

## **REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 5, 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 March 5, 2024. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. 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, 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 Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to accept the agenda.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

#### **a. Proclamation - Duchess Club of Ocean Springs 75th Anniversary**

Alderman Burgess read the proclamation to the members of the Duchess Club and declared March 17, 2024, Duchess Club of Ocean Springs Day.

### **AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

Item 5 - a) Ellen Hall, Dee Francis Wichman, Mike Illanne, Mark Gariga, Patricia Creal, and Tom Eringsing spoke against it.

Item 5 - b) James Lewis, Ellen Hall, Rebecca Alston, Dee Francis Wichman, Mark Gariga, Patricia Creal, and Tom Eringsing spoke against it.

Item 7 - c) Debra Parker asked if the special event permit location is enforceable and wanted assurance that the special event would not spill into the church parking lot.

Items 7 - r, s, t, u, v) James Lewis asked what the current cap on Residential Short-Term Rentals is.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Authorize Rejection of Previous Award and Approve Award for the Public Access Portion of the Front Beach Public Event Center & Marina – GOMESA – MSDMR – Anderson Construction of Mississippi, LLC - \$642,158.00

The Project Manager requested the Board to reject the previous award and award to the second-lowest bidder per legal recommendation. The City Attorney clarified that the Board has two options, to either rebid the project entirely or award to the second-lowest bidder. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to reject the previous award of the Public Access Project.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to award to the next lowest bidder Anderson Construction of Mississippi, LLC.

- b. Adopt a Resolution approving and adopting the Urban Renewal Plan 2024 and Adopt the Disposition Plan Resolution

A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Wade to table until after the upcoming meeting with MDEQ. The motion failed with a vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Cox

Nay: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey

Alderman Wade asked who would be paying for the five different drawings of the proposed Pine Drive property and complained that he had not been fully informed. The Mayor has responded that there have been three different renderings with the changes coming from input received from citizens. He also explained that the firm that produced the drawings was paid \$6,000 and has not charged for the different renderings as these are a work in progress. Alderman Wade requested a work session.

A motion was made by Alderman Papania and seconded by Alderman Impey to adopt the Urban Renewal Plan 2024. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey

Nay: Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Cox

A motion was made by Alderman Papania and seconded by Alderman Impey to adopt the Disposition Plan Resolution. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey

Nay: Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Cox

A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Wade to temporarily dissolve the Redevelopment Authority. The motion failed with a vote as follows:

Aye: Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Cox

Nay: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Papania, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Adopt the 2024 Water System Emergency Response Plan**

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Papania to adopt the 2024 Water System Emergency Response Plan. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda except for item 7-h pulled by Alderman Cox.

### **Mayor:**

- a. Authorize the Jazzy Johnz rental for the Ocean Springs Chamber 2024 Spring Arts Festival for a total of \$3,210.60
- b. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Walter Anderson Museum of Art (WAMA) Las Torres Azules: A fusion of Art and Fashion on April 12, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., Joseph Street road closure from WAMA to Washington Avenue, city sponsorship, at no cost to the City, the applicant pays associated event cost.
- c. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for Lost Fest on April 13, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m., Mosaic's Parking Lot, at no cost to the City, the applicant pays associated event cost
- d. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the American Legion for a yard sale to benefit veterans on May 18, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Taconi parking lot; waive the permit fee, the applicant pays associated event

cost

- e. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Walter Anderson Museum of Art (WAMA) for the Firefly Supper on June 1, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., Washington Avenue street closure in front of the Community Center, city sponsorship, at no cost to the City, the applicant pays associated event cost
- f. Authorize waiving the \$300 non-profit rental fee for the use of the Ocean Springs Civic Center for CASA of Southeast of Mississippi's 9th annual CASA Blues fundraising event on June 21-22, 2024; to advertise the resources of the City
- g. Authorize waiving the \$600 rental fee for the use of the Taconi Gym for the annual Dale Brown Camp on June 21-23, 2024; to advertise the resources of the City
- h. Authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement to contract with Dwayne Dopsie and the Zydeco Hellraisers for Friday at the Fort on June 28, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Alderman Cox asked about the budget for the Friday at the Fort events and if we were actively pursuing sponsors for the event. The City Clerk responded that this is one of the more expensive entertainers, and it is within the budget. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement to contract with Dwayne Dopsie and the Zydeco Hellraisers for Friday at the Fort on June 28, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**City Clerk:**

- i. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting February 20, 2024
- j. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting February 22, 2024
- k. Accept the February 2024 Aged Receivables Report for utility billing

**Police Department:**

- l. Authorize Placement of a New Reserve Officer

**Human Resources/Risk Management:**

- m. Authorize removal of Warrants Officer Evan Goudy from probationary status to full time status effective immediately
- n. Authorize transfer of Permit Clerk Rachel Johnson to Building Office Administrator, Step 1, \$15.44 hourly rate, effective March 16, 2024; six-months probationary status
- o. Accept resignation of Sewer Laborer Devin Sonnier, effective February 29, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position

- p. Authorize transfer of Water Department Laborer Todd Callegari to Maintenance Department Laborer and Maintenance Department Laborer Steve Cranfield to Street Department Laborer effective March 16, 2024
- q. Authorize employment of Chester Taylor, Sewer Laborer, Step 2, \$15.00 hourly rate; effective March 6, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

**Planning Commission:**

- r. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 1222 Londonderry Lane – Merethe Skaug Arneser – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- s. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 296 McCool Street – Rhonda Richmond – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- t. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 305 Teringo Circle – Valerie Lewis – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- u. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 104 Blue Heron Boulevard – Lucas Beebe – Planning Commission Recommends Approval
- v. Approve a Residential Short-Term Rental Permit – 108 Hickory Avenue – Beth Holland – Planning Commission Recommends Approval

**Grants Administration:**

- w. Approve Resolution for Gulf Coast Restoration Fund (GCRF) 20% Local Match – FY23 for Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center Rehabilitation and Signage – MDA
- x. Authorize Contract Amendment #1 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 – No Cost Increase
- y. Adopt a Uniform Guidance Procurement Policy for Compliance with Federal 2 CFR Part 200 Requirements for Use of Federal Funds

**Building Department:**

- z. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through March 1, 2024
- aa. Accept Code Report through February 29, 2024

**Parks & Recreation Department:**

- bb. Authorize the execution of the Facility Use Agreement for Ocean Springs Girl Youth Softball from February 13th through June 15, 2024, at the Hwy 57 Sports Complex Fields 1-4

- cc. Authorize to declare surplus, no use to the City, and send to auction:  
Asset #4629 Manitowoc Ice Maker Model QS0212A Serial# 060952639

#### **Public Works:**

- dd. Authorize to declare surplus, no value to the city, and send to auction: Unit 25 2008 Ford F250 VIN 08077, Unit 26 2008 Ford 250 VIN 08078, Unit 82 2000 Mack Dump Truck VIN 702208, and Unit 84 2009 Ford F250 VIN A25538

#### **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 Papania, 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 Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to accept the monthly budget report.

- c. City Clerk: Authorize Budget Amendments as presented

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

#### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ellen Hall submitted a deed for the Front Beach property where the public access project would be built and questioned if anything could be done to the property. She then mentioned an injunction and the City Attorney advised the Board to stop responding. She said that any citizen can enforce the warranty deed of the property.

Haven Lyons asked about the Redevelopment Authority members and if the city website is updated.

James Lewis expressed his disappointment with the Board's decisions tonight.

#### **MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM**

Alderman Authement announced that former Alderman Tom Reynold Sr. passed away recently and sent condolences to the family. He requested the tennis courts at Inner Harbor Park be blown off regularly. He asked for an update on the house that

had been moved to Ward Avenue. The Building Official replied that the owner of the house is currently working on the paperwork and survey.

The Mayor said there would be a community meeting at the Community Center on Saturday, March 9th at 1:00 pm with MDEQ to discuss the Government Street and Pine Drive property. He said the Easter Egg Hunt event at the Little Children's Park will also be on Saturday from 9:00 am until noon.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Wade, seconded by Alderman Cox, 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 Burgess, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss personnel in the Police and Planning departments and 104 Keri Cove litigation.

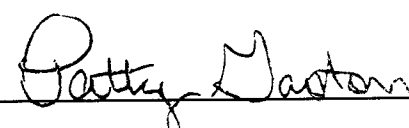
A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to come out of the executive session where the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept Chief Lemaire's recommendation and suspend employee #1134 for two days without pay.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting.

The meeting ended at 7:37 p.m.

**RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on MARCH 19, 2024**

 4/8/24       4/2/2024  
Mayor                                      Date                                      Clerk                                      Date



March 5, 2024 - REGULAR MEETING Minutes