

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023, AT 9:00 A.M.**

Meeting called to order by Council President, Davis

Present: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor A.D. Lewis, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas and duly seconded by Councilman Norwood and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following amendments: Move to top of agenda (Presentation of Magnolia Middle School's Kimonte Watson – Winner of State Science & Engineering Fair). Add to Presentation Agenda (Mr. Lee concerning sign easement for the Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church.) Table C-2 (Order authorizing acceptance and adoption of the updated union contract for Fire Dept. Local 52.) Table R-6 (Order authorizing Change Order No. 2 for Task Order No, 2 on the CMOM Implementation assistance/support, for Neel-Schaffer, Inc., an increase of \$100,000.00.) Table R-7 (Order authorizing Engineering Services for Task Order No. 3 with Kimley-Horn for the Eastern Gardens Pump Station Improvements, Design and Bid Phase Services (not to exceed \$489,411.60).) Table R-11 (Ordinance updating Chapter 25 of the Code of Ordinances concerning Water and Sewers.) R-13b (Increase Public Works Personnel Serv (744-40420 Overtime) by \$60,000. Decrease General Government Transfers (102-40940 Special Projects) by \$60,000.) Add R-15 (Order authorizing suspending of swimming pools and splash pad fees for summer of 2023.) Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

Kimonte Watson, an eighth-grade student of Meridian's Magnolia Middle School, was selected as the Winner of the State Science & Engineering Fair for 2023. He and his mentor Mr. Jerome Watts, President of the Meridian Lamplighters Chapter, is an organization that promotes education, positive behavior, and good citizenship achievements. Kimonte and some of his fellow peers were guests at the Meridian City Council Meeting to talk about his winning project. The City of Meridian congratulates Kimonte Watson on his outstanding accomplishment!

Mr. Lee of Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church spoke before Council on an easement to place a sign on a piece of land near the church. City Attorney Will Simmons, will confer with Mr. Lee on the information he needs to supply to the city to address his sign request issue.

Motion made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Norwood and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated May 16, 2023 and May 18, 2023. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6431** RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN MUNICIPALLY OWNED REAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZED TO BE SOLD AT FAIR MARKET VALUE (PPIN #18984, 18985, 18986, 18987, 18988, 18989 AND 18990)

And, Councilman Norwood seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17570** ORDER ACCEPTING DONATION FOR SPONSORSHIP FROM MISSISSIPPI BROADCASTERS, LLC FOR THE MERIDIAN 2023 JUNETEENTH HERITAGE FESTIVAL

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17571** ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS (HIP) AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, FOR THE 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17572** ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL TO CITGO FOR A CHARITABLE DONATION AWARD

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17573** ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF GRANT FOR CHARGING FUELING INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM PROPOSAL APPLICATION

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17574** ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND MISSISSIPPI POWER COMPANY FOR REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION OF POLES AND LIGHTS

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.  
Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17575** ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 BETWEEN HEMPHILL CONSTRUCTION, INC., AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR 60 DAYS TIME EXTENSION (REPAIR OF 54-INCH DIAMETER SANITARY SEWER INTERCEPTOR)

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17576** ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ORDER FOR SOFTWARE TRAINING FROM TIMECLOCK PLUS, LLC FOR 17 HOURS FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN EMPLOYEES

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**ORDER #17577** IN THE MATTER OF: ACCEPTING THE BID OF NORMAN ENTERPRISES, INC., D/B/A NORMAN ROOFING FOR SOUTH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT RE-ROOFING PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$477,962.00 BID #23-15

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6432** RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO THE SALVATION ARMY (1115 25<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE) AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-1 (D) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6433** RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD TO SOUTHERN PIPE & SUPPLY CO., INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6434** RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD TO SOUTHERN PIPE & SUPPLY CO., INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6435** RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD TO SOUTHERN PIPE & SUPPLY CO., INC. AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 27-31-101 ET SEQ., OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

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

**RESO. #6436** RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE THERETO

And, Councilman Norwood seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Norwood and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to **approve Section (1) Payroll** of the claims docket in the amount of **\$2,638,150.98**. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilman Norwood duly seconded by Councilman Thomas and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to **approve Section (2) Mandatory & Operational Items** of the claims docket in the amount of **\$2,665,420.52** was approved. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

**Total claims docket amount approved/passed \$5,303,571.50** dated June 2, 2023.

The City Council reviews the routine financial reports of the city; claims dockets and monthly reports of payroll, revenue, expenditure and combined FY'2023 budget.

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

**ORDER #17578** ORDER SETTING ADMISSION FEES FOR THE SWIMMING POOLS AND SPLASH PAD AT HIGHLAND PARK AND VELMA YOUNG PARK ARE SUSPENDED FOR 2023 SUMMER SEASON

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey.

Nay: None.

President Davis advised of the notification of legal advertisement for the following:

- a. Bids for Asphalt (6 months source of supply)

b. Bids for Concrete (6 months source of supply)

President Davis called for the Mayor's report:

Mayor Smith presented a Proclamation announcing, "KENNIS W. CROOM DAY". Meridian Police Officer Kennis W. Croom was killed in the line of duty on June 9, 2022. A Street Name Unveiling Ceremony will be held in his honor on the one-year anniversary date of his passing, June 9, 2023. Mayor Smith read the proclamation, which proclaims June 9, 2023 as, "KENNIS W. CROOM DAY" in the City of Meridian.

Al Brown, Salesman with WTOK TV spoke on the station's 70<sup>th</sup> year anniversary from 1953 – 2023. He discussed a promotion that the city expends funds to help promote their anniversary with promotion of the city's logo etc. stream during the anniversary month.

President Davis called for Citizen Comments:

1. Bobby & Susan Horn – spoke
2. Brandon Griffin - spoke

President Davis called for Council Comments:

The Council reminded everyone to come out to the "Kennis W. Croom Street" Unveiling Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 9, 2023, at the Meridian Police Station on 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and E Street. Various additional comments were made by the Council Members.

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