

CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS - MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN RECESS MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2024 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Be it remembered that the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Recess Meeting at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on April 16, 2024. Mayor Pro-Tempore Cox presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Blackman, and Impey were present. Mayor Holloway and Alderman Papania were 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, Community Development Director Carter Thompson, 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

Chic Cody gave the invocation and Alderman Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

a. The Ocean Springs Tree Canopy Project - Julia Weaver

Julia Weaver with the Ocean Springs Environmental Alliance explained their goal is for every neighborhood in Ocean Springs to have at least 50% tree canopy coverage with a diverse mix of native tree species. She said a tree study will be completed to identify tree species, conditions, and size. The study will then be used to create a tree planting maintenance plan.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Item 7-v - Davey Jurich, Laura Carter, Julia Illane, and Roland Creel spoke against granting the setback variance for 1301 Government Street.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Adopt a Resolution directing the sale and award of a negotiable note of the City in the amount of not to exceed \$600,000

Troy Johnston with Butler Snow and Jamie Holloway with Government Consultants said six bids were received for the \$600,000 loan to purchase fire trucks. They recommended awarding the bid to the lowest bidder, Community Bank for 4.97% interest. A motion was made by Alderman Authement and seconded by Alderman Burgess to adopt the Resolution directing the sale and award to Community Bank at 4.97% of a negotiable note of the City in the amount of not to exceed \$600,000. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

NEW BUSINESS

- a. The City of Ocean Springs annual Independence Celebration Firework Show - July 3, 2024
 - Accept Barge Donation from Signet Maritime and Vice Construction
 - Adopt Resolutions to request assistance from Jackson County
 - Select a fireworks provider from the quotes received

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to accept the barge donation from Signet Maritime and Vice Construction.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to adopt a Resolution to request assistance from Jackson County Supervisor Bosarge and send a letter for the request.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to adopt a Resolution to request assistance from Jackson County Supervisor Ross and send a letter for the request.

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to select Artisan Pyrotechnics as the fireworks provider for the July 3rd fireworks show.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Approve Special Event Application for SWLA Yoga Fest: Gulf Coast on May 18, 2024, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Fort Maurepas Park, the applicant pays the associated event cost
- b. Authorize the Mayor to sign the 2024 Cruisin' the Coast Agreement
- c. Authorize to waive the rental fees for the Alice Street ball fields and Alice Street Playground for the Ocean Springs Upper Elementary 5th grade team's walking field trip on April 29, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- d. Authorize to waive the rental fees for Fort Maurepas Park for the Ocean Springs Middle School seventh grade academic celebration on April 25, 2024, from 8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

City Clerk:

- e. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting April 2, 2024

Police Department:

- f. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for March 2024

Fire Department:

- g. Authorization to Declare Surplus and Auction 1990 Pierce Dash fire engine
- h. Accept OSFD Monthly Report for March 2024

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- i. Accept resignation of Utility Billing Supervisor Marissa Jones, effective April 25, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- j. Authorize retraction of memo dated April 2, 2024 which authorized the transfer of Animal Control Officer Kevin Interlicchia to Patrolman effective April 13, 2024; he will remain as Animal Control Officer and the transfer will be null and void
- k. Authorize request of Lieutenant Marshall Riff to voluntarily step down from Lieutenant to Patrolman, Step 3, \$22.50 hourly rate; effective April 27, 2024, six months probationary status
- l. Authorize promotions of Sergeant Archie Wallace to the rank of Lieutenant, Step 1, \$25.50 hourly rate; Patrolmen Ron Bennett, Parker Bourque, John Kirkland and Daniel Wanhala to the rank of Sergeant, Step 1, \$24.00 hourly rate; effective April 27, 2024, six months probationary status
- m. Authorize employment of Hunter Davis, Patrolman, Step 1, \$19.50 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

- n. Authorize removal of Sewer Laborer Christopher Depreo from probationary status to full time status effective April 24, 2024
- o. Authorize employment of Kince Saucier, Sewer Laborer, Step 2, \$14.78 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2023; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- p. Authorize employment of Mark Hawkins, Sewer Laborer, Step 3, \$15.22 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- q. Authorize employment of John Rodenkirch, Drainage Laborer, Step 5, \$15.20 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- r. Authorize promotion of Firefighter Adam Johnson to Captain, Step 1, \$16.56 hourly rate; effective April 27, 2024; six months probationary status
- s. Authorize employment of Daniel Chad Jay, Firefighter, Step 8, \$16.77 hourly rate; effective April 20, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- t. Authorize employment of Stanley Burney, Parks Grounds Maintenance, Step 1, \$13.00 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- u. Authorize employment of Hope Stephens, Custodian, Step 1, \$13.00 hourly rate; effective April 17, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements

Zoning Adjustment Board:

- v. Approve Variances from the Minimum Building Setback Requirements from the East and North Property Lines – 1301 Government St. – PID# 60119568.000 – Applicant: Anthony Portera – Zoning Adjustment Board Recommends APPROVAL
- w. Approve of Variances from the Minimum Side Yard Building Setback Requirements – 211 Savannah Gardens Rd. (PID# 61264006.000), 213 Savannah Gardens Rd. (PID# 61264007.000), 215 Savannah Gardens Rd. (PID# 61264008.000), and 217 Savannah Gardens Rd. (PID# 61264009.000) Applicant: Amanda Crose, with Elliott Homes – Zoning Adjustment Board Recommends APPROVAL

Historic Preservation Commission:

- x. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for the construction of a privacy fence at 1200 Iberville Drive/PID# 60119198.100 and 60119198.060; Marble Springs Historic District; Jean Sparkes – applicant – Historic Preservation Commission Recommends Approval

April 16, 2024 - Recess Meeting Minutes

**Grants
Administration:**

- y. Authorization to Execute Supplementary Agreement #1: MDOT Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) / STP-9065-00(004)/LPA 108084-701000 - Ocean Springs Road Reconstruction Project – Lane Construction – Change in Materials and Reduction of (-\$1,682.00)
- z. Authorization for Advertisement – Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center Exterior Renovations – Funding: SB2948(dddd), HB603(jv), GCRF
- aa. Authorize Execution of Contract with Overstreet & Associates, PLLC for Front Beach Pathway Improvements: Phase III – Funded through Jackson County GOMESA Award

Building Department:

- bb. Approve the Building Department Permit Report for March 2024
- cc. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through April 11, 2024
- dd. Accept Code Report through April 11, 2024

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 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: 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 Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, 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. City Clerk: Authorize April 2024 Budget Amendments

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

d. Building: Tree removal appeal for 3814 Cabildo Place Ave.

The Building Official clarified that although he didn't observe any damage to the home caused by the tree during his initial site visit, he did identify and document instances of brick cracking and mortar joint separation during the second visit. A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Impey, and unanimously carried to grant the appeal for the tree removal at 3814 Cabildo Avenue.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

The following addressed the Board and spoke against the proposed marina and commercial development of Front Beach: Ginger Stennis, Joe Jewel, Karen Stennis, Davey Jurich, Ed Eldridge, Becky Desporte, Spencer Buskirt, and Brandy Schneider.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize waiving the light plants fee for the Ocean Springs Education Foundation's use at their event on May 3, 2024.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to task Cypress Engineering to proceed with permitting the bulkhead, finger pier, and dredging of the Front Beach Event Center property.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Firefighter Quinton Clark, effective April 14, 2024; authorizing to begin the process of filling the vacant position.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to accept the termination of probationary Planning Clerk employee #2715, effective April 15, 2024; authorizing to begin the process of filling the vacant position.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, 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 Wade, and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss potential land acquisition and personnel in the Fire Department.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to go out for appraisal on possible recreation at Broome's property.

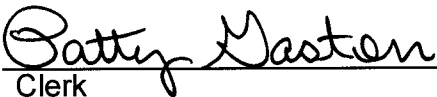
A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

ADJOURN UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on MAY 7, 2024



Mayor Date



Clerk Date

