

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Meeting called to order by Council President Hammon.**

**Present: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.**

**Absent: None.**

**The meeting was opened with prayer by Associate Pastor Dennis Gressett with Central United Methodist Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson to remove R-6 (order allocating remaining FY 2016 contribution funds) from the agenda. He explained the process that the Council goes through to allocate the contribution funds. He said that they don't have to spend all the money. Councilwoman Houston stated she brought this up before the Council at a work session. She said they said they were going to give \$225,000 and they should. This is an opportunity to fund agencies that applied for these funds. She said the Council can vote this up or down. Councilman Markham said he agreed with both of them. He feels this is a procedure issue. People submit requests and the Council decides how to help them. He said this is a flawed system. He also said they don't have to give all of it. He feels the system needs to be changed and adjusted. He said some on the list don't need to be there and they need to look closer next year and change the process. Said motion and second to remove R-6 from the agenda failed due to the lack of a majority. Voting yea: Thomas, Henson. Voting nay: Markham, Houston, Hammon. Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the agenda. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated October 20, 2015.**

**Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

**ORDER #15979      ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER  
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING  
SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE DISCARDED**

**And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.**

**Nay: None.**

**COUNCILMAN MARKHAM OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**ORDER #15980      ORDER DECLARING FOUR (4) CRATES OF OLD, BROKEN & OBSOLETE WATER METERS SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID WATER METERS FOR SCRAP**

**AND, COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHEREUPON SAID ORDER WAS DISCUSSED, PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.**

**Nay: None.**

**COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

**RESO. #6026      RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI (THE "CITY"), APPROVING THE EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONALS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY, OR THE ISSUANCE OF A QUALIFIED OBLIGATION BOND OF THE CITY FOR PURCHASE BY THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK OR FOR THE CITY TO BORROW FUNDS BY ENTERING INTO A LOAN WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, ALL IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$7,500,000) TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR (I) CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING, OR PAVING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, PARKWAYS, WALKWAYS, BRIDGES AND CULVERTS, PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES, AND PURCHASING LAND THEREFOR; AND (II) PURCHASING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES WEIGHING NOT LESS THAN TWELVE THOUSAND (12,000) POUNDS, WHICH HAVE AN EXPECTED USEFUL LIFE IN EXCESS OF TEN (10) YEARS WHICH EXPECTED USEFUL LIFE SHALL EXCEED THE LIFE OF THE BONDS AS AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 21-33-301 *ET SEQ.*, AND SECTION 31-25-1 *ET SEQ.*, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED; THE COST OF ISSUANCE FOR THE BONDS; AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF SUCH INTENTION**

**AND, COUNCILWOMAN HENSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHEREUPON SAID RESOLUTION WAS DISCUSSED, PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

**Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:**

**RESO. #6027      RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY, OR TO ISSUE A QUALIFIED OBLIGATION BOND OF THE CITY FOR PURCHASE BY THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK OR FOR THE CITY TO BORROW FUNDS BY ENTERING INTO A LOAN WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, ALL IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$7,500,000) TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR (I) CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING OR PAVING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, PARKWAYS, WALKWAYS, BRIDGES AND CULVERTS, PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES, AND PURCHASING LAND THEREFOR; AND (II) PURCHASING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES WEIGHING NOT LESS THAN TWELVE THOUSAND (12,000) POUNDS, WHICH HAVE AN EXPECTED USEFUL LIFE IN EXCESS OF TEN (10) YEARS WHICH EXPECTED USEFUL LIFE SHALL EXCEED THE LIFE OF THE BONDS AS AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 21-33-301 *ET SEQ.*, AND SECTION 31-25-1 *ET SEQ.*, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED; THE COST OF ISSUANCE FOR THE BONDS; AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF SUCH INTENTION**

**And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

**Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

**ORDER #15981      ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID FOR DUCTILE IRON PIPE FROM H D SUPPLY, JACKSON, MS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$61,919.20 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK (EASTERN GARDENS PROJECT)**

**And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

**Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

**ORDER #15982      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1  
BETWEEN H.D. MOSLEY, INC. AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN  
(LAKEVIEW GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION PUMPING STATION)**

**And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

**Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

**ORDER #15983      ORDER APPROVING THE ADDITION OF ONE (1) CIVIL SERVICE  
BILLET TO THE CITY OF MERIDIAN WORK FORCE FOR A  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGER**

**And, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:**

**Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

**Next on the agenda was the request for a billet for a Communications Director. Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Hammon to authorize this billet. Mayor Bland stated that he needed this billet and that the funds for this position were included in the FY 2016 budget. After discussion, said motion to authorize this billet failed due to the lack of a majority. Voting yea: Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas, Markham, Henson.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston to approve the proposed order allocating remaining FY 2016 contribution funds. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson to amend the proposed order allocating remaining FY 2016 contribution funds to only vote on the Meridian Military Team. Said motion failed due to the lack of a majority. Voting yea: Thomas, Henson. Voting nay: Markham, Houston, Hammon. Councilman Markham seconded the motion by Councilwoman Houston to approve the proposed order allocating remaining FY 2016 contribution funds. Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the**

**ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**ORDER #15984 ORDER ALLOCATING REMAINING FY 2016 BUDGET SUBSIDIES,  
GRANTS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS EXPENDITURES**

**AND, COUNCILMAN MARKHAM SECONDED THE MOTION, WHEREUPON SAID ORDER WAS DISCUSSED, PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Yea: MARKHAM, HENSON, HOUSTON, HAMMON.**

**Nay: THOMAS.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILWOMAN HENSON DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HAMMON AND PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS DOCKET DATED OCTOBER 29, 2015 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,063,116.70. VOTING YEAS: MARKHAM, HOUSTON, HAMMON. VOTING NAYS: THOMAS, HENSON.**

**PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED ON MAYOR BLAND FOR HIS REPORT. HE ASKED FOR A WORK SESSION ON NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR HUGH SMITH AND MR. SAM AGNEW WITH THE MISSISSIPPI-ALABAMA WATER ASSOCIATION APPEARED REGARDING AN AWARD THE CITY RECEIVED. MR. AGNEW PRESENTED THE AWARD TO MR. SMITH FOR THE MERIDIAN NORTH WATER TREATMENT PLANT BEING SELECTED AS THE PLANT OF THE YEAR.**

**PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS. THOSE WHO SPOKE WERE: 1) SHERREN SMITH; 2) VALERIE FOY; 3) MABLE OATIS; 4) WALTER L. DEMERS. AFTER GETTING OFF SUBJECT, MR. DEMERS WAS ADVISED BY PRESIDENT HAMMON THAT HE COULD NOT SPEAK AT A COUNCIL MEETING FOR SIX (6) MONTHS.**

**PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED FOR COUNCIL COMMENTS. VARIOUS COMMENTS WERE MADE.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL AT THIS TIME, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. SINE DIE.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**Pam McInnis, CLERK OF COUNCIL**