

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 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 Pastor Kathy Price and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda with an amendment to add as R-8 a resolution clarifying and correcting the March 1, 2016 sale and award of GO bonds in the amount of \$7,500,000; remove R-5c, d, e, g and h.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated March 01, 2016.

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

ORDER #10648      ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER  
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID  
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE SOLD OR DISCARDED

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 #16049      ORDER DECLARING 2008 FORD CROWN VICTORIA, VIN  
NO. 2FAFP71V48X131167, CONTROL NO. 153-011 SURPLUS  
AND AUTHORED TO BE SOLD

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 #16050      ORDER AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS  
AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

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

RESO. #6039      RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF MERIDIAN RECOGNIZING THE MULTI-AGENCY  
MERIDIAN MILITARY TEAM

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 #16051      ORDER ACCEPTING LOW BID FOR SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE  
PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2016 THRU FEBRUARY 28, 2017 FOR SAFETY  
BOOTS AND SHOES FROM THE BOOT STORE "ON WHEELS", WEST  
MONROE, LA

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 Resolution:

RESO. #6040      RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN MUNICIPALLY OWNED REAL  
PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL  
PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING SALE OF SAME

(2607 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET)

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 #16052      ORDER ACCEPTING VEHICLE LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING  
PROPOSAL FROM CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK OF MERIDIAN  
WITH A QUOTED RATE OF 1.42%

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.

At this time the Council discussed requests for amendment to the FY 2016 budget as follows: a) Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$3,000 to 102-40930 (contributions – legislative) from 102-40940 (transfers & other charges – legislative); b) Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$300,000 to 114-40630 (utilities – F&R) from 102-40940 (transfer & other charges – legislative). Discussion was stopped at this time because there was a scheduled public hearing to be held.

The hour of 5:15 p.m. having arrived, the hearing as set regarding the request from Norfolk Southern for the closure of the 31<sup>ST</sup> Avenue railroad right-of-way was opened with motion by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council. No one appeared to speak at this public hearing. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to close the hearing.

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

ORDIN. #4468      ORDINANCE CLOSING, VACATING AND ABANDONING IN THE  
CITY OF MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, THAT  
CERTAIN PORTION OF IMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 31<sup>ST</sup>  
AVENUE ALSO KNOWN AS MARTIN LUTHER KING AVENUE IN  
IT'S VARIOUS FORMS FROM THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORFOLK  
SOUTHERN RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO THE NORTH LINE OF  
3<sup>RD</sup> STREET

And, Councilwoman Henson 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.

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

RESO. #6041            RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEEDS TO CONVEY THE CLOSED, VACATED AND ABANDONED PORTION OF 31<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE FROM THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO THIRD STREET

And, Councilwoman Houston 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.

After the public hearing, the City Council considered the other requests for amendment to the FY 2016 budget as follows: f) Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the \$50,000 to 135-40720 (capital outlay – p&r) from 102-40940 (transfer & other charges – legislative) and voting yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston with voting nay: Hammon; i) Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$3,255 from 144-40637 (O & M equipment – pw) to 141-40710 (building –pw); j) Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$3,255 from 267-40637 (O & M equipment – pw) to 141-40710 (building – pw); k) Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$7,852 from 133-40600 (supplies & equipment – p&r) to 131-40940 (transfer & other charges – p&r).

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution which include the approved changes in Item R-5:

RESO. #6042            RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE THERETO

And, Councilwoman Houston 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 March 10, 2016 in the amount of \$2,919,297.04. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.

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

RESO. #6043            RESOLUTION CLARIFYING AND CORRECTING THE MARCH 1, 2016 SALE AND AWARD OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2016, OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO BE DATED THE DATE OF DELIVERY THEREOF, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$7,500,000)

And, Councilwoman Houston 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.

President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. Mayor Bland presented the following proclamations: 1) Red Cross Month; 2) Women's History Month. He thanked the City Council for voting on the changes to the budget. He stated he would like to discuss various plans at the next work session. He invited the Council members to attend their department meetings. CAO Richie McAlister discussed plans to develop a special needs park for children and adults. Community Development Director Bunky Partridge advised that the paving of 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue would be completed Wednesday; 6<sup>th</sup> Street would be completed by the end of this month; and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue project would begin soon. Mr. Partridge further advised that the Velma Young Center bids are in and there will be a meeting on Thursday to determine who submitted the winning bid.

President Hammon called on Natalie and Norm Copeland who signed up for citizens comments. They discussed the upcoming Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans celebration to be held April 2, 2016 at the Frank Cochran Center.

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