

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015 AT 9:00 A.M.**

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

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

**Absent: None.**

**The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Kathy Price and followed by the pledge to the flag.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to: correct R-5 from 1987 Edition to 1997 Edition.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated May 19, 2015.**

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

**ORDER #15869      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MERIDIAN FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SPONSOR A CAMP FIRE ACADEMY ALONG WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO BE HELD JULY 20-JULY 24, 2012**

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

**ORDER #15870      ORDER ESTABLISHING MERIDIAN TREE BANK PROGRAM AND FUND**

**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 ORDER:**

**ORDER #15871      ORDER CONFIRMING THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF WILBERT L. JONES TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN**

**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.**

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

**ORDER #15872      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VENUE USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY (STATE 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INVITATIONAL JULY 17-18, 2015)**

**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.**

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

**ORDIN. #4459      ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY'S HOUSING CODE AND REPEALING THE STANDARD UNSAFE BUILDING ABATEMENT CODE, 1985 EDITION AND THE STANDARD HOUSING CODE, 1997 EDITION AND ALL OF ITS ASSOCIATED AMENDMENTS**

**AND, COUNCILMAN HAMMON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHEREUPON SAID ORDINANCE 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 #15873      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT PIPELINE ALONG OR ACROSS STATE HIGHWAY AND AGREEMENT OF APPLICANT GIVEN IN CONSIDERATION OF SAID PERMIT BETWEEN THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND CITY OF MERIDIAN (US 80 BETWEEN HAWKINS CROSSING ROAD AND KNIGHT PARKER ROAD)**

**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 Order:**

**ORDER #15874      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT & MUTUAL RELEASE BETWEEN BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. D/B/A AT&T MISSISSIPPI AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN**

**And, Councilman Hammon 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 Resolution:**

**RESO. #5969      RESOLUTION APPOINTING MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE 2015 VOTING DELEGATES FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN**

**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.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and**

**PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS DOCKET DATED MAY 28, 2015 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,264,404.25. VOTING YEA: MARKHAM, HENSON, HOUSTON, HAMMON. VOTING NAY: THOMAS.**

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

**AT THIS TIME COUNCILMAN MARKHAM CALLED FOR CITIZENS COMMENTS. PATRICIA REEVES APPEARED REGARDING A CLAIM SHE PLACED WITH THE CITY THAT HAS BEEN DENIED. COUNCILMAN MARKHAM ASKED CAO MCGREVEY AND MR. MCALISTER TO WORK ON THIS TO SEE IF HER CLAIM CAN BE RECONSIDERED.**

**PRESIDENT MARKHAM CALLED ON MAYOR BLAND FOR HIS REPORT. HE SAID HE HAD JUST ATTENDED THE LEADERSHIP LAUDERDALE GRADUATION THAT MORNING. SPEAKER PRO TEM GREG SNOWDEN WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER AT THIS EVENT. POLICE CHIEF DUBOSE APPEARED TO COMMENT ON THE JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY WHICH WILL BE HELD JUNE 8 – 12 AT THE TRAINING FACILITY. P & R DIRECTOR MCGRUDER WENT OVER VARIOUS EVENTS THAT WILL BE HELD IN JUNE. FIRE CHIEF CLAYTON COMMENTED ON CAMP FIRE ACADEMY THAT WILL BE HELD JULY 20 – 24. MAYOR BLAND COMMENTS ON REPRESENTATIVE SNOWDEN'S SPEECH FROM THAT MORNING. HE ADVISED THAT HE WILL BE PUTTING UP A NAME TO FILL AN OPENING ON THE MERIDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD.**

**AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED REGARDING LITIGATION AND THREATENED LITIGATION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO DECLARE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO DECLARE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS LITIGATION AND THREATENED LITIGATION. THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MARKHAM AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY COUNCIL TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**PRESIDENT MARKHAM CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER.**

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

**ORDER #15875      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN CONNECTION WITH CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:13-CV-978-HYW-LRA (UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI NORTHERN DIVISION)**

**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 #15876      ORDER DIRECTING THAT THE CITY OF MERIDIAN'S CONTRACT  
WITH FORD EXCAVATING, LLC BE TERMINATED**

**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.**

**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**