

RECESS MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2023

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 March 21, 2023. Alderman Cox presided as the Mayor Pro-tempore, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, and Impey were present. Mayor Holloway and Alderman Blackman were absent. Also present were City Attorney Robert Wilkinson, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Chief Mark Dunston, Fire Chief Derek McCoy, Planning & Grants Administrator Carolyn Martin, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor Pro-tempore called the meeting to order.

The Parks & Recreation Director 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.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to rescind the motion made at the March 7, 2023 meeting that adopted a Resolution setting the Public Hearing for the Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan on March 21, 2023, along with the Redevelopment Plan and Exhibit 1 (The Redevelopment Plan has not been completed).

NEW BUSINESS

The Planning & Grants Administrator said the applicant is appealing the Zoning & Adjustment Board (ZAB) denial of the maximum building height limit variance at Parcel # 60119468.000 on the north side of Desoto Avenue, east of Cash Alley (Exhibit 6-a). She said they are requesting a 14.2% variance for height for a 3-story building, which would be an additional five feet in height. She said ZAB denied the application due to "no significant hardship" requiring the variance. She said the width variance was approved and is on the consent agenda. The applicant, Nicole Sullivan, said a significant hardship was not mentioned to them during the application process. She said the property is on a small

lot and will be used as 2 long-term rental units and the third floor would be used as a common area with a shed roof. She requested the five-foot variance be approved. A motion was made by Alderman Papania, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve the appeal and approve 14.2% (five foot) maximum height variance at Parcel # 60119468.000 on the north side of Desoto Avenue, east of Cash Alley.

The City Clerk said the City has been requested to contribute up to \$4,500 to the 2023 Household Hazardous Waste Day Event (HHWD) and provide at least four representatives to work the 6-hour event on April 22, 2023, at the old Singing River Mall parking lot (Exhibit 6-b). A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to approve contributing up to \$4,500 to the 2023 Household Hazardous Waste Day Event (HHWD) and provide at least four representatives to work the 6-hour event on April 22, 2023, at the old Singing River Mall parking lot.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a) Authorize First Baptist Church to use 25 barricades at no charge to block the parking lot during the Spring Arts Festival (Exhibit 7-a)
- b) Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Ocean Springs Chamber - Bud & Burgers, Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at L&N Parking Lot, the applicant will pay all costs for the event (Exhibit 7-b)
- c) Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Ocean Springs Chamber – Budweiser Clydesdales, Thursday, April 27, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., a walking parade with staging on Jackson Avenue and the parade will begin on Front Beach and end at Taconi Elementary parking lot, there may be overtime cost for Police, Fire, and Public Works (Exhibit 7-c)
- d) Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Ocean Springs Boilin' on the Beach event, Saturday, April 29, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Fort Maurepas Park, there may be overtime for Police, Fire, and Public Works, and Parks for the event (Exhibit 7-d)
- e) Authorize to waive the \$600.00 Civic Center rental fee for the National Day of Prayer event on Thursday, May 4, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Exhibit 7-e)
- f) Authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with Unfazed Show and Band LLC for Friday at the Fort May 26, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the total cost of \$2,500 (Exhibit 7-f)
- g) Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Downtown Ocean Springs Crawfish Cook-off, Saturday, May 27, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Fallos-Pleasant's Parking Lot, the applicant will pay all costs for the event (Exhibit 7-g)
- h) Authorize to waive the \$200.00 Taconi Gym rental fee for the 15th Annual Dale Brown Basketball Camp on July 8 - 10, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Exhibit 7-h)

- i) Authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with The Tree-Oh Band for Friday at the Fort on July 28, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the total cost of \$400.00 (Exhibit 7-i)
- j) Approve the Run/Walk/Bike Permit Application for the 4th Annual Harley Half Marathon, Sunday, October 22, 2023, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Biloxi/Ocean Springs Bridge, the applicant will pay all costs for the event (Exhibit 7-j)
- k) Authorize \$500.00 to Spanish Cove HOA for common area beautification from Ward 5 funds (Exhibit 7-k)
- l) Accept Joe Cloyd's resignation from the Ocean Springs School Board and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position (Exhibit 7-l)
- m) Adopt Resolution requesting assistance from Jackson County for a Ditch/Sidewalk Project on Bechtel Boulevard from Teringo Circle to Davidson Road (Exhibit 7-m)
- n) Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting of March 7, 2023 (Exhibit 7-n)
- o) Accept OSPD monthly report for February 2023 (Exhibit 7-o)
- p) Accept OSFD monthly report for February 2023 (Exhibit 7-p)
- q) Human Resources action items (Exhibit 7-q):
 - a) Accept the resignation of Part-time Police Officer Emily Chapman, effective March 24, 2023
 - b) Authorize removal of Fire Marshal Lionel Cothorn from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
 - c) Authorize employment of Robert Bailey, Parks Maintenance Laborer, Step 4, \$13.50 hourly rate; effective April 10, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
 - d) Authorize removal of Camp/Special Event Coordinator April Chewning from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- r) Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a cover over the existing stage at Fort Maurepas Park, 499 Front Beach Drive PID #60137422.000; the Historic Preservation Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 7-r)
- s) Authorize the Mayor to execute the assignment of agreements with CE Group, Inc., formally known as Compton Engineering, Inc., to Neel-Schaffer, Inc. as part of the purchase of CE Group, Inc. by Neel-Schaffer, Inc. (Exhibit 7-s)
- t) Approve the request for the construction on a historically platted, legal, non-conforming lot at 408 Russell Avenue PID #60119468.000; the Planning Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 7-t)
- u) Approve the request for a 25% variance to the minimum side yard building setback requirement on the west side of the property PID #60119468.000 (north side of Desoto Avenue, east of Cash Alley; the Zoning Adjustment Board recommends approval (Exhibit 7-u)
- v) Accept Building Department Report for February 2023 (Exhibit 7-v)
- w) Accept Code Enforcement Report through March 16, 2023 (Exhibit 7-w)
- x) Accept Tree Department Recommendations – Tree Applications through March 15, 2023 (Exhibit 7-x)
- y) Accept the proposal from Ocean Springs Coca-Cola Bottling Company and authorize the Mayor to execute the Beverage Agreement (Exhibit 7-y)

- z) Authorize the transfer of vehicle #902 2009 Chevy Impala from Public Works to the Planning Department (Exhibit 7-z)

Alderman Authement pulled item 7-l: Accept Joe Cloyd's resignation from the Ocean Springs School Board and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position (Exhibit 7-l). He requested to appoint the open School Board seat with a recent interviewee, Julia Platt. He said interviews were just completed for an expired term and would quicken the process to appoint from that pool of interviews. Alderman Papania disagreed and said the application and interview process should continue. The City Attorney said the appointment would fulfill the unexpired term but is unaware of a regulated procedure of how the Board shall appoint. Alderman Burgess requested to extend the open term to 2026 rather than 2025 because two positions expire in 2025 and none in 2026. The City Attorney said he would have to research. A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to accept Joe Cloyd's resignation from Ocean Springs School Board. A motion was made by Alderman Papania, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize to advertise for filling the vacant position.

Alderman Impey pulled item 7-y: Accept the proposal from Ocean Springs Coca-Cola Bottling Company and authorize the Mayor to execute the Beverage Agreement (Exhibit 7-y). He said the City Attorney revised the contract with required minor changes. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to accept the proposal from Ocean Springs Coca-Cola Bottling Company and authorize the Mayor to execute the revised Beverage Agreement with Coca-Cola.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk:

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve the Docket of Claims adding \$3,035 to Radar Sign (for Ward 4 with Ward 4 funds) and \$74,776 to Lyman Well Company (for Halstead Chlorine House building addition) finding that all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread the summary on the minutes (Exhibit 8-a).

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to adjust the water/sewer accounts listed on Exhibit 8-b except 3419 Bienville Blvd. and 116 Barbara Circle; with the finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and excess usages were due to unforeseen circumstances (Exhibit 8-b).

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the budget amendments (Exhibit 8-c).

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Burgess reminded all that the OSHS JROTC accreditation ceremony will be tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. in the multi-conference room at the high school.

The Mayor Pro-tempore reminded all that the Spring Arts Festival is this weekend, the Mary C will host an Easter Egg Hunt event on April 1st and Friday is the deadline for canned fruit to be dropped off for the March of the Mayors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Impey, and unanimously carried to go into a closed session to determine the necessity of going into an executive session.

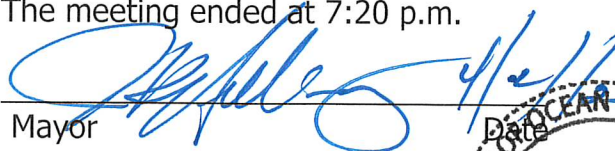
The City Clerk returned to the meeting and announced that a motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss the contract with Securix.

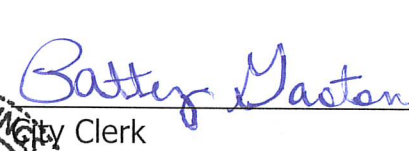
A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to come out of the executive session where the following action was taken:

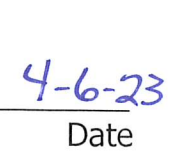
A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to retain independent counsel to research the Securix contract to determine if the City will remain in contract.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 2023.

The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.


Mayor


City Clerk


Date

