

Mary C:

- f. Authorize the Arts & Culture Coordinator and the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Hold Harmless Agreements with
Curtain Call Theatrics, HossFly, J&E Knight & Day, Shine Theater, and the New Bridge Network each for a one-year term that will automatically extend up to four renewal one-year terms

City Clerk:

- g. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting November 28, 2023
- h. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting November 29, 2023
- i. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting December 5, 2023
- j. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting December 5, 2023

Police Department:

- k. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for November 2023
- l. Authorize Out of State Travel for Professional Training - Employee #2488, January 8-10, 2024, Pensacola, FL - Death Investigation & Scene Analysis Seminar

Fire Department:

- m. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for November 2023

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- n. Accept the retirement of City Planner Wade Morgan effective April 15, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- o. Accept resignation of Custodial Supervisor Gwen Thigpen, effective December 4, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- p. Accept the retirement of Street Leadman Michael Smith effective December 31, 2023; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- q. Authorize employment of Todd Callegari, Water Laborer, Step 3, \$15.00 hourly rate; effective December 20, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- r. Authorize employment of Alexis Rogers, Public Works Administrative Assistant, Step 1, \$14.00 hourly rate; effective December 20, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

Historic Preservation Commission:

- s. UPDATED: Approve Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for the construction of an Open Air Pavilion with Outdoor Kitchen – 207 Washington Ave./ PID# 61360007.000 / Old Ocean Springs Historic District – Henry Furr, HH Furr Architects – applicant; Michelle Hodges – owner – Historic Preservation Commission Report

Grants Administration:

- t. Authorize Advertisement for Construction – MDOT Transportation

Improvements Program (TIP) Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP)
– Government Street Improvements – Phase 2

Project Manager:

- u. Execute contract between Overstreet and Associates, PLLC, and the City of Ocean Springs for the Term Bid Contract - Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining 2024

Building Department:

- v. Approve the Building Department Permit Report for November 2023
- w. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through December 12, 2023
- x. Accept Code Report through December 11, 2023
- y. Approve request to demo home at 1607 Porter Ave

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. 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 Blackman, 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.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

James Lewis said some crosswalk material on MLK Avenue was coming up and requested it be repaired.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Impey wished everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN UNTIL 6: 00 P.M. on January 2, 2024

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 6:16 p.m.




Mayor _____ Date 1/17/24 Clerk _____ Date 1-17-24

