

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President Hammon.

Present: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Absent: Thomas.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Gary Houston and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to add as R-16 a 7-year tax abatement for JTM Hospitality.

Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated July 7, 2015.

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

**ORDER #15905 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE
SALE OF SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

And, Councilwoman Henson 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: None.

Absent: Thomas.

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

**ORDER #15906 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE DISCARDED**

And, Councilwoman Henson 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: None.
Absent: Thomas.**

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

**ORDER #15907 IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPOINTMENT BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF STEVEN ANDERSON TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM
COMMISSION**

And, Councilwoman Henson 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: None.
Absent: Thomas.**

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

**RESO. #5974 RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AMENDED BUDGET
FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE
THERETO**

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

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

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

**ORDER #15908 ORDER DESIGNATING MEGGITT TRAINING SYSTEMS, INC.
AS THE SOLE SOURCE SUPPLIER FOR FIREARMS TRAINING
SIMULATORS FOR THE MERIDIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

And, Councilwoman Henson 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: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

COUNCILWOMAN HENSON OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

ORDER #15909 ORDER DECLARING THAT TWO TREES AND A COLLAPSED OPEN CHANNEL POSE A THREAT TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY AND DIRECTING THAT THE TWO TREES BE REMOVED AND THE COLLAPSED OPEN CHANNEL BE FIXED

AND, COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON 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: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

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

ORDER #15910 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF USTA LINE GRANT 8474 APPLICATION WITH THE UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION

AND, COUNCILWOMAN HENSON 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: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

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

ORDER #15911 ORDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CLAIM SUBMITTED BY SPEC.RESCUE INTERNATIONAL FOR A CLASS HELD AT THE MERIDIAN TRAINING FACILITY

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

Yea: Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Abstain: Markham.

Absent: Thomas.

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

RESO. #5975 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI (THE "CITY"), APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A DEVELOPMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT (THE "AGREEMENT") IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY'S TAX INCREMENT LIMITED OBLIGATION BONDS (THE MERIDIAN CROSSROADS PROJECT PHASE II) OF SAID CITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR CERTAIN SITE AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO THE MERIDIAN CROSSROADS PROJECT PHASE II; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

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

Yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Absent: Thomas.

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

RESO. #5976 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO GIPSON STEEL, INC. FOR ADDITIONS AND REPLACEMENTS AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

Yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Absent: Thomas.

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

RESO. #5977 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A SECOND FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO MITCHELL DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, INC. FOR A NEW AND/OR EXPANDED ENTERPRISE AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

Yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Absent: Thomas.

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

RESO. #5978 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO POPLAR SPRINGS DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTIONS 27-31-2 AND 79-11-33 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

Yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Absent: Thomas.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #5979 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO VAN ZYVERDEN, INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed,

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Yea: MARKHAM, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

COUNCILWOMAN HENSON OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESO. #5980 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO VAN ZYVERDEN, INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

Yea: MARKHAM, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

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

RESO. #5981 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO THE MERIDIAN SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION, INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-1(D) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

Yea: MARKHAM, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

ABSENT: THOMAS.

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

RESO. #5982

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN,
MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM**

**TAXES TO THE PHIL HARDIN FOUNDATION AS AUTHORIZED BY
SECTION 27-31-1(D) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED**

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

Yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

Absent: Thomas.

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 July 16, 2015 in the amount of \$2,451,481.17. Voting yea: Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: None. Abstain: Markham. Absent: Thomas.

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

**ORDER #15912 ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM
TAXES (EXCEPT SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES) FOR SEVEN YEARS TO
JTM HOSPITALITY, LLC ON IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY LOCATED
AT 901 1ST AVENUE EAST, MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI**

And, Councilwoman Henson 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: None.

Absent: Thomas.

At this time Rodney Street with Waste Pro appeared before the Council. He advised that they could not find anyone in Mississippi who was accepting glass for recycling. The people they have been using have stopped accepting glass. They are trying to find someone, but until then they will not be picking up any glass in the recycling bins. Mr. Street was asked to attend the work session next week to discuss this further.

President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. He asked Community Development Director Bunky Partridge to come forward to make a presentation. Mr. Partridge

PRESENTED RETIRED SENIOR PLANNER Don Jemison WITH a RETIREMENT PLAQUE.

PRESIDENT Hammon CALLED FOR CITIZENS COMMENTS. THOSE APPEARING TO SPEAK WERE: 1) MARY S. HATCHER (REGARDING AN INCIDENT WITH TWO DOGS); AND 2) BARBARA IVY (REGARDING WATER BILLS).

PRESIDENT Hammon CALLED FOR COUNCIL COMMENTS. VARIOUS COMMENTS WERE MADE.

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED TO BE HELD REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN MARKHAM 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 COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MARKHAM AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO DECLARE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL LITIGATION. THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN MARKHAM DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

PRESIDENT Hammon CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER. THERE WAS NO ACTION TAKEN REGARDING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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