

RECESS MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2022

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Recess Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on June 21, 2022. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Blackman, and Impey were present. Alderman Papania was 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, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, Project Manager Sarah Harris, and Executive Assistant to the Mayor & Board Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

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

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

KEYS TO THE CITY

The Mayor presented Maintenance Supervisor Tom Jones with a key to the City honoring his retirement and thanking him for his 23 Years of service.

The Mayor presented Parks Grounds Supervisor Jack Williams with a key to the City honoring his retirement and thanking him for 21 years of service.

PRESENTATIONS

Tiffany Murdock, the interim CEO of Singing River Health System, gave the Board an update on their new partnership with Ochsner Hospital System.

The Executive Assistant to the Mayor & Board introduced the 2022 – 2023 Mayor's Youth Council (Exhibit 4-b).

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Moore congratulated the Mayor's Youth Council and said he is excited for the future after hearing their collegiate plans.

Dee Homes Whitman spoke against agenda items 7-e and 7-f, the termination of MOUs related to Mary C partners, and requested that the Mary C be open some Saturdays like it was previously.

Henry Furr spoke against agenda item 7-a, implementing a moratorium on tax abatements. He said he does not want to see an incentive to do a better development done away with.

OLD BUSINESS

Uniti Fiber presented the Board with a contract renewal update emphasizing more service for less cost (Exhibit 6-a).

Alderman Cox said an Ordinance to decrease the speed limit on Government Street from Bechtel Boulevard to Pabst Road was previously presented (Exhibit 6-b). Alderman Burgess expressed her concern that golf carts have no shoulder to pull over to allow cars to pass particularly from Hanley Road to Pabst Road. A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Authement to amend the Ordinance reducing the speed limit on Government Street between Bechtel Boulevard and Pabst Road. The motion tied with a roll call vote:

Alderman Cox	<u>Nay</u>
Alderman Burgess	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Authement	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Wade	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Papania	<u>Absent</u>
Alderman Blackman	<u>Nay</u>
Alderman Impey	<u>Nay</u>

The Mayor explained if the area was changed from Pabst Road to Hanley Road golf carts would still be able to get to desired areas using the Service Road and Steelman Lane. A motion was made by Alderman Cox and seconded by Alderman Authement to amend the Ordinance reducing the speed limit on Government Street between Bechtel Boulevard and Hanley Road. The motion passed with a roll call vote:

Alderman Cox	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Burgess	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Authement	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Wade	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Papania	<u>Absent</u>
Alderman Blackman	<u>Nay</u>
Alderman Impey	<u>Nay</u>

The Mayor said the East Beach Pathway project originally was designed to have a 6.5-foot pathway from Halstead Road to Holcomb Road that the City was completing but

the County was completing a 10-foot pathway from Holcomb Road to Weeks Bayou. He explained the City requested to change from 6.5-foot to 10-foot to match the County section of the pathway. He said to make the change there is a supplementary agreement #1 with Compton Engineering for additional approved preliminary engineering services for the East Beach Multiuse Pathway with an additional \$85,000 cost (Exhibit 6-c). The Planning & Grants Administrator said most of the cost is the permitting cost for MDOT and MDR approval and would be funded with the Sidewalk Bond funds. Alderman Impey expressed concern that the cost was excessive since most of the project has been completed. A motion was made by Alderman Blackman and seconded by Alderman Authement to authorize the Mayor to execute supplementary agreement #1 with Compton Engineering for additional approved preliminary engineering services for the East Beach Multiuse Pathway with an additional \$85,000 cost. The motion carries with Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, and Blackman voting aye and Alderman Impey voting nay.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion by the Board for and against implementing a moratorium on tax abatements and the areas that should be included for tax abatements (Exhibit 7-a). The City Attorney said a revised Urban Renewal Map would need to be approved. Agenda item 7-a was tabled – to discuss implementing a moratorium on tax abatements until the city can identify zones in the urban renewal plan.

The Mayor said new apartment developments are causing a strain on the City's infrastructure and the School District; he requested a moratorium on new apartment developments be set (Exhibit 7-b). The City Attorney said due to potential litigation regarding apartment developments, further discussion should be continued in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept Alderman Impey's resignation as Mayor Pro-tempore and to appoint Alderman Cox as Mayor Pro-tempore effective July 1, 2022 (Exhibit 7-c).

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Impey, and unanimously carried to appoint Aldermen Authement, Blackman, and Impey to the Finance Committee.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to appoint Aldermen Burgess, Wade, and Papania to the Human Resources Committee.

Alderman Authement said the family of Jon Thomas has requested to add a memorial bench in MLK Jr. Park (Exhibit 7-d). A motion was made by Alderman Authement,

seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to authorize the placement of a memorial bench at MLK Jr Park and allow the Parks & Recreation Director to decide on the location of bench placement.

The Mayor said the MOUs with the Walter Anderson Theater Project (Exhibit 7-e) and Mississippi Songwriter's Alliance (Exhibit 7-f) are out of date, not applicable, and need to be updated and then revisited.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to terminate the MOU with the Walter Anderson Theater Project.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to terminate the MOU with the Mississippi Songwriter's Alliance.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a) Approve the Special Event Permit Application for Artwalk 2022 Saturday, September 3, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.; no cost to the City, the applicant will pay for any associated cost (Exhibit 8-a)
- b) Approve Special Event charges added to the City's Fee Schedule (Exhibit 8-b)
- c) Authorize the Mayor to execute the 2022 – 2023 Community Action of South Mississippi – Head Start Lease of Taconi Building Space Agreement (Exhibit 8-c)
- d) Authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement regarding the Fayard property purchase (to be provided to the Board before the meeting)
- e) Ratify a \$1,919.50 check to K & K Insurance Group for the Recreational Activities Accident Policy and a \$457,766.33 check to Lemon-Mohler Insurance Agency for Auto and Property Insurance Policies (Exhibit 8-e)
- f) Ratify a \$1,180.74 electronic payment to WEX Bank for City fuel charges for April 2022 (Exhibit 8-f)
- g) Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting June 7, 2022 (Exhibit 8-g)
- h) Authorize the Mayor to execute LexisNexis Subscription Agreement for use at the Municipal Court (Exhibit 8-h)
- i) Accept OSPD monthly report for May 2022 (Exhibit 8-i)
- j) Accept OSFD monthly report for May 2022 (Exhibit 8-j)
- k) Human Resources action items (Exhibit 8-k):
 - a) Authorize the transfer of Warrants Officer Kevin Egan to Part-time Police Officer, \$16.00 hourly rate; effective June 25, 2022; six-month probationary status
 - b) Authorize the removal of Patrolman Kameryn Walker from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately

- c) Accept the retirement of Maintenance Department Supervisor Tom Jones, effective June 30, 2022; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- d) Accept the retirement of Mechanic Thomas Wallace, effective July 31, 2022; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- e) Authorize the transfer of Water Laborer Cameron Hayes-Watson to Water Laborer/Truck Driver II, Step 1, \$15.78 hourly rate; effective June 25, 2022; six-month probationary status; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- f) Accept the termination of Parks Maintenance Laborer A employee #2578, effective June 9, 2022; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- g) Accept the resignation of Parks Maintenance Laborer Cameron Keys, effective June 17, 2022; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- l) Approve the application to construct a dwelling on a historically platted, legal, non-conforming lot at 612 Azalea Drive PID #61090010.000; Planning Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 8-l)
- m) Approve the variances from the minimum front yard and rear yard setback requirements at 612 Azalea Drive PID #61090010.000; ZAB recommends approval (Exhibit 8-m)
- n) Approve the appeal of the UDC requirements for the maximum height of an accessory dwelling unit at 139 Watersedge Drive PID #61490018.000; ZAB recommends approval (Exhibit 8-n)
- o) Authorize to execute the Professional Services Contract with Laird Engineers, Inc for Structural Engineering Consultation for the Mary C O'Keefe Cultural Center window repair at hourly rates listed in the exhibit funded from the grant budget, MDAH Cert Local Government (CLG) Grant Program (Exhibit 8-o)
- p) Authorize to reject all bids and to re-advertise Parktown Area Improvements Project (Katrina Disaster Recover Funds) and authorize to execute contract amendment #2 with Compton Engineering, Inc. for services related to re-bid services for \$4,000.00 in additional cost (Exhibit 8-p)
- q) Authorize to execute the Grant MOA to move forward with exterior improvements to the Historic L&N Railroad Depot in coordination with the OS Chamber of Commerce providing the required \$10,000.00 match (Exhibit 8-q)
- r) Approve the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the demolition of accessory buildings at 315 Front Beach Drive PID #61260002.000 and #61260003.000; Historic Preservation Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 8-r)
- s) Approve the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for minor renovations/repair to the building exterior at 703 Porter Avenue PID #60137652.000; Historic Preservation Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 8-s)

- t) Approve the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a fence at 802 Iberville Drive PID #61030003.000; Historic Preservation Commission recommends approval (Exhibit 8-t)
- u) Authorize to execute the close-out documents with Insituform Technologies, LLC for the CIPP Lining Sewer/Stormwater Pipes project (Exhibit 8-u)
- v) Accept Building Department Report for May 2022 (Exhibit 8-v)
- w) Accept Code Enforcement Report through June 15, 2022 (Exhibit 8-w)
- x) Accept Tree Department Recommendations – Tree Applications through June 13, 2022 (Exhibit 8-x)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Clerk:

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, 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 (Exhibit 9-a).

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to adjust the water/sewer accounts listed on Exhibit 9-b; with the finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and the excess usages were due to unforeseen circumstances (Exhibit 9-b).

Project Manager:

The Project Manager gave an update on current projects and submitted a Current Project Report (Exhibit 9-c). She said several projects are in the closeout process and will be off the next report including the Monster Ditch and Force Main Extension project. She said unfortunately the Parktown Drainage project will need to be rebid, pushing the project back. Alderman Cox asked if Steelman Lane and Ocean Springs Road South can be paved at the same time. The Planning & Grants Administrator said a definite plan has not been set for paving but that was the intent when the utility work on Steelman Lane started. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the Current Project Report.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dee Homes Whitman spoke against the multi-use pathway on East Beach.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Authement requested the discussion regarding the speed limit Downtown be added to the next agenda.

Alderman Cox asked the Planning & Grants Administrator for an update regarding the East Beach access roads. She replied there have been some Tidelands Grant awards for the safety improvements around East Beach, but they have been put on hold until the plan for the beach sidewalk has been finalized. Alderman Cox requested to open the application process for public members to serve on the upcoming Redevelopment Authority group. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to open the application process and to advertise for public members to serve on the upcoming Redevelopment Authority.

Alderman Blackman congratulated the Parks & Recreation Director for winning the first City Departments Crawfish Cookoff with his 2-man team.

Alderman Impey asked the Public Works Director about the paving schedule. He responded that each time he has inquired with Jackson County they have responded it will be 4 to 5 weeks. The Project Manager said it would not start until Highways 90 and 614 are completed. He verified the developer of the subdivision on Old CCC Campground Road will repair and repave the road correcting the damage they have done. A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Blackman to rescind Ordinance 2001-01 allowing the automatic pay increase for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen (Exhibit 11-a). The motion passes with a roll call vote:

Alderman Cox	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Burgess	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Authement	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Wade	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Papania	<u>Absent</u>
Alderman Blackman	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman Impey	<u>Aye</u>

The Mayor reminded all the City Fireworks show will be on July 4th at 8:45 p.m. with Biloxi's fireworks directly following at 9:00 p.m. He added that Double D will be playing at Fort Maurepas beginning at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, 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 Authement, and unanimously carried to remain

