

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 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 Gary Houston and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda with an amendment to: add to the executive session a discussion on economic development and a personnel matter regarding job performance.

Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated May 17, 2016.

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

ORDER #16090 ORDER DECLARING 2011 FORD CROWN VICTORIA, VIN NO. 2FABP7BVCBX121111, CONTROL NO. 153-033 AND A 2010 FORD CROWN VICTORIA, VIN NO. 2FABP7BV9AX108468, CONTROL NO. 153-009 SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, REMOVING FROM SERVICE AND AUTHORIZING SURPLUS VEHICLE TITLES TO BE TURNED OVER TO THE INSURANCE COMPANY

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

RESO #6055 RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEPUTY COURT CLERKS OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

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.**

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

**ORDER #16091 ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF A
GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR
THE BULLETPROOF VESTS PARTNERSHIP (BPV) GRANT**

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 #16092 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF PERFORMANCE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CIT OF MERIDIAN AND STEVE
WILKERSON AND FRIENDS AT JULY 4TH 2016 CELEBRATION**

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 #16093 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSPPI,
LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; (SOWASHEE CREEK
MULTI-USE TRAIL)**

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. #16094 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF EQUIPMENT
LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COCA-COLA
BOTTLING COMPANY AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN**

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. #6056 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.**

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

**ORDER #16095 ORDER ACCEPTING RE-WRITTEN CIVIL SERVICE
CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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 #16096 ORDER ADOPTING OFFICIAL LOGO FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

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. #6057 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM
AD VALOREM TAXES TO COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHURCH
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: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6058 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM
AD VALOREM TAXES TO MISSISSIPPI ACTION FOR PROGRESS
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 COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Nay: None.

COUNCILMAN MARKHAM OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

**RESO. #6059 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM
AD VALOREM TAXES TO MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
(OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES) AS AUTHORIZED
BY SECTION 27-31-1 (B) 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: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.**

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

**RESO. #6060 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM
AD VALOREM TAXES TO ISLAMIC CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI &
ALABAMA, 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 Council by a vote as follows:**

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

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

**RESO. #6061 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD
VALOREM TAXES FOR A TEN-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, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon and Resolution was discussed, passed
and adopted by Council by a vote as follows:**

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

Nay: None:

COUNCILMAN MARKHAM OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE FOR THE FOLLOWING

RESOLUTION:

RESO. #6062

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD
VALOREM TAXES TO UW, LLC., AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION
27-31-1 (D) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED**

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

YEA: THOMAS, MARKHAM, HENSON, HOUSTON, HAMMON.

NAY: NONE:

COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE FOR THE FOLLOWING

RESOLUTION:

RESO. #6063

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD
VALOREM TAXES FOR A SECOND FIVE-YEAR PERIOD TO
VAN ZYVERDEN, 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, COUNCILMAN MARKHAM SECONDED THE MOTION, WHEREUPON AND RESOLUTION WAS DISCUSSED, PASSED
AND ADOPTED BY COUNCIL BY A VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

YEA: THOMAS, MARKHAM, HENSON, HOUSTON, HAMMON.

NAY: NONE:

COUNCILMAN HOUSTON OFFERED AND MOVED THE ADOPTION AND PASSAGE FOR THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

ORDER #16097

**ORDER AUTHORIZING ROBERT M. DREYFUS, PLLC
(ATTORNEY AT LAW) TO FILE SUIT FOR THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN FOR COLLECTION OF WATER AND SEWER
BILLS FROM MICHAEL D. JOHNSON OF CAMPGROUND
TRAILER PARK**

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

ORDER #16100 ORDER ACCEPTING LOW BID FOR SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 15, 2016 THRU JUNE 14, 2017 FOR CONCRETE PIPE BITUMINOUS PLASTIC CEMENT FROM FORTERRA PIPE & PRECAST

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

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

Nay: None:

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

ORDER #16101 ORDER ACCEPTING LOW BID FOR SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 15, 2016 THRU JUNE 14, 2017 FOR TRAFFIC PAINT FROM ENNIS PAINT, INC., MERIDIAN, MS

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

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

Nay: None:

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

ORDER #16102 ORDER ACCEPTING LOW BID FOR 12-MONTH SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 15, 2016 THRU JUNE 14, 2017 FOR SIGN BLANKS AND MATERIALS FROM VULCAN SIGNS, FOLEY, AL

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

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

Nay: None:

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

ORDER #16103 IN THE MATTER OF: PURCHASE OF A STREET SWEEPER FROM OLD RIVER TRUCK SALES, JACKSON, MS IN THE

AMOUNT OF \$149,950.00

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

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

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

**ORDER #16104 IN THE MATTER OF: PURCHASE OF A TRACK LOADER
FROM LYLE MACHINERY COMPANY, MERIDIAN, MS,
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$73,695.00**

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

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

Next on the agenda was a proposed order to reduce the Police Chief's salary by 15%. Council President, Randy Hammon read a prepared statement. Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilman Hammon to approve the order to reduce the Police Chief's salary, discussion was held. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and passed by a majority vote of the Council to table the motion. Voting yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston. Voting nay: Hammon. Comments were made by Chief DUBOSE.

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 May 17, 2016 in the amount of \$2,114,366.41. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.

President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. Mayor Bland thanked the Council for approving the contract for housing city prisoners in Kemper County Jail, the new scoreboard contract with Coca-Cola, the updated civil service handbook which hasn't been updated since 1991 and the cooperative agreement with Lauderdale County for the Sowashee Creek Walking Trail. The Mayor thanked the Council for the confirmation of the appointment of Sheila Austin to the School Board and he looked forward to working with Amy Carter, as the new superintendent for the Meridian Public Schools. The Mayor also said it was a successful opening of the splash pad at Highland Park. The Mayor called on Laura Carmichael, City Event Coordinator. She announced the Mayor's Fitness Walk at 5:30 today, the 20/59 Festival on June 17 and the Divas on the Run Walking

CLUB.

PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED FOR CITIZENS COMMENTS. THOSE SIGNED UP TO SPEAK WERE: DENNIS R. ALLEN AND JAMES DILLARD.

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

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND A PERSONNEL MATTER REGARDING JOB PERFORMANCE. 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 POTENTIAL LITIGATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE ISSUES. THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. (COUNCILMAN MARKHAM RECUSED HIMSELF BEFORE THE DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL LITIGATION.) MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILWOMAN HOUSTON DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HAMMON AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

PRESIDENT HAMMON CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER.

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

ORDER #16105 ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT GRANT FROM NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE FOR REPAIRS TO THE DRAINAGE STRUCTURE ON NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD RESULTING FROM THE COLLAPSE OF THE STRUCTURE ON NOVEMBER 7, 2015, AND ALSO AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO SEEK RECOVERY OF ANY CITY FUNDS ALREADY EXPENDED ON THE REPAIRS TO THE COLLAPSED CULVERT

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

Yea: Thomas, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Nay: None:

ABSTAIN: MARKHAM.

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