

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 05, 2016 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 Pastor Zachary Operton of Prince of Peace Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markahm and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda with an amendment to remove Jerry Hobgood from citizens comments; add as R-11 acceptance of a bid for the Velma Young project.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated March 15, 2016.

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

ORDER #16053 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING
SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE 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.

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

ORDER #16054 ORDER DECLARING SIX (6) TASERS SURPLUS AND NO LONGER
NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE
DONATION OF THE TASERS TO THE NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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.

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

ORDER #16055 ORDER DECLARING WEAPON SURPLUS AND TO BE SOLD TO
RETIRED LIEUTENANT BOBBY DAVIS AS ALLOWED BY
STATE LAW 45-9-131

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.

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

RESO. #6044 RESOLUTION CALLING HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR
NOT CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND ARE IN SUCH A STATE OF
UNCLEANLINESS AS TO BE A MENACE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH
AND SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY (MAY 03, 2016 @ 9:15 A.M.)

And, Councilman Markham 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 Order:

ORDER #16056 ORDER ACCEPTING DONATION OF \$200.00 IN GIFT CARDS
FROM WAL-MART FOR SUPPORT OF THE ANNUAL FISHING DERBY

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.

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

ORDER #16057 ORDER CORRECTING LEGAL DESCRIPTION IN COUNCIL ORDER
NO. 15912 ENTITLED "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, 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 Order:

ORDER #16058 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO DIRECT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO COORDINATE EVENTS IN DOWNTOWN MERIDIAN

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.

Next on the agenda was the proposed order approving the decommissioning of traffic control signals on 23rd Avenue at 6th & 7th Streets. The Clerk of Council advised of a change in the order. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of changing some of the downtown streets to two-way. Community Development Director Bunky Partridge advised these streets they were considering were 22nd Avenue and 23rd Avenue. He said they would like to have a study done. Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16059 ORDER APPROVING THE DECOMMISSIONING OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS ALONG 23RD AVENUE AT 6TH STREET AND 7TH STREET

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 #16060 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT

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 #16061 ORDER CONFIRMING THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF
MARVIN A. KILLINGSWORTH TO THE MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL
SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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 Resolution:

RESO. #6045 RESOLUTION GRANTING BRANDYE S. LATIMER THE TITLE AND
RESPONSIBILITIES OF DEPUTY CLERK WITH SIGNATORY
AUTHORITY

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.

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

ORDER #16062 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AMENDED COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI;
LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI (VELMA YOUNG BUILDING)

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.

At this time the Council discussed requests for amendments to the FY 2016 budget as follows: a) motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$12,800 to 127-40940 from 102-40940; b) motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$45,000 to 133-40410 from 102-40940; c) motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$82,300 to 133-40710 from 102-40940; d) motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$74,667 to 144-40780 from 144-40648; e) motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$2,000 to 336-40410 from 102-40940; f) motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$145,000 to 131-40940 from 102-40940; g) motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$4,000 to 133-40770 from 102-40940; h) motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the \$17,860 to 105-40695 from 350-40540.

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

RESO. #6046 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.

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

ORDER #16063 ORDER APPOINTING JOANN CLARK AS DEPUTY CLERK
OF COUNCIL EFFECTIVE APRIL 13, 2016

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 March 31, 2016 in the amount of \$3,138,998.14. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.

Next on the agenda was the acceptance of a bid for the Velma Young project. There was not a contract to present to the Council and the whole bid tab package was not available. While staff went to get the needed information, the Council continued with the agenda.

President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. He advised they will be bringing up at the next meeting an agreement with the Kemper County Sheriff's Department for housing city prisoners. They are working on a partnership with MSU regarding DOJ grants. They will be bring forward a contract with the Choctaw Transit. He mentioned the citizens meeting for the search of a new superintendent for the Meridian public school. This meeting will be held that evening at 6:00 p.m. in the MHS auditorium. Cultural Affairs Director Laura Carmichael appeared and advised of the Mayor's fitness challenge to be held on Wednesday. She encouraged everyone to attend.

President Hammon called for citizens comments. Ms. Linda Waters with Atmos Energy appeared and presented Hugh Smith and the public works department with an award for being the top city in the state for making the citizens of Meridian safe by calling 811 before digging.

The Council continued the discussion of the bid for the Velma Young project. A contract was not presented to the Council. This will have to be brought back before the Council at the next meeting. Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16064 ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID OF GANGER PROPERTY MANAGEMENT,
NEW ALBANY, MS FOR THE VELMA YOUNG COMMUNITY CENTER IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$1,430,000.00

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.

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