

Board of Aldermen Special Call Meeting August 27, 2024 Minutes

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Special Call Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on August 27, 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 Lieutenant Brian Kestner, Fire Chief Ryan Heath, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, Community Development Director Carter Thompson, and Admin & Community Relations Coordinator Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

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

The object of the meeting will be any matters pertaining to:

1. Public Hearing: FY 24-25 Budget

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

The City Clerk provided a summary of the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, covering the General Fund, Enterprise Fund, and the Food & Beverage 2% Tax Fund. She reported that the proposed General Fund Budget stands at \$18,642,461.20. Additionally, she noted that the City's mill value has increased from \$217,655.23 to \$221,809.02, which is expected to generate an additional \$120,127.61 for the General Fund. The City Clerk also explained that the payroll budget has seen a significant increase due to the creation of new positions, employee raises, and the need to remain competitive with surrounding cities. Payroll now accounts for 64% of the City's total budget. She provided a historical overview of the City's millage rate dating back to 2007 and offered a comparison of tax rates across cities within Jackson County.

The City Clerk answered questions from the audience and the Board.

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

2. Adopt a Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Blackman to adopt a Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2024 - 2025 for the City of Ocean Springs and the Ocean Springs School District. The motion carried with a roll call vote

Aye: Alderman Burgess, Alderman Authement, Alderman Wade, Alderman Blackman, Alderman Impey, Alderman Cox
Nay: None
Absent: Alderman Papania

- A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to execute the MOU with Jackson County for Housing Municipal Prisoners.

The meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Vicki Huse 9/3/24
Clerk Deputy Date

