

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President Hammon.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Dr. John Temple, Pastor of Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda with an amendment to remove Rod Brown from citizens comments.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated February 02, 2016.

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

**ORDER #16031 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

**ORDER #16032 ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF
C. WYATT CRAVEN TO THE MERIDIAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMISSION**

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 #16033 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI
AND LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI (VELMA YOUNG PROJECT)**

**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.**

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

**ORDER #16034 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER
BETWEEN CONSTRUCTION PLUS AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN
(DEMOLITION OF CONDEMNED HOUSES, PROJECT NO. 15-14)**

**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 #16035 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER
BETWEEN CAIN, INC. AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (DEMOLITION
OF CONDEMNED HOUSES, PROJECT NO. 15-15)**

**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: Thomas.**

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

ORDER #16036 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION OPERATING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION

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 #16037 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF MISSISSIPPI FOUNDATION FOR A "HEALTHY HOMETOWN" AWARD

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.

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 FEBRUARY 11, 2016 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,505,299.12. VOTING YEA: MARKHAM, HENSON, HOUSTON, HAMMON. VOTING NAY: THOMAS.

PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED ON MAYOR BLAND FOR HIS REPORT. HE CALLED FORMER COUNCILMAN JESSE PALMER FORWARD TO CONGRATULATE HIM FOR RECEIVING ONE OF FOUR MISSISSIPPI POWER 2016 HERITAGE AWARDS. MAYOR BLAND ADVISED THE BIDS FOR THE VELMA YOUNG PROJECT WOULD BE TAKEN IN MARCH.

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

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION. 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 PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL TO DECLARE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL LITIGATION. (COUNCIL-MAN

MARKHAM LEFT THE MEETING PRIOR TO THIS VOTE BECAUSE OF A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST.) THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON AND PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COUNCIL TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. (COUNCILMAN MARKHAM NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THIS VOTE.)

PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER. (COUNCILMAN MARKHAM RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT THIS TIME.) COUNCILMAN THOMAS OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESO. #6036 RESOLUTION AND ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO APPLY FOR AVAILABLE GRANTS AND TO SEEK SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR REPAIRS TO THE DRAINAGE STRUCTURE ON NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD RESULTING FROM THE COLLAPSE OF THE STRUCTURE ON NOVEMBER 7, 2015, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO AN EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT GRANT FROM NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE AND ALSO FROM THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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.

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