

REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2024 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 February 6, 2024. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, and Blackman were present. Alderman Impey was absent. Also present were City Attorney Will Norman, 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, and Payroll Coordinator Jennifer Simmons.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATION

- a. Proclamation - 2024 Arbor Day - February 9, 2024

The Mayor declared February 9, 2024, Arbor Day.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Townhouse Dwellings in the C-H (Regional Commercial District) on Groveland Rd. – PID# 60127330.100 – Applicant: Freddie Fountain/Fountain and Assoc., LLC – Planning Commission Recommends Approval

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

The Planning & Grants Administrator explained both public hearings on this agenda are for the same property. She said the CUP is to allow low-density residential in a current Regional-Commercial (C-H) zone. She said some questions were raised during the Planning Commission meeting about the moratorium on apartment buildings. The City Attorney explained the moratorium only mentions building permits and is set to expire soon. He added that the applicant is not at that phase now.

No public input for or against.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to approve the Conditional Use Permit for PID #60127330.100 on Groveland Road for Townhouse dwellings.

- b. Request for the Sketch Plat for a Subdivision for Townhouse Dwellings in the C-H (Regional Commercial District) on Groveland Rd. – PID# 60127330.100 – Applicant: Freddie Fountain/Fountain and Assoc., LLC

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

The Planning & Grants Administrator explained the Planning Commission recommended approval with a minor change to allow for a maximum of six dwellings grouped together. She said this is the conceptual stage of a 30-lot townhome development to be grouped in groups of six.

No public input for or against.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve the sketch plat for PID #60127330.100 on Groveland Road for a townhome development.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Agenda item 6-b - Doug Walker and Dee Francis Wichman spoke against the increased fees for garbage collection.

Agenda item 7-u - Doug Walker, Albert Johnston, and Christine Trigg spoke against the approval of a short-term rental at 208 White Blvd.

Agenda item 7-x - Cam Roberds and Michael Mound spoke against the rejection of the award to Water & Woods, LLC for the Public Access Project of the Front Beach Event Center & Marina. Cara Wagner with Cypress Environment & Infrastructure spoke as the Engineer for the project and stated that the contractor's bid was on the incorrect material and spoke in favor of taking their recommendation of rejecting the award and re-advertising the project.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Request approval of a Lot Split at 9200 Ocean Springs Rd., PID no. 60123450.000 – Applicant: Sandy Kaye Cox – Planning Commission
Recommends Approval – Deferred from the January 16, 2023 agenda

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to approve the lot split at 9200 Ocean Springs Road PID #60123450.000.

- b. Adopt a Resolution to Adopt the Increased Fees for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal with Waste Pro

A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Authement to adopt the Resolution adopting the increased fees for solid waste collection and disposal with Waste Pro. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda except for items 7-x and 7-y pulled by Alderman Authement.

Mayor:

- a. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for The Great Food Truck Race filming on February 5-9, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Front Beach Drive; the applicant will use their own resources
- b. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the "Play Dirty" movie filming on Friday, February 9, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Porter Avenue; the applicant will use their own resources
- c. Approve the Run/Walk/Bike Permit Application for the 32nd annual Valentine's Day 5K on February 10, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.; Front Beach/OS Bridge; the applicant will pay any cost for the event
- d. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Friday at the Fort concert series on April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30, and September 27, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; at Fort Maurepas Park
- e. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for Boilin' on da Beach Crawfish Competition on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; at Fort Maurepas Park
- f. Approve the Run/Walk/Bike Permit Application for the annual Gray Over the Bay 5K on May 11, 2024, beginning at 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Front Beach/OS Bridge; the applicant will pay any cost for the event

- g. Authorize waiving the rental fee of the Ocean Springs Civic Center for the Ocean Springs High School Theater Club's Banquet on May 18, 2024; to advertise the resources of the City
- h. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for Sunset on Cancer Run on October 5, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Registration and family events will be held at the Fort, with the run course down the beach to the bridge, halfway up the bridge, and back; the applicant to pay all associated costs.

City Clerk:

- i. Accept the January 2024 Aged Receivables Report for utility billing
- j. Ratify check 128573 to Mississippi Power Company in the amount of \$63,618.29 for December electricity charges, bill lost in the mail
- k. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting January 16, 2024

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- l. Authorize to declare 10 Dell Desktop Computers (asset #s - 7892, 7850, 7838, 7843, 7829, 7889, 7846, 7845, 7840, 7833) as surplus, no value to the City, remove inventory, and destroy
- m. Accept retirement of Building Department Office Administrator, Darla Jourdan, effective February 29, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacancy
- n. Authorize employment of Karen Savoie, Permit Clerk, Step 1, \$14.00; effective February 7, 2024; one-year probationary period, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- o. Authorize promotion of Lieutenant Steven Dye to Deputy Police Chief, Step 1, \$29.81 hourly rate; effective February 17, 2024; six months probationary period; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- p. Authorize promotion of Sergeant Andrew England to Lieutenant, Step 1, \$25.50 hourly rate; effective February 17, 2024; six months probationary period; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- q. Accept the resignation of Battalion Chief Brad Chennault, effective February 7, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- r. Authorize employment of Sarah Posey, Art & Culture Assistant, Step 5, \$16.54 hourly rate; effective February 7, 2024; one-year probationary period, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- s. Authorize employment of Paige Sanders, Custodian, Step 1, \$13.00 hourly rate; effective February 7, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- t. Authorize the adoption of a Childcare Employee Discount Policy which provides full-time city employees a discount for the Parks & Recreation Department After School and Summer Camp programs

Planning Commission:

- u. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 208 White Boulevard – Tony & Katherine Archuleta – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- v. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 225 Halstead Rd. – Derek Norsworthy – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- w. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 501 Rayburn Avenue – Julian Rankin – Planning Commission Recommends Approval

Grants Administration:

- x. Authorize Rejection of Previous Award and Readvertise for the Public Access Portion of the Front Beach Public Event Center & Marina – GOMESA – MSDMR

Alderman Authement requested item 7-x be tabled until the Project Manager is present and can explain the situation to the board completely.

- y. Authorize Amendment #1 to Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with MS Department of Marine Resources for Maintenance of 323 Front Beach Drive

Alderman Authement said this item was pulled in error. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize Amendment #1 to MOA with MSDMR for the maintenance of 323 Front Beach Drive.

Project Manager:

- z. Authorize the Ocean Springs Alternate Paving List 2023 – District 5
- aa. Authorize the Ocean Springs Alternate Paving List 2023 – District 4

Building Department:

- bb. Adopt the Resolution supporting participating in the 2024 MEMA Region 9 All Hazards Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Planning Process and Adoption of the All Hazards Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan
- cc. Accept Code Report through February 1, 2024

Parks & Recreation Department:

- dd. Approve Facility Use Agreement With OS Baseball Organization beginning February 1 through June 30, 2024, facilities listed in exhibit

Public Works:

- ee. Ratify auto-renewal of electrical contract beginning August 1, 2023, until July 31, 2024, with Engel Electric LLC as the electrical service provider for lift stations, water wells, street lighting, and other Public Works related needs

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 Cox, 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 the Monthly Budget Report

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Francis Wichman requested Code Enforcement check dumpsters in the street on Handy Ave.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Burgess requested Special Call Meetings be live-streamed moving forward.

Alderman Authement requested the Finance Committee meet and discuss selling City-owned property.

Alderman Blackman asked the Planning & Grants Administrator about the Government Street Sidewalk Project. She replied that the bids have been received and should be on the next agenda.

Alderman Cox requested that Front Beach Drive striping and parking lines be redone. Alderman Papania requested the striping in front of St. Alphonsus also be redone.

The Mayor reminded all of the Night Mardi Gras Parade Friday night.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, 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 Blackman, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss prospective land purchase.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to come out of the executive session where no action was taken.

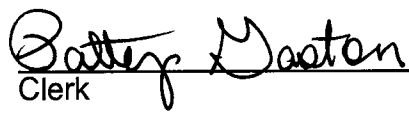
A motion was made by Alderman Burgess, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on February 20, 2024.

The meeting ended at 6:59 p.m.

RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on FEBRUARY 20, 2024



Mayor Date



Clerk Date

