



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, June 16, 2026
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

Call to Order.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Liese called the meeting to order.

Invocation- Councilmember Finley

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to confirm the agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation Agenda.

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday July 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.
- b. City Hall Offices will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2026 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday.
- c. The annual 4th of July Fireworks event will be held on Friday, July 3rd from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Noma Drive Recreation Field.
- d. Bank Stabilization Phase I Presentation – Nathan Long, Covington Civil and Environmental

City Manager's Report.

CITY MANAGER REPORT
June 16, 2026

1. Canal Dredging – The contract is for 240 days with the current end date of October 24th. The engineer has set a meeting with the contractor for tomorrow morning to discuss his progress and a path forward to ensure the project is going to be completed by the end of the contract.

2. Paving 2026 – The contract is for 120 days with a current completion date of June 18, 2026. On tonight's agenda, I have submitted a change order to add an additional 27 days to the contract. If approved, the new contract end date will be July 15, 2026. The contractor remobilized last week and did the base repair of Aila Street. Once this rain is gone, they will start final paving.
3. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The contract is for 180 days with the current end date of October 17th. The contractor is making great progress on this project. The crossmembers are being installed with final decking to follow. The first major section of the boardwalk has the piling cut to final height to allow for decking and railing installation. Again, I encourage residents to use caution when driving down to the boat launch.
4. Montjoy Creek Nature Trail – The contract is 180 calendar days with a current end date of October 10th. The contractor has installed the pilings for the raised boardwalk area. Material for this project has also been delivered. Residents need to remain off the trail until all work is completed.
5. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer was out last week working on the survey. Once the survey work is completed, they will start the trail design. The wetlands will take about six weeks before the permitting phase can begin. The amended work assignment on tonight's agenda is to correct the engineering for the current grant agreements.
6. Bank Stabilization – The project is on the agenda tonight for permission to advertise for Phase I. This first phase was just presented by the engineers.
7. MDOT Projects – The contractor is working on the multimodal path and the expansion of the Interstate to six lanes. The entrance/exit ramps may be closed to make the final tie into the new roadway. This occurred this weekend, but the city was not notified. We have spoken with the contractor to make sure in the future that the city is notified.
8. Pelican Cove – The engineer has all required permits and plans finalized. They are finishing up on the specification for the project and will be ready to advertise next month.

No additional updates on remaining projects.

9. Fitness Park – The city received the exercise equipment. Public Works will start working on installing everything.
10. East Aloha Drive – The engineers are finishing the sidewalk designs and right-of-way acquisition process with MDOT. The electrical engineering sub-contractor is completing the design and layout for the streetlights. The engineers expect to be able to advertise as soon as the MDOT requirements are completed.
11. West Aloha Drive – I am working with American Towers to finalize the egress into the driveway access to North Bay Auto and AutoZone.
12. Commercial District – The engineer is completing the final design. Additional sewer realignment is needed to finish the project.
13. Landscaping Project – Keep Diamondhead Beautiful and their landscape architect company are working on the project scope. The city has expressed that the landscaping cannot obstruct driver's view.
14. Unit Price Contracts
 - Crooked Stick – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Mauna Loa Drive – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Ewa St @ Hilo Way – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
 - Koula Drive – A design has been created. An OPC has been issued for budget needs.

15. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – The kickoff meeting with FEMA was held two weeks ago for the Outdoor Emergency Siren System. The project is waiting on a period of performance extension from FEMA. The bid advertisement and specifications will be on the agenda at the next council meeting for your review and approval.
16. Dog Park – The turf for the entrance to the dog park has been delivered. Public Works will be closing the entrance to the park while they are working on repairing the damage caused by the rain and while installing the turf.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve June 2, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Councilmember-At-Large Maher to approve June 2, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions:

2. **2026-109:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-015 thereby establishing salary of the Police Chief in the amount of \$76,960.99 effective July 8, 2026.

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to adopt Resolution 2026-015 thereby establishing salary of the Police Chief in the amount of \$76,960.00 effective July 8, 2026.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **2026-113:** Motion to adopt Res 2026-016 authorizing grant application for FY28 Tidelands Funding to the MS Department of Marine Resources in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the Lily Pond Project.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to adopt Res 2026-016 authorizing grant application for FY28 Tidelands Funding to the MS Department of Marine Resources in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the Lily Pond Project.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **2026-114:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-017 thereby authorizing the City Manager to make application to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources for FY27 GOMESA funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 for Phase IV Bank Stabilization Project and for other related purposes.

Motion made by Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Seconded by Mayor Liese to adopt Resolution 2026-017 thereby authorizing the City Manager to make application to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources for FY27 GOMESA funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 for Phase IV Bank Stabilization Project and for other related purposes.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to approve the following consent items:

5. **2026-110:** Motion to approve FY27 Appropriation of Funding for the Metropolitan Planning Organization of the Mississippi Gulf Coast in the amount of \$3,810.00.
6. **2026-111:** Motion to approve Change Order No. 1 for twenty seven (27) additional days to the contract with Gulf Pride Paving, LLC for the Diamondhead Paving Project 2026 with no change to contract price and new substantial completion date July 15, 2026.
7. **2026-112:** Motion to advertise for bids for Bank Stabilization Phase I. (Hancock County)
8. **2026-115:** Motion to rescind amended Work Assignment #1 in the amount of \$144,000.00 and and approve amended Work Assignment #2 under the Master Service Agreement with Chiniche Engineering and Surveying Environmental in the amount not to exceed \$69,371.60 for the Design, Permitting, Bidding, Construction Administration and Observation for the Rotten Bayou Nature Trail Phase I Project. (Most Grant)

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

9. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233822- DKT233859) in the amount of \$274,245.67.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233822- DKT233859) in the amount of \$274,245.67.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:35 p.m. with no further business to come before the council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to adjourn.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk