

**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS - MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
RECESS MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2025 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 March 18, 2025. Mayor Holloway presided, and Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Interim Police Chief Steven Dye, Interim Fire Chief Chris Hupe, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Grants Administrator Carolyn Martin, Interim Community Development & Planning Director Wade Morgan, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, Project Manager Sarah Harris, and Mary C. O'Keefe Center Director Sarah Qarqish were also present.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Mike Barnett gave the invocation and Alderman Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PROCLAMATION

a. National Day of Prayer - May 1, 2025

The Mayor proclaimed May 1, 2025, as the National Day of Prayer and presented the proclamation to Volunteer Coordinator Ginger McGruder and Co-President of Greyhounds for Christ Warren Williams. They invited all to join them for the National Day of Prayer at Greyhound Stadium on May 1st at 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Adopt Resolution requesting assistance from Jackson County regarding the Hanshaw Road Bridge

The Mayor explained that he met with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the Hanshaw Road Bridge repairs. Under the agreed plan, the City will relocate its utilities, JCUA will move its utilities, and Jackson County will replace the wooden pilings on the bridge. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously approved to adopt the Resolution requesting assistance from Jackson County for the Hanshaw Road Bridge repairs.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Authorize the Interim Fire Chief to collaborate with the City Attorney on drafting a Burn Ordinance

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the Interim Fire Chief and the City Attorney to draft an updated Burn Ordinance.

- b. Authorize the City Attorney to draft a no parking ordinance for Desoto Street along the curbside of Hancock Bank

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to authorize the City Attorney to draft a No Parking Ordinance for Desoto Street along the curbside of Hancock Whitney Bank.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor:

- a. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Mardi Hop on January 10, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Downtown - Bowen Ave. to Bellande Ave. to City Hall to end at Mosaics, at no cost to the City, the applicant will pay the associated event cost
- b. Approve the Special Event Permit Application for the OS Carnival Association Night Parade on February 13, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., location will be the Parade route, overtime costs will be incurred by the city, road closures will be determined at a later date
- c. Authorize waiver of rental fee of Fort Maurepas for the Ocean Springs Middle School 7th grade academic celebration on April 17, 2025, from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; to advertise the resources of the City

- d. Authorize waiver of rental fee of Fort Maurepas for the Ocean Springs Jr. Citizens Club on April 30, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; to advertise the resources of the City

City Clerk:

- e. Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting March 4, 2025

Police Department:

- f. Accept OSPD monthly report for February 2025
- g. Authorize to declare surplus, no use to the City, remove from inventory and send to auction - Police Department Equipment

Fire Department:

- h. Accept OSFD monthly report for February 2025
- i. Accept the donation of safety equipment from Chevron Corporation Pascagoula - six 3M SCOTT Safety Airpacks, six 3M SCOTT cylinders & valves, and six 3M SCOTT Kevlar face pieces with 4-point straps
- j. Accept the donation of cooking equipment from Walmart Corp Ocean Springs - Blackstone Griddle & Cover and Blackstone Pizza Oven with Stand

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- k. Authorize employment of James Eric Parker, Patrolman, Step 3, \$24.00 hourly rate; effective March 19, 2025; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- l. Authorize promotion of Dispatcher Jennifer Mizell to Lead Dispatcher, Step 2, \$18.03 hourly rate; effective March 29, 2025; six-months probationary status
- m. Authorize employment of Christy McLendon, Dispatcher, Step 4, \$16.39 hourly rate; effective March 19, 2025; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- n. Authorize employment of Jasmine Williams, Dispatcher, Step 2, \$15.45 hourly rate; effective March 19, 2025; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- o. Accept termination of part-time Patrolman, employee #2460, effective March 12, 2025; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- p. Authorize promotion of Parks Grounds Supervisor Duval Brown to Parks Assistant Director, Step 1, \$25.25 hourly rate; effective March 29, 2025; six-months probationary status
- q. Authorize promotion of Parks Maintenance Technician Edward Ward to Parks Maintenance Assistant Supervisor, Step 5, \$20.12 hourly rate; effective March 29, 2025; six-months probationary status

- r. Accept resignation of Custodial Supervisor Archie Heidelberg, effective March 21, 2025; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- s. Accept resignation of Parks Grounds Maintenance Worker Johnathon Pitts, effective March 14, 2025; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- t. Accept resignation of Custodian Richard Cox, effective March 5, 2025; authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position

Zoning Adjustment Board (ZAB):

- u. Approve a variance request at 96 Sheridan Ct. PID: 61150002.000 – to reduce the north side setback from 5 feet to 3.5 feet; ZAB recommends approval
- v. Approve a variance request at 414 Magnolia Ave – PID: 60130790.025 – to reduce the north side setback from 10 ft to 8 ft.; ZAB recommends approval

Grants Administration:

- w. Authorize Staff to Request Project Activation – MDOT Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) – Intersection Improvements for Highway 90 @ Washington Avenue and MLK, Jr. Blvd.

Building Department:

- x. Accept the Building Department Permit Report for February 2025
- y. Accept the Code Enforcement Report through March 13, 2025
- z. Approve the Building Official's recommendations for the tree applications received through March 13, 2025

Parks & Recreation Department:

- aa. Authorize to declare surplus, no use to the City, remove from inventory and send to auction - Parks & Recreation items

Public Works:

- bb. Authorize to declare surplus, no use to the City, remove from inventory and send to auction - Public Works Department Equipment

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. City Clerk: Approve payment: Docket of Claims, all expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law, and spread the summary on the Minutes

A motion was made by Alderman Blackman, 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: Accept the Monthly Budget Report

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the monthly budget report.

c. 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 Wade, 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.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

William Betterton, Joe Jewell, James Lewis, and Mark Garriga addressed the Mayor and the Board.

MAYOR AND ALDERMEN'S FORUM

Alderman Burgess addressed Ward 1 issues with the Public Works Director, Parks & Recreation Director, and Project Manager.

Alderman Authement addressed Ward 2 issues and the Spring Arts Festival preparations with the Project Manager and the Public Works Director.

Alderman Impey discussed the Deana Road Improvement Project.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Police Patrolman Marshall Riff, effective March 28, 2025; and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Burgess, and unanimously carried to authorize the waiver of the rental fee of the Civic Center on Thursday March 27th for the Jackson County Chamber to host an Ocean Springs Primary Candidate Forum.

The Mayor reminded all that the Spring Arts Festival is March 22nd and 23rd.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN UNTIL 6: 00 P.M. on APRIL 1, 2025

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

The meeting ended at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Date

Clerk Date