



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, June 17, 2025
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

Call to Order.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Shane Finley called the meeting to order.

Invocation - Councilmember Clark

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Anna Liese

Ward 3 John Cumberland

Ward 4 Austin Clark

ABSENT

Mayor Nancy Depreo

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 2 Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Cumberland to confirm the agenda.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT
June 17, 2025

1. Kome Drive & Kalipekona Pond – The project is for 157 days with a current end date of July 17th. A walkthrough is scheduled for this week on the Kome Drive portion of the project. The contractor has one junction box that needed to be lowered. The dredging of Kalipekona Pond is continuing. If you see excessive mud/dirt on the roadway, please let me know. Due to the rain, the contractor is working weekends when the weather permits.
2. MDOT Projects – The work on the final ramp has an updated completion date of June 27th. The contractor is currently paving the ramp and will start the South roundabout. Lane shifts and delays are expected in this area.

3. Dog Park – The engineers have provided a drainage plan for the area. Public Works will start clearing the area to reroute the ditch as designed. The engineering firm is completing the updated drawings. Public works will continue clearing the site in preparation for construction.
 4. Paving 2025 – The project has a start date of June 23rd. Project is 90 days with a current end date of September 21st. All required paperwork has been received from the contractor. Also, a road paving schedule was issued. Residents have been contacted.
 5. Canal Dredging – The updated bid documents have been provided to MDEQ for their review. I am asking for permission to advertise on tonight's agenda once we receive final approval.
 6. Jourdan River Boardwalk – MDEQ is waiting on the lighting portion of the plans to complete the review of the final drawings. Once approved, bid documents will be prepared.
 7. Montjoy Creek – The engineer has sent the revised plans to MS DMR/USACE with the sediment trap updates. They are also working on an updated OPC.
 8. HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
 - a. The generator project has been approved by FEMA. It is on tonight's agenda for your approval along with permission to advertise. The state is currently requesting a Period of Performance extension to add time to the disaster declaration to allow enough time for the city to complete the project.
 - b. Rostan is contacting the residents to start the process of property acquisition. All expenses will be a passthrough for the city.
 9. Coon Branch – The project start date was Monday. The weather has delayed the contractor. Project is 180 days with a current end date of December 13th.
 10. Bank Stabilization – **No update on this meeting.** The engineers are finalizing the analysis on the Phase 1 design. Phase one will cover the area from Diamondhead Drive North to Kalipekona Pond. The rear ditch will require additional easement for access.
 11. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – **No update on this meeting.** The engineer has redesigned this project into five phases. The funding is already secured for phase 1. The engineer is working on the phase 1 design.
 12. Pelican Cove Drainage Project – **No update on this meeting.** The engineer has additional surveying to complete and will finalize the drawing for this project.
- The annual 4th of July Fireworks event will be held on July 3rd from 7:00 – 10:30 at Harbor Circle.
 - The swearing-in ceremony of the new council will be at 5:00pm on July 01, 2025, here in the council chambers.
 - Diamondhead City Council will host the Princesses of the Mississippi Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo on Sunday July 6th at The Club of Diamondhead.
 - I would like to Thank You both John Cumberland and Nancy Depreo for their time and service on the City Council.
 - I would also like to extend my gratitude to Cusick & Williams Law Firm for sponsoring tonight's reception.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - Howard Thickman - Unmarked Police Car

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.**Minutes:**

1. Motion to approve June 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 2 Liese to approve June 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions:

2. **2025-127:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-018 authorizing the use of police unit #412 (VIN# 1C4RDHDG5SC528412) as unmarked police vehicle pursuant to MS Code 25-1-87.

Motion made by Ward 3 Cumberland, Seconded by Ward 2 Liese to adopt Resolution 2025-018 authorizing the use of police unit #412 (VIN# 1C4RDHDG5SC528412) as unmarked police vehicle pursuant to MS Code 25-1-87.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **2025-133:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-020 thereby authorizing the City Manager to make application to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources for FY26 GOMESA funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 for Phase III Bank Stabilization Project and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Cumberland to adopt Resolution 2025-020 thereby authorizing the City Manager to make application to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources for FY26 GOMESA funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 for Phase III Bank Stabilization Project and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **2025-134:** Motion to adopt Res 2025-021 authorizing grant application for FY27 Tidelands Funding to the MS Department of Marine Resources in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the Rotten Bayou Nature Trail Connection.

Motion made by Ward 2 Liese, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Res 2025-021 authorizing grant application for FY27 Tidelands Funding to the MS Department of Marine Resources in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the Rotten Bayou Nature Trail Connection.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **2025-135:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-022 thereby authorizing an application to the Mississippi Development Authority for a FY26 Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Grant in the amount of

\$2,400.000 (80% or \$2,000,000 GCRF share and 20% or \$400,000 local match funding) for the Commercial District Transformation Project, more specifically Gex Road and Park Ten Drive and Gex Road to the Town Center and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Ward 3 Cumberland, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution 2025-022 thereby authorizing an application to the Mississippi Development Authority for a FY26 Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Grant in the amount of \$2,400.000 (80% or \$2,000,000 GCRF share and 20% or \$400,000 local match funding) for the Commercial District Transformation Project, more specifically Gex Road and Park Ten Drive and Gex Road to the Town Center and for other related purposes.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Cumberland to approve the following consent items:

6. **2025-118:** Motion to approve amendment to Work Assignment with Chiniche Engineering & Surveying in the amount of \$97,334.00 for a total amount not to exceed \$459,000.00 for the Canal Dredging Improvements Project.
7. **2025-121:** Motion to approve Budget Amendments 2025-004.
8. **2025-122:** Motion to authorize travel for council to attend MML Summer Conference to be held July 21-23, 2025 in Biloxi.
9. **2025-123:** Motion to approve amendment to Work Assignment with Chiniche Engineering & Surveying in the amount of -\$125,750.00 for the Coon Branch (Ala Moana Street Drainage Improvements).
10. **2025-124:** Motion to approve payments to Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$3,892.00 for On-Call Survey Services, and in the amount of \$4,406.40 for the Annual Unit Price Contract.
11. **2025-125:** Motion to accept and enter into Subrecipient Program Grant Agreement with FEMA for the Hazard Mitigation Project DR-4536-0014-R City of Diamondhead Generator Project and acceptance of State of Assurance therein.
12. **2025-126:** Motion to advertise for bids for the Hazard Mitigation Generator Project.
13. **2025-128:** Motion to approve FY26 Appropriation of Funding for the Metropolitan Planning Organization of the in the amount of \$3,810.00.
14. **2025-129:** Motion to approve amendment #1 to the Work Assignment with Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 for the On-Call Survey Services FY2025.
15. **2025-130:** Motion to approve amendment #1 to the Work Assignment with Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for the Support for 2025 Annual Unit Price Contract.

- 16. 2025-131:** Motion to advertise for the purchase of a backhoe for the Public Works to be included in lease purchase financing with Cadence Bank.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

17. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT232861 - DKT232901) in the amount of \$345,454.32.

Motion made by Ward 2 Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve Docket of Claims (DKT232861 - DKT232901) in the amount of \$345,454.32.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

18. Motion to approve Payroll Payables DKT23851-DKT232860 in the amount of \$58,609.82, PRCLAIM000235 in the amount of 429,133.07, PRCLAIM000236 in the amount of \$30,934.04 and PRLCLAIM000237 in the amount of \$3,058.37.

Motion made by Ward 2 Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Cumberland to approve Payroll Payables DKT23851-DKT232860 in the amount of \$58,609.82, PRCLAIM000235 in the amount of \$429,133.07, PRCLAIM000236 in the amount of \$30,934.04 and PRLCLAIM000237 in the amount of \$3,058.37.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Reports

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve department reports.

- a. Court
- Police
- Code Enforcement
- Building
- b. March 2025 Financial Report

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - Gerry Gilbert - Drainage/Erosion Issues on Ieke Drive

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:23 p.m. with no further action to come before the council, motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 3 Cumberland to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Liese, Ward 3 Cumberland, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nancy Depreo
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk