

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 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 Co-Pastor Linda Willis of Agape Storehouse and followed by the pledge to the flag.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to add a personnel matter to the executive session.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated August 18, 2015.**

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

**ORDER #15929      ORDER RE-ESTABLISHING PETTY CASH FUNDS FOR FY 2016**

**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 #15930      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: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.**

**Nay: None.**

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

**ORDER #15931      ORDER DECLARING VEHICLES SURPLUS AND NO LONGER  
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING  
SAID VEHICLES TO BE SOLD**

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

**ORDER #15932      ORDER ACCEPTING TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT FROM THE  
MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY FOR THE MERIDIAN  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**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 #15933      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF FIXED PRICE RESEARCH  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE  
CITY OF MERIDIAN (COMPREHENSIVE COMPENSATION STUDY AND  
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK REVIEW)**

**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**

**Resolution:**

**RESO. #5988            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 MAGNOLIA STEEL COMPANY, 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: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

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

**RESO. #5989            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 MAGNOLIA STEEL COMPANY, 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: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.  
Nay: None.**

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

**ORDER #15934            ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF SRF LOAN AMENDMENT REQUEST (LOAN NO. SRF C280818-01) (REHABILITATION OF SOUTH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT)**

**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 #15935      ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID OF HEMPHILL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FLORENCE, MS FOR SOUTH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROCESS MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL UPGRADES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,261,153.00 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK**

**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 #15936      ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID OF CAIN, INC., KOSCIUSKO, MS, FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND DEMOLITION OF TWENTY-SIX (26) HOUSES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$94,700.00**

**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.**

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

**ORDER #15937      ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID OF H. E. MOSLEY, INC., MARION, MS, FOR IRRIGATION PUMPING STATION – LONG CREEK RESERVOIR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$153,352.00 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK**

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

**ORDER #15938      ORDER TO CHARGE OFF INACTIVE AND UNCOLLECTIBLE WATER  
ACCOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$133,623.19**

**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. #5990      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  
THERE TO**

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

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

**Nay: None.**

**ABSTAIN: MARKHAM.**

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

**ORDER #15939      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ECIVIS MASTER  
SUBSCRIPTION AND SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ECIVIS  
AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN**

**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 #15940      ORDER AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE CURRENT UNITED HEALTH**

**CARE GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN FOR CITY OF MERIDIAN  
EMPLOYEES**

**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 #15941      ORDER AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE CURRENT MET LIFE GROUP  
LIFE INSURANCE PLAN FOR CITY OF MERIDIAN EMPLOYEES**

**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 #15942      ORDER AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE CURRENT PLAN WITH VITAL  
CARE TO BE THE EXCLUSIVE COMPOUND DRUG PROVIDER FOR  
CITY OF MERIDIAN EMPLOYEES**

**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 #15943      ORDER AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE CURRENT DELTA DENTAL  
GROUP DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN FOR CITY OF MERIDIAN EMPLOYEES**

**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.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated August 17, 2015 in the amount of \$1,953,375.99. Voting yea: Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas. Abstain: Markham.**

**President Hammon advised of the notification of legal advertisement for the following: a) ductile iron pipe.**

**President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. He stated that town hall forum will be held throughout the city advising citizens of what is going on in the city. He advised that he would be discussing the budget with the city council at a work session on Wednesday morning. The administration will be proposing a reduction of positions and pay adjustments. He stated that the annual report will be made available to the public at various locations.**

**President Hammon called for council comments. Various comments were made.**

**An executive session was requested regarding a personnel matter and economic development. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham 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 a personnel matter and economic development. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session.**

**President Hammon called the regular meeting back to order. No action was taken regarding the executive session.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Hammon and unanimously passed by the Council to amend the agenda to add discussion regarding the improvements of the old Bell South Building. (Councilman Thomas left prior to this motion and vote). Mr. Clarence Chapman advised that they will be requesting an easement and air rights use agreement with the city in order to place balconies similar to those on buildings in New Orleans.**

**He passed out the proposed easement and agreement and proposed plans for the improvements to the building.**

**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**