

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023, AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President, Norwood.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor David Lloyd of Free Gospel Temple Apostolic Church, followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas and duly seconded by Councilwoman Walker and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following amendments: Move Presentation Agenda P-2 to the beginning of the Agenda (Elle Dunn winner of the 2023 Universal Miss Preteen Pageant) Add R-7 (Order authorizing Task Order No. 2 and Change Order No. 2 from Hemphill Construction on Annual Contract to add the repair and replacement of 36-inch sewer line on D Street & 23rd Avenue.) Add Notification of legal advertisement b. (Bid for Body Cameras and In-Dash Cameras) Add Executive Session (personnel issues) Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

Elle Dunn was crowned the winner of the 2023 Universal Miss Pre-teen Pageant. Elle said it started out as a lemonade stand here in Meridian, MS. I then got qualified for the state pageant, worked really hard and practiced every day and won competitions. I went to the 2023 Universal Miss Pre-teen Pageant in Florida, competed against twenty girls and won the whole contest. I am very proud of myself.

The City Council said, Congratulations, we are proud of you too. Maybe you will go on to be Miss Mississippi.

Motion made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated July 05, 2023. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #17607 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN DABIT & ASSOCIATES, LLC AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR POLICE UNIT OFFICE SPACE

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

ORDER #17608 ORDER AMENDING ORDER NO. 17601 ENTITLED "ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES BETWEEN ENGINEERING PLUS, INC., AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN VARIOUS CITY PARKS)" TO INCLUDE NORTHEAST PARK AS AN ADDED LOCATION

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

ORDER #17609 ORDER ACCEPTING COURTHOUSE BOULEVARD TRACT DEDICATION

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

ORDER #17610 ORDER ACCEPTING BID #23-22 FROM US BANCORP, DENVER, CO, FOR LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000.00, AT THE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE OF 5.04% FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS

And, Councilman Davis 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following

Order:

ORDER #17611 ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO AMTRAK AND THE SOUTHERN RAIL COMMISSION'S EFFORTS FOR PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE ON I-20 RAIL CORRIDOR

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

ORDER #17612 ORDER SETTING FEES AND ADOPTING POLICY AND GUIDELINES REGARDING USE AND RENTAL OF UNION STATION ROOMS

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

RESO. #6440 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 Davis 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 Davis and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to **approve Section (1) Payroll** of the claims docket in the amount of **\$1,112,197.90.** Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Lindsey 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 **\$2,736,488.56** was approved
Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Norwood, Walker, Lindsey. Voting nay: None.

Total claims docket amount approved/passed \$3,848,686.46 dated July 13, 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #17613 ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF TASK ORDER NO. 2 AND CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 OF BID #22-20 ANNUAL CONTRACT BETWEEN HEMPHILL CONSTRUCTION, INC., AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF 36-INCH DIAMETER GRAVITY SANITARY SEWER PIPE)

And, Councilman Davis 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 Norwood advised of legal notification of advertisement for the following:

- a. Bids for 24th Street Pedestrian Improvements
- b. Bids for Body Cameras and In-Dash Cameras

President Norwood called for the Mayor's report:

Mayor Smith's staff said we should have a budget proposal by August 1, 2023. Public Works has all the zero turn mowers up and running and they will provide a list of the equipment not operating and the plans are for that equipment. Public Works had working had four people working on Saturday, picking up litter, and 5-6 people working in the garage

President Norwood called for Citizen Comments:

1. Robert Ward - spoke

President Norwood called for Council Comments:

Various additional comments were made by the Council Members.

An executive session was requested regarding personnel issues. Motion was made by Councilman Davis duly seconded by Councilman Thomas 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 Lindsey and

unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss personnel issues. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session, with no action taken.

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