



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, July 20, 2021
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

Call to Order.

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

Invocation - Councilmember Finley.

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 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Sheppard to accept and approve the agenda order 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 Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers located at 5000 Diamondhead Circle.
2. Ben Benvenuti with Covington Civil and Environmental provided to the Council a synopsis of the proposed work assignment scope for the watershed analysis Sub-Basin A and Ieke, Kaleki, Amoka area.

City Manager's Report.

1. City Engineering Firm – I am asking the council to amend the advertisement for engineers to include a new scope of work to serve as a city engineer on retainer. This will give the city access to an engineer to come look at the drainage or other issues and to give us a quick opinion. Also, it will provide one professional advisor to the city that is look big picture with the administration and city leaders.

2. Fill Policy – The building official has worked with one of our engineers to adjust the Land Alterations and Disturbances of the Zoning Ordinance. The goal of this change is to limit the amount of fill to be put on the lot for a new home and that fill cannot be placed in the drainage easements. Our building official is here tonight to speak to this if needed during that agenda item.
3. GCRF Grant Application – I am asking for authorization to submit the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Grant Application that is due by the end of this month. The project for this application is the Commercial District Transformation Project Phase 7. This is to improve Noma Drive to the river and to add a separated 10 ft multimodal lane along the side of the road. The estimated cost of the project is \$1.2 million. The grant portion is \$960K and the local share is \$240K. The city has received this grant for the last 2 years totaling \$4.2 million for this same project.
4. Contract for Public Defender – The city is current paying \$1K a month to our public defender. I am recommending that we continue this cost-effective way of providing this required legal defense to indigent defendants, and that the council approve the contract.
5. PERS – Per council instruction, we have prepared a draft letter to send to PERS. What we need from the council is guidance as to what position or departments they wish to inquire about establishing PERS benefits.

Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Penny Crawford expressed her appreciation for the amendment regarding "fill".

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 2 Moran to approve the Minutes for July 6 and July 13, 2021 as follows:

1. July 6, 2021 Recess Meeting Minutes.
2. July 6, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.
3. July 13, 2021 Recess 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

Tabled Matters:

4. **2021-236:** Motion to amend the advertisement for Request for Qualifications for Engineering Master Service Agreement and other federally-funded projects to include a contracted City Engineer.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to remove from the table the advertisement for Request for Qualifications for Engineering Master Service Agreement.

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 Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by by Ward 4 Clark to to amend the advertisement for Request for Qualifications for Engineering Master Service Agreement and other federally-funded projects to include a contracted City Engineer.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions:

- 5. **2021-038:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-054 to amend Article 14 Land Alterations and Disturbances of the Zoning Ordinance regarding the fill of property.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to adopt Resolution 2021-054 to amend Article 14 Land Alterations and Disturbances of the Zoning Ordinance regarding the fill of property.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 6. **2021-039:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-055 thereby authorizing the preparation and submittal of application for funding to the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund for the Commercial District Transformation Project Phase 7 in the amount of \$1,200,000 (federal share \$960,000) committing matching funds in the amount of \$240,000 and for other related matters.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher o adopt Resolution 2021-055 thereby authorizing the preparation and submittal of application for funding to the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund for the Commercial District Transformation Project Phase 7 in the amount of \$1,200,000 (federal share \$960,000) committing matching funds in the amount of \$240,000 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 Ward 4 Clark to approve the following agenda items by consent:

- 7. **2021-230:** Motion to accept bids received for City Hall Parking Lot Improvements and award the low bid received from Moran Hauling, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$109,125.00, Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$54,936.25, Alternate No. 2 in the amount of \$6,663.50, Alternate No. 3 in the amount of \$27,247.50 for a total bid award in the amount of \$197,872.25.
- 8. **2021-231:** Motion to approve payments to Digital Engineering in the amount of \$2,229.50 for Plan/Spec Review, \$2,140 for Roadway Improvements Phase 3, \$630.50 for GIS Maintenance.

9. **2021-232:** Motion to enter into contract with George S. Blair, Esq. to represent the City as its Municipal Court Public Defender at the rate of \$1,000 per month for the initial term effective immediately until July 6, 2022 to renew annually in one-year increments for three (3) years and to authorize the City Manager to execute same.
10. **2021-233:** Motion to approve payment to ERS, Inc. in the amount of \$56,054.75 for work in relation to the Channel Stabilization at Diamondhead Dr. and Alkii Way NRCS Grant 204423XXC080.
11. **2021-234:** Motion to declare surplus equipment (Asset ID#598) and proceed with proper disposal.
12. **2021-240:** Motion to authorize Master Service Agreement Work Assignment with Covington Civil and Environmental for watershed analysis Sub-Basin A and Ieke, Kaleki, Amoka area.
13. **2021-241:** Motion to approve donation to the Diamondhead Dog Park in the amount of \$3,270 received from the Diamondhead S.P.C.A.
14. **2021-242:** Motion to approve travel and related expenses for Michael Reso to attend Destination Downtown Conference to be held September 15-17, 2021 in Starkville.
15. **2021-243:** Motion to accept the donation of one (1) live oak tree with an estimated value of \$75.00 from Linda Maron.
16. **2021-244:** Motion to approve funding for police detail for Magdalene House 5K Run hosted in the City and to amend policy to include event annually.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action Agenda.

17. **2021-237:** Motion for discussion and/or possible action regarding initial application of membership to Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS).

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to hold discussion regarding an initial application of membership to Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) for the purposes of determining position and/or departments to be included in the application.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Depreo called for a motion on the matter; no motion was offered.

DIED FOR LACK OF ACTION

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

18. Motion to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT158634 - DKT158664) in the amount of \$139,450.37.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve the Docket of Claims (DKT158634 - DKT158664) in the amount of \$139,450.37.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

19. Motion to approve Payroll Payables APPKT01543 in the amount of \$61,753.35, PRCLAIM089 in the amount of \$29,951.22, PRCLAIM090 in the amount of \$31,647.08 and PRCLAIM091 in the amount of \$2,644.35.

Motion made by Ward 3 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 2 Moran to approve Payroll Payables APPKT01543 in the amount of \$61,753.35, PRCLAIM089 in the amount of \$29,951.22, PRCLAIM090 in the amount of \$31,647.08 and PRCLAIM091 in the amount of \$2,644.35.

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. June 2021 Financials
- b. Police Department June 2021
- c. Code Enforcement
- d. Privilege License Report
- e. Building Department Report

Voting Yea: Mayor Depreo, 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.

Betsy Lyons and Joy Dinella addressed the Council regarding flooding during recent rain events and new construction impacts.

Ronnie Wintzell informed the Council of H2S levels present in the ground, his home and City Hall.

Discussions/Workshops

a. FY22 Budget Workshop

City Manager Reso provided a summary of the revisions to the proposed FY22 Budget as requested during the prior council meeting.

b. Discussion Solid Waste Services -FY22 Solid Waste Authority Contract

Mayor Depreo and City Manager Reso updated the Council regarding the upcoming RFQ process by Hancock County Solid Waste. The general consensus was to include recycling bins and curbside with rolling bin options and grapple truck collection services for the City as alternate services under the RFQ.

Adjourn/Recess.

At 7:30 p.m. and with no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Ward 4 Clark, seconded by Ward 3 Sheppard to recess until July 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

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