

CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS - MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN RECESS MEETING OF AUGUST 20, 2024 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 August 20, 2024. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Blackman, and Impey were present. Alderman Papania was absent. Also present were City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Chief Ryan Lemaire, Fire Chief Ryan Heath, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, Community Development Director Carter Thompson, Grants Administrator Carolyn Martin, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Parks & Recreation Director gave the invocation and Alderman Blackman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PRESENTATIONS

a. Ocean Springs School District 2024-2025 Ad Valorem Request

OSSD Superintendent Lindsey said there are approximately 5,800 students enrolled in the district. He said that state testing results were delivered last week, and OSSD is one of two schools in the state scoring in the top 10 in all four testing areas. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to approve the OSSD 2024-2025 ad valorem tax request.

b. PATH Company – Rudy Watkins

Rudy Watkins from the PATH Company presented the Board with the preliminary utility analysis summary. He recommended implementing base energy conservation measures, such as LED lighting, HVAC programmable controls, and equipment upgrades, in buildings where energy costs exceed \$1.50 per square foot. According to his analysis, these buildings include the Community Center, Beaugez Fire Station, Building & Planning, Police Department & Court, City Hall, the Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center, Senior Center, and the Civic Center. He estimated that these measures could result in annual gross savings of up to \$65,600.

c. Arts & Culture Coordinator - Mary C. Update

The Arts & Culture Coordinator provided the Board with an update on the status of the Mary C. She introduced the ten individuals, both paid staff and volunteers, who regularly work at the Mary C. She highlighted the facility's many partners, including three theater groups, and mentioned that they host sixty programs annually. This year alone, there have been 37 shows, attracting 7,615 theater attendees. To promote events and activities, they distribute weekly e-blasts, and monthly newsletters, and maintain an active presence on social media. She also noted that the History Museum is undergoing a significant expansion and extended an invitation for everyone to visit the Mary C.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Adopt an Ordinance Redistricting the Six Wards of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, and Providing that the Election Precincts Shall Be Synonymous

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

The Grants Administrator explained each ward has to be within five percent of the average population for each ward within the census blocks.

No public input was received before or during the meeting.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Authement and seconded by Alderman Burgess to adopt the Ordinance Redistricting the Six Wards of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, and Providing that the Election Precincts Shall Be Synonymous. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Alderman Papania

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Authorize the Execution of Funding Award from the MS Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) – Police Traffic Services – FY25 - Resolution

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman and seconded by Alderman Cox to adopt

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the resolution authorizing the execution of the Funding Award from the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security for police traffic services. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Alderman Papania

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda except items 7-q, 7-r, 7-s pulled by Alderman Cox, and item 7-t pulled by Alderman Impey.

Mayor:

- a. Approve Special Event Application for Benefit Fish Fry on September 8, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at MLK Park, the applicant pays the associated event cost
- b. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Right of Use agreement with Hancock Whitney starting at 4:00 p.m. on October 9, 2024, and ending at 5:00 p.m. on October 13, 2024, for the Cruisin' the Coast event
- c. Approve the Special Event Application for Lighting the Coast on October 19, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the beach in front of Fort Maurepas Park, the applicant pays the associated event cost
- d. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Right of Use agreement with Hancock Whitney starting at 4:00 p.m. on November 1, 2024, and ending at 5:00 p.m. November 3, 2024, for the Peter Anderson Festival event

City Clerk:

- e. Accept the FY 22-23 Municipal Audit by Alexander Van Loon (AVL)
- f. Ratify the execution of Civic Plus Ord Bank Subscription
- g. Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting July 30, 2024
- h. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting August 6, 2024
- i. Ratify check 130358 to Cannon Ford for the purchase of a Water Department vehicle
- j. Authorize Weaver Electric, Inc. to continue serving as an electrical service provider for ballfield lighting, beach electrical services, and other miscellaneous needs at the listed rates for a period of one year effective through July 31, 2025

Police Department:

- k. Accept OSPD Monthly Report for July 2024
- l. Authorize Out of State Travel for Professional Training - Employee #2165,

September 12-13, 2024, Lafayette, Louisiana - Background Investigations for Police Applicants

Fire Department:

- m. Accept the OSFD Monthly Report for July 2024

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- n. Accept the resignation of Patrolman Paul Moshenrose, effective August 8, 2024; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- o. Authorize removal of Admn/Purchasing Agent Amber Carter from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- p. Authorize removal of Water Meter Technician Shawn Newsome from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately

Zoning Adjustment Board:

- q. Approve a variance for the rear setback from 25 feet to 18.75 feet at 1110 Porter Ave - PID# 60137326.000; ZAB recommends approval

Alderman Cox asked the Community Development Director if the same approval process was followed, and she answered yes. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to approve a variance for the rear setback from 25 feet to 18.75 feet at 1110 Porter Ave - PID# 60137326.000.

Grants Administration:

- r. Authorize the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MS Department of Marine Resource (MDMR) – GOMESA – FY24: Front Beach Marina & Bulkhead Construction in the amount of \$1,600,000.00

Alderman Cox verified that the Marina was removed from the MOU. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to authorize the execution of the MOU with MS Department of Marine Resource (MDMR) GOMESA FY24 for the Front Beach Bulkhead Construction for \$1,600,000.00.

- s. Authorize execution of Amendment #2 – Professional Services Agreement with Cypress Environment & Infrastructure – GOMESA/MSDMR: Front Beach Public Access

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to authorize the execution of Amendment #2 of the Professional Services Agreement with Cypress Environment & Infrastructure GOMESA/MSDMR for Front Beach Public Access.

- t. Approve Modifications to the Previously Adopted Uniform Guidance Procurement Policy for Compliance with Federal 2 CFR Part 200 Requirements for Use of Federal Funds

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and

unanimously carried to table until further modifications can be made.

Building Department:

- u. Approve the Building Department Permit Report for July 2024
- v. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through August 14, 2024.
- w. Accept Code Report through August 15, 2024

Parks & Recreation Department:

- x. Approve Facility Use Agreement with St. Alphonsus for Freedom Field August 19 - September 3, 2024
- y. Approve Facility Use Agreement with Girls Softball for Hwy 57 Sports Complex September 1 - December 1, 2024
- z. Approve Facility Use Agreement for Ocean Springs Baseball Organization for Hwy Sports Complex, Pine Street Fields, Clay Boyd Park Fields, and Alice Street Fields September 1 - December 1, 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 Blackman, seconded by Alderman Wade, 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 Cox, seconded by Alderman Authement, 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: The City of Ocean Springs will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget and proposed tax levies for FY 2024-2025 on August 27th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Boardroom

No action.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ellen Hall, Sydney Peters, and Bob Kiesau addressed the Mayor and Board.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

The Mayor addressed the public to clarify that today’s agenda involved funds related to a bulkhead, the City does not handle the Redevelopment Authority (OSRA) agendas or minutes, the City has not had a contract with Securix in over a year, and the OSRA funds received will reduce the TIF funds the developer will receive.

Alderman Authement requested that the Historic Preservation Commission meetings be moved to allow the approvals to be at the Recess Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to authorize the employment of Hannah Sullivan, Planning Administrator, Step 1, \$15.44 hourly rate; effective on or about August 21, 2024; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Alderman Impey thanked the Grants Administrator for her work on the Redistricting Plan and the City Clerk staff for an excellent audit.

Alderman Cox requested to move forward with the RFQ for the Energy audit. No action was taken by the Board.

The Mayor announced there will be an Annexation Meeting on September 18, 2024, at 5:30 at the Civic Center for the new citizens of Ocean Springs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN UNTIL 6: 00 P.M. on SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

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

The meeting ended at 7:07 p.m.

	<u>9/3/24</u>		<u>9/3/24</u>
Mayor	Date	Clerk	Date

