



Mayor Depreo  
Councilmember Maher At-Large  
Councilmember Finley Ward 1  
Councilmember Moran Ward 2  
Councilmember Sheppard Ward 3  
Councilmember Clark Ward 4

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, November 16, 2021**  
**6:00 PM CST**  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
and via teleconference, if necessary

**Call to Order.**

Mayor Depreo called the meeting order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation – Councilmember Sheppard

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Nancy Depreo

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Alan Moran

Ward 3 Ricky Sheppard

Ward 4 Charles Clark

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to confirm the agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Presentation Agenda.**

Council Comments.

1. The next Regular Scheduled Meeting of the City Council will held at 6:00 p.m. December 7, 2021 in Council Chambers in City Hall located at 5000 Diamondhead Circle.
2. City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday November 25 and 26th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

City Manager's Report.

1. Diamondhead Festival and BBQ Competition – the festival was a huge success. All of the teams and vendors spoke very positively of the event and are looking forward to next year. Comments from residents were also very positive. I would like to thank councilman Ricky Sheppard and the

steering committee for planning the event and working hard on Friday and Saturday. Our sponsors contributed over \$21K to help make the event a success.

2. Main Street – We are finalizing the application to submit to MS Main Street Association. One of the items needed is a resolution of support from the city council. This is on the agenda tonight. We hope to be considered in December by their board of directors.
3. Employee Incentive Program – Included in our FY22 budget is two employee incentive payments. These are payable in November and May for \$250 each if the employee qualifies. This is performance incentive payment.
4. American Fidelity – There is a Section 125 Administrative Services Agreement with American Fidelity on the agenda for consideration by the council. This will allow employees to select from their list of products for self-funded insurance and other products. This does not cost the city anything since this is employee paid.
5. Interfund Transfers and Loans – There is a motion to approve the interfund transfers and loans to specific grant funds. The transfers are our local matching funds for a specific project that is required. The loans will be repaid to the City's general fund once the project is completed and fully funded by the grant.
6. Diamondhead Drive Protected Multimodal Lane – Part of our comprehensive plan included adding a protected multimodal lane on the Diamondhead Drive loop. We engaged Orion Planning this summer to develop the construction plans for this project. Today, I met with Bert from Orion to review the draft plans. It really looks great. He is going to continue preparing the plans based on our feedback. We hope to have something to present to the council in December.
7. Short Term Rentals – Orion is working on the draft policy for short term rentals. Bob will be presenting a draft for discussion with the planning and zoning commission in December. A survey will be distributed to residents once Orion updates the draft after the P&Z meeting. Based on all feedback from resident and the P&Z commission, Orion will present a final recommendation in January to P&Z. Hopefully, this will come to the council for consideration for the first meeting in February.
8. Drainage Update – The recess council meeting last week was well attended by residents and provided great information to residents as the council begins to develop long term plans to address drainage problems in the city. I have printed several maps that are located on the walls of council chambers for future reference. One of the next steps for the council will be to prioritize the list of projects since we have limited funding available at this time. We will be seeking grant funding, including ARPA, and determining what low-cost projects can be done in a short time period.
9. Health Insurance Renewals – Jeannie provided an update to the council on the upcoming health insurance renewal in December. We are expecting a 16% rate increase.

Public Comments on Agenda Items. None.

**Policy Agenda.**

**Minutes:**

1. Motion to approve November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve the November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolutions:**

2. **2021-373:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-07 authorizing application for a Diamondhead Main Street Association participation in the Mississippi Main Street Program and for other related matters.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to to adopt Resolution 2021-07 authorizing application for a Diamondhead Main Street Association participation in the Mississippi Main Street Program and for other related matters.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve the following agenda items by consent:

3. **2021-354:** Motion to approve a Master Service Agreement Work Assignment with Digital Engineering for Beaux Vue Phase 2 Drainage Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$34,912.00.
4. **2021-371:** Motion to accept donations in the total amount of \$2,050 for the proposed dog park.
5. **2021-372:** Motion to approve payments to Digital Engineering in the amount of \$2,372.50 for Roadway Improvements Phase 3 and \$992.50 for GIS Maintenance.
6. **2021-375:** Motion to authorize payroll expenses for the Employee Incentive Plan for FY22 in the amount of \$250 each for eligible employees for the second payroll periods in November 2021 and May 2022 to be determined by the City Manager.
7. **2021-376:** Motion to authorize the administration to enter in to a Service Exchange Agreement with American Fidelity for Section 125 Administrative Services and for other elective insurance products for employees.
8. **2021-377:** Motion to approve Interfund Loans and/or Interfund Transfers from the General Fund to Fund 116 NRCS Grant, Fund 156 Gulf Coast Restoration Fund (Commercial District Transformation), Fund 157 GRPC-East Aloha Improvements Ph. 2 Grant, Fund 158 Tidelands 21/22 Noma Drive Public Access Grant and Fund 159 GOMESA March Erosion Prevention Grant.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Routine Agenda.**

**Claims Payable**

9. Motion to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT159029-DKT159062) in the amount of \$92,607.86.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT159029-DKT159062) in the amount of \$92,607.86.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT159063 - DKT159065) in the amount of \$701.00 for 2021 Diamondhead Festival and BBQ Competition payables.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve Docket of Claims (DKT159063 - DKT159065) in the amount of \$701.00 for 2021 Diamondhead Festival and BBQ Competition payables.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

11. Payroll Payables APPKT01629 (DKT159015 - DKT159028 in the amount of \$48,774.13, PRCLAIM102 in the amount of \$29,997.66, PRCLAIM103 in the amount of \$88.67, PRCLAIM104 in the amount of \$2,696.22 and PRCLAIM in the amount of \$30,379.55

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 2 Moran to approve Payroll Payables APPKT01629 (DKT159015 - DKT159028 in the amount of \$48,774.13, PRCLAIM102 in the amount of \$29,997.66, PRCLAIM103 in the amount of \$88.67, PRCLAIM104 in the amount of \$2,696.22 and PRCLAIM in the amount of \$30,379.55

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Department Reports**

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to accept the following Department Reports:

- a. October 2021 Financials
- b. Building Department  
Privilege License

Police Department Stats  
Code Enforcement

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

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.** - None.

**Executive Session**

Motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to enter closed session to determine necessity for executive session.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to enter executive session for the discussion of potential litigation (Heath Ladner) pursuant to MS Code Annotated Section 25-41-7(4)(b) and for property acquisition pursuant to MS Code Annotated Section 25-41-7(4)(g).

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to exit executive session.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

After returning to Council Chambers, motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to come out closed session.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

City Attorney Cusick announced to the public that while in executive session no official action was taken.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to amend the agenda to include Agenda Item 2021-378 regarding property acquisition from The Peoples Bank.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion made by Mayor Depreo, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to declare that the city is in need of lots for drainage purposes and to assist the city in accessing drainage canals and ditches throughout the city; and further to authorize the City Manager to make an offer to purchase 48 lots for the total purchase

price of \$75,000.00 from People's Bank pursuant to purchasing laws; and further finding that the purchase price of said lots is consistent with the property's value and is not unreasonable.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Adjourn/Recess.**

At T 6:447 P.M. with no further business to come before the Council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Sheppard to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Moran, Ward 3 Sheppard, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

---

Nancy Depreo  
Mayor

---

Jeannie Klein  
City Clerk