

# **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

## **MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO**

### **STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**MAY 2, 2023**

Be it remembered that a regular meeting of the Tupelo City Council was held in the Council Chambers in the City Hall building on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council Members Chad Mims, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Buddy Palmer, Janet Gaston and Rosie Jones; Ben Logan, City Attorney and Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council. Council Member Lynn Bryan led the invocation. Council Member Nettie Davis introduced Stan Allen who led the pledge of allegiance.

Council President Lynn Bryan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to confirm the agenda and agenda order, as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Todd Jordan proclaimed April 25, 2023, as Stan Allen Day and presented Mr. Allen with a key to the City. APPENDIX A

### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Mayor Todd Jordan recognized the following, for employment with the City of Tupelo:

Jason Paul Thomas	Fire Department	30 years
Zachary Ryan Shumpert	Fire Department	5 years
Nathan Hughes	Public Works Department	25 years

### **PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

Mrs. Kathryn Rhea addressed the Council thanking them for all their support of the Keep Tupelo Beautiful group. The group recently won 3 awards for 2023. Mr. Jessie Bandre also thanked the Mayor and Council for all the support they extend toward Kathryn and the Keep Tupelo Beautiful program.

Council Member Davis told everyone about the visitation of historic landmarks on May 13 from 11:00 - 1:00. The Spain House is on the tour, as well as, the Spring Hill MB Church. Lessons in Black History, by Dr. Carl Marx, will be presented on May 9 at 6:00 PM. Juneteenth will have 2 days of celebration this year - June 17 and 19.

Council Member Travis Beard thanked Kathryn Rhea and Keep Tupelo Beautiful for all their hard work. He gave a “shout-out” to the Departments of the City saying, "We can't function without you." He reminded everyone that the Blue Suede Cruise is this coming weekend.

Council Member Buddy Palmer reiterated all the thanks for the KTB group.

Council Member Rosie Jones thanked everyone with the Keep Tupelo Beautiful group for their speedy work after the recent tornado in Tupelo. She also thanked Public Works and Tupelo Water & Light for their quick response to the tornado.

Council Member Janet Gaston congratulated Kathryn Rhea and all her hard work. She challenged everyone to pick up at least one piece of trash each day.

Council Member Chad Mims congratulated Kathryn Rhea for all she has accomplished and that she has been able to incorporate a wave of volunteers in her program.

Council Member Lynn Bryan reminded everyone that the Dudie Burger festival is this weekend.

### **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Todd Jordan reminded everyone of events coming up, started this weekend: Wine Downtown, Gum Tree and Elvis Fest. He also introduced the City's governmental consultant, Jordan Starnes.

### **IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOT MOWING**

No one appeared to speak at the public hearing for the following property on the final lot mowing list:

<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Location</u>
101H0104100	918 GRANT ST

### **IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR DEMOLITIONS**

Attorney James Moore spoke to the Council on behalf of Charles Williams of 2207 McCullough Blvd, which was listed on the demolition list. No one appeared to speak at the public hearing for the following properties, also on the demolition list: 1809 Trace Ave, 561 Magazine Street, 215 S Highland St and 611 Racove.

### **CITIZEN HEARING**

Ms. Angela Northington addressed the Council about some concerns in the area where she lives, including the harassment of someone knocking on her door or ringing her doorbell, general Tupelo Housing Authority policies and maintenance, litter and pets running at large.

### **IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENT TO ANIMAL ORDINANCE**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to table this item. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2023 MEETING**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2023, regular City Council meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY**

Bills were reviewed at 4:30 p.m. by Council Members Beard, Davis and Palmer. Council Member Jones moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX B

**IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the advertising and promotional list, as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX C

**IN THE MATTER OF THE 2024 BUDGET CALENDAR**

Council Member Mims moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the 2024 Budget Calendar, as presented by CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX D

**IN THE MATTER OF AMNESTY MONTH**

Municipal Court Clerk addressed the Council asking that the Municipal Judges be allowed to waive warrant fees of \$125 from May 15 - June 15 in an attempt to collect old fines before they are turned over to a collection agency. Both Judge Weir and Judge Allen have agreed to the waiver should the City Council approve. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston to approve the waiver of warrant fees in the amount of \$125 per defendant. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE PROPERTIES FOR LOT MOWING**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the final lot mowing list, as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX E

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE PROPERTIES FOR DEMOLITION**

DDS Director Tanner Newman requested that the Council consider the adjudication of each property on the public hearing demolition list that have been found to be in such a condition to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and in need of cleaning by demolition as authorized by Miss. Code § 21-19-11 (1972 as amended). Each property was separately considered and found to be in such a condition to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and in need of cleaning by demolition. The properties are:

1809 Trace Avenue (Parcel 076G-24-005-00)

2207 McCullough Blvd (Parcel 075V-22-007-00)  
561 Magazine (Parcel #089P-31-068-00)  
215 South Highland (Parcel 077Q-36-075-00)  
611 Racove (Parcel 077L-36-015-00)

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, that each property on the demolition list be found to be in such a condition to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and in need of cleaning by demolition as authorized by Miss. Code § 21-19-11 (1972 as amended). The vote was unanimous in favor of approval of the demolitions. APPENDIX F

### **IN THE MATTER OF LICENSE COMMISSION MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2023**

Council Member Palmer, seconded by Council Member Jones, to accept the minutes of the License Commission meeting of April 20, 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX G

### **IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2023**

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to accept the minutes of the Planning Committee dated January 9, 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX H

### **IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR JUST LOVE COFFEE CAFÉ**

DDS Director Tanner Newman discussed the request for tax abatement for Just Love Coffee Café for a period of 5 years. He explained that this improvement meets the criteria for the City's tax abatement program. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the 5 year tax abatement request for Just Love Coffee Café. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX I

### **IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR THE CARROLL PARK BUILDING**

DDS Director Tanner Newman discussed the request for tax abatement for the Carroll Park Building for a period of 5 years. He explained that this improvement meets the criteria for the City's tax abatement program. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the 5 year tax abatement request for the Carroll Park Building. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX J

### **IN THE MATTER OF LEAVE DONATION REQUEST - GILLAND**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the donation of sick time for Public Works employee Elmer Gilland, as allowed by the employee handbook. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX K

### **IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF BID 2023-009PW - LOCAL STREET MAINTENANCE MILL AND OVERLAY PROGRAM – 2023 ANNUAL BID**

Bids were received for Bid 2023-009PW for Local Street Maintenance Mill and Overlay Program 2023. Public Works Director Chuck Williams requested that the Council award the bid to Falcon Contracting

Co., Inc., the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$3,352,102.00, with an alternate award to Gregory Companies, LLC DBA Murphree Paving, in the amount of \$3,925,137.00. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the bid, as requested. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX L

**IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF BID 2023-008PW - MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MILL & OVERLAY PROGRAM – 2023**

Bids were received by the City of Tupelo for Bid # 2023-008PW for Major Thoroughfare Mill and Overlay 2023. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to award the lowest and best bid to Falcon Contracting Co., Inc. for a total of \$953,025.00. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX M

**IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS OF FIXED ASSET ITEMS**

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the surplus items listed on APPENDIX N, as submitted by Park and Recreation Department. These items are no longer needed by the City of Tupelo and should be auctioned/scrapped, as noted on the list. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR BID # 2023-017PR LEE ACRES PICKLEBALL COMPLEX**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the contract for Bid 2023-017PR - Lee Acres Pickleball Complex, with M & N Liability Construction, and to authorize the mayor and city clerk to enter into the contract for later presentment to the City Council for ratification. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX O

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CADENCE BANK ARENA MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2023**

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to accept the minutes of the Cadence Bank Arena of March 20, 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX P

**IN THE MATTER OF BID 2023-014WL – CONCRETE POLES (12 MONTH SUPPLY BID)**

Bids were received by the City of Tupelo for bid # 2023-014WL - Concrete Poles. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to award the bid to the lowest and best bidder Stresscrete, Inc. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Q

**IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF BID 2023-019WL – HWY 45N SEWER OUTFALL LINE**

Bids were received by the City of Tupelo for bid 2023-019WL - Hwy 45 N Sewer Outfall Line. Attorney Ben Logan explained to the Council that confirmation has been received from the Horn Group and MDEQ that the bidding process was in order. Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to award the bid to the lowest and best qualified bidder Encor, LLC, in the amount of \$1,368,762.00. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Q

**IN THE MATTER OF REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES DUKE TO THE NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the reappointment for an additional 5 year term, to expire on March 31, 2028 of Charles Duke to the Northeast MS Regional Water Supply District Board of Commissioners, The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX S

**IN THE MATTER OF REDISTRICTING**

Upon the unanimous agreement of the City Council, the Matter of Redistricting was moved from the Study Agenda to the Active Agenda at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to determine the need for an executive session. Attorney Ben Logan said the session is for personnel issues under Miss. Code Anno. 25-41-7(g) (1972 as amended). The vote was unanimous in favor at 6:40 p.m.

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to close the regular session and enter executive session for discussion of personnel matters under Miss. Code Anno. 25-41-7 (g) (1972 as amended). The vote was unanimous in favor.

After discussion in executive session, Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Mims to return to the regular meeting at 6:59 p.m. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor.

This the 2nd day of May, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

---

Lynn Bryan, Council President

ATTEST:

---

Missy Shelton, Council Clerk

APPROVED

---

Todd Jordan, Mayor

---

Date