

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 05, 2016 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Meeting called to order by Council President Houston.**

**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 Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda with an amendment to remove R-7 & R-8, and to add R-11 to reappoint Jack Douglas to the board of the Meridian Airport Authority. Dr. Thomas also requested the Council hold an executive session to discuss personnel performance and evaluations.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated June 21, 2016.**

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

**ORDER #16119      ORDER DESIGNATING SENSUS TECHNOLOGIES AS THE SOLE SOURCE SUPPLIER FOR IPERL AND OMNI WATER METERS**

**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 #16120      ORDER AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHT AT:  
16<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN 18<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND 20<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE**

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

**ORDER #16121      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI AND COUNTY OF  
LAUDERDALE, MISSISSIPPI; (2015 BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE  
GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM AWARD)**

**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 #16122      ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-  
STANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND ITS GOVERNING  
AUTHORITIES AND THE MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS**

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

**ORDER #16123      ORDER AUTHORIZING HOMETOWN PUBLISHING, INC. TO PRODUCE  
CALENDARS FROM PICTURES TAKEN AT THE CITY OF MERIDIAN  
FIRE 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 RESOLUTION:**

**RESO. #6067            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, Henson, Houston, Hammon.**

**Nay: None.**

**ABSTAIN: MARKHAM.**

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

**ORDER #16124            ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTING A MONETARY DONATION FROM FRIENDS FOR THE YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

**AND, COUNCILMAN HAMMON 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 RESOLUTION:**

**RESO. #6068            RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE DECLARING INTENTION TO LEVY TAXES OF TWO PERCENT (2%) IMPOSED ON THE GROSS PROCEEDS OF SALES OF FOOD AND BEVERAGES AT RESTAURANTS WITHIN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO BE EFFECTIVE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2016, WITH THE REVENUE RESULTING FROM SUCH LEVY TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING, FURNISHING, AND OPERATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM TO BE HELD ON THE QUESTION, ESTABLISHING TUESDAY AUGUST 16, 2016 AS THE DATE FOR THE REFERENDUM AND DECLARING THAT THERE SHALL BE A SINGLE VOTING PRECINCT AND SINGLE POLLING PLACE FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI FOR SUCH REFERENDUM AND AT WHICH THE REFERENDUM WILL BE CONDUCTED, BEING THE CITY HALL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, 601 -23<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE,**

**MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, ALL AS DEFINED IN AND AUTHORIZED BY HOUSE BILL 1770 ENACTED IN 2005 AND SECTION 23-15-557 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE**

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

**ORDER #16125      ORDER RATIFYING THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND WILLIAM C. HAMMACK WITH  
GLOVER, YOUNG, HAMMACK, WALTON & SIMMONS, PLLC  
TO SERVE AS CITY ATTORNEY**

**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.**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Hammon and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated June 24, 2016 in the amount of \$1,371,194.97. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.**

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

**ORDER #16126      IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT  
BY THE MAYOR OF JACK DOUGLAS TO THE MERIDIAN AIRPORT  
AUTHORITY**

**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.**

**PRESIDENT HOUSTON CALLED ON MAYOR BLAND FOR HIS REPORT. MAYOR BLAND SAID THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION AT BONITA LAKES WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL, HE THANKED LAURA CARMICHAEL, EVENTS COORDINATOR AND KELVIN MCGRUDER, PARK & RECREATION DIRECTOR FOR ALL THE HARD WORK THEY AND THEIR STAFF HAD PUT IN TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS. THE MAYOR THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVING AND RENEWING THE TRANSIT SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS. HE REMINDED THE CITIZENS THAT THIS IS RECONCILIATION WEEK AND THE MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST WILL BE HELD ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY. THE MAYOR REQUESTED A POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING QUARTERLY WORK SESSIONS WITH COUNCIL PRESIDENT. MAYOR BLAND THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR GIVING THE CITIZENS AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON THE REFERENDUM FOR A 2% BEVERAGE AND FOOD TAX TO HELP FUND THE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCE. TWO OTHER CITIZENS MR. DULANEY AND MR. GAMBLIN SPOKE ABOUT THIS ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCE BEING A STATE OF THE ART CENTER, AND WHAT A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT IT WILL BE FOR ALL CONCERNED, BOTH CULTURALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.**

**PRESIDENT HOUSTON CALLED FOR CITIZENS COMMENTS. DENNIS ALLEN, LORETTA ALLEN BENNETT, AND THOMAS ALLEN SHUTE, APPEARED AND SPOKE.**

**AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED REGARDING PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATIONS. MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN HENSON 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 HENSON AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO DECLARE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATIONS. THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN THOMAS DULY SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MARKHAM AND UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY THE COUNCIL TO GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**PRESIDENT HOUSTON CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN REGARDING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL AT THIS TIME, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. SINE DIE.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**JO ANN CLARK, CLERK OF COUNCIL**

