

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

APRIL 04, 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, April 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council Members Chad Mims, 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 was absent. Council Member Buddy Palmer introduced Bro. Mark Cason, who led the invocation. Council Member Janet Gaston led the pledge of allegiance.

Council Vice President Travis Beard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to confirm the agenda and agenda order, with the following addition:

Add: Item # 1.5 IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF NATIONAL JUNIOR AUXILIARY WEEK PROCLAMATION

Mayor Todd Jordan recognized President Nicole McLaughlin of the Tupelo Junior Auxiliary, who read a proclamation declaring the week of April 2-8, 2023, as National Junior Auxiliary Week. APPENDIX A

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND DECLARING THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, TO BE A DISASTER AREA

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve a "Resolution Proclaiming the Existence of a Local Emergency and Declaring the City of Tupelo, Mississippi, to be a Disaster Area". Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX B

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

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

Christopher Seth Simmons	Police Department	5 years
Jon Paul Price	Police Department	10 years

Justin Cody Franks	Fire Department	5 years
Debbie Dukes	Tupelo Water & Light	25 years

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Council Member Chad Mims reported that the Tupelo High/Middle School show choirs performed their Home Show last weekend, which was well attended.

Council Member Gaston thanked the Fire Department, Police Department, Tupelo Water & Light Department and the Public Works Department for all their hard work after the weekend tornado in Tupelo.

Council Member Buddy Palmer asked everyone to stand and sing Happy Birthday to Travis Beard for his upcoming birthday.

Council Member Nettie Davis mentioned both the March 23 and April 1, 2023 tornadoes in Amory and Tupelo. She thanked the City for the opportunity to travel to Washington DC last week to promote Tupelo and meet with our Congressional leaders.

Council Member Travis Beard thanked all the city departments for their hard work after the tornado last weekend. He especially thanked Matt Laubhan - WTVA for his live coverage and Jenny Savely for calling to check on him.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Todd Jordan read an email from Gina Fremont of Rankin Elementary, thanking the Police and Fire Departments for their participation in the Ripple Run event. He also announced that the City will receive \$4.6 million for the railroad project and \$500,000 for the Ballard Park upgrades from the 2023 legislative session. APPENDIX C

CITIZEN HEARING

Council Member Travis Beard asked that the rules be suspended to allow Mrs. Ora Baldwin to speak to the Council. She missed the deadline to be placed on the agenda. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to suspend the rules and allow Mrs. Ora to speak. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Ora Baldwin addressed the Council concerning loose dogs in her neighborhood.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023, regular City Council meeting. Of those present, 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, Gaston and Palmer. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX D

IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #5 FOR FY 2023

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve Budget Amendment #5 for 2023, as presented by CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna. The vote was as follows:

Council Member Mims	AYE
Council Member Bryan	ABSENT
Council Member Beard	AYE
Council Member Davis	AYE
Council Member Palmer	AYE
Council Member Gaston	AYE
Council Member Jones	NAY

APPENDIX E

IN THE MATTER OF THE CITY OF TUPELO AUDIT FOR FY 2022

The Jarrell Group, PLLC, conducted the annual audit of the city's financial condition. No current year deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control or in the compliance system were reported. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to accept the City of Tupelo Audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. A copy of the audit report is on file in the City Clerk's office. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF BID 2023-013FP - FAIRPARK RESTROOMS

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to make the following findings based on the record before the City Council and attached to the minutes: 1. The lowest and best bid of Timmons Electric Company supplied sufficient written proof with its bid submission that it has been approved for a bid bond as bid security; and 2. The waiver of the irregularity (not including the actual copy of the bid bond with the bid submission) does not violate mandatory or statutory provisions of state law; does not in any way destroy the competitive character of the bid; has no effect as to the amount of the bid; and does not give an advantage or benefit over the other bidders. The vote was, as follows:

Council Member Mims	AYE
Council Member Bryan	ABSENT
Council Member Beard	AYE
Council Member Davis	AYE
Council Member Palmer	AYE
Council Member Gaston	AYE
Council Member Jones	NAY

APPENDIX F

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Woman Davis, to award the bid to the lowest and best bidder, Timmons Electric Company, in the amount of \$316,648.23 and to authorize the mayor and city clerk to enter into a contract for later presentment to the City Council for ratification. The vote was, as follows:

Council Member Mims	AYE
Council Member Bryan	ABSENT
Council Member Beard	AYE
Council Member Davis	AYE
Council Member Palmer	AYE
Council Member Gaston	AYE
Council Member Jones	NAY

APPENDIX G

IN THE MATTER OF CVB BOARD MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2023

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023 meeting of the CVB Board. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.
APPENDIX H

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF FIREHOUSE SUBS GRANT FOR BALLISTIC VESTS

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the submission of the Firehouse Subs Grant for Ballistic Vests. This grant will be used to purchase ballistic vests for the fire department in the approximate amount of \$20,000 and there is no match. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX I

IN THE MATTER OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN TUPELO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND VA MEDICAL CENTER

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center and Tupelo Police Department. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.
APPENDIX J

IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST TO RETIRE K9 ENZO

Council member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the request to retire K9 Enzo and allow transfer of this asset to his handler Sgt. Mike Ray. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX K

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUSING WEAPON FOR RETIREMENT OF JON BRAMBLE

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to surplus the Glock model 45 9mm, SN BKLR969 and allow Jon Bramble to purchase same in the amount of \$1.00 upon his retirement from the City of Tupelo Police Department, as permissible under Mississippi State Statue 45-9-131. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX L

IN THE MATTER OF REJECTION OF BIDS FOR PROJECT # 2023-015MT TUPELO MAIN STREET FAIRPARK IMPROVEMENTS

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to reject Bid #2023-015MT - Tupelo Main Street Fairpark Improvements. The bid was 53% above the Engineer's estimate. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor to reject the bid. APPENDIX M

IN THE MATTER OF MAJOR SITE PLAN REVISION FOR LAKEFRONT GARDENS DUPLEX DEVELOPMENT

Council Member Mims moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve flexible use application #FLEX23-01 for Lakefront Gardens duplex development. The original application was approved by Council in June of 2020. This change will approve one more duplex on the site for a total of eight. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX N

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR THE FEDERAL BUILDING

DDS Director Tanner Newman discussed the request for tax abatement for Crossen Main, LLC for a period of 5 years. He explained that this improvement meets the criteria for the City's tax abatement program. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the 5 year tax abatement request for Crossen Main, LLC. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX O

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR BNA BANK

DDS Director Tanner Newman discussed the request for tax abatement for BNA Bank 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 Jones, to approve the 5 year tax abatement request for BNA Bank. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX P

IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF BID NUMBER 2023-012FD - TWO 4WD FIRE RESCUE SUV'S

The City advertised and accepted bids for Bid #2023-012FD – two (2) 4WD Fire Rescue SIVs. One bid was received from Cannon Motors in the amount of \$115,750.00. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to find the properly advertised, single bid as commercially reasonable, and to award the bid to Cannon Motors in the amount of \$115,750.00. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Q

IN THE MATTER OF BID APPROVAL FOR ANNUAL BID NO. 2023-010PW TUPELO ROADWAY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to award Bid # 2022-010PW annual term bid for the 2023 Tupelo Roadway Maintenance Program to the lowest and best bid of Hodges Construction in the total amount of \$17,600.00. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX R

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CADENCE BANK ARENA MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023 meeting of the Cadence Bank Arena. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX S

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CORRECTION OF CADENCE BANK ARENA MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2022

On February 7, 2023, the City Council approved the Cadence Bank Arena minutes of the December 19, 2022, meeting. However, the list of surplus items listed in those minutes were not attached to the minutes. Therefore, Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, that the December 19, 2022, minutes of the Cadence Bank Arena be corrected to include the surplus items list mentioned in those minutes. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX T

IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF SURPLUS ITEMS

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to find these items no longer needed by the City of Tupelo and to approve the list of items provided by Tupelo Water & Light to be surplus and sold at auction. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX U

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM MARCH 23, 2023

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of March 3, 2023. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX V

IN THE MATTER OF LEGGETT & PLATT 0341, 0908, AND 4201 2023 TAX EXEMPTION

Upon the unanimous agreement of the City Council, the Leggett & Platt 0341, 0908 and 4201 Tax Exemption was moved from the Study Agenda to the Active Agenda at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE REQUEST TO FORM THE GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Upon the unanimous agreement of the City Council, the request to form the Grove Neighborhood Association was moved from the Study Agenda to the Active Agenda at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

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 at 6:41 P.M. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. This the 4th day of April, 2023.

Lynn Bryan, Council President

ATTEST:

Missy Shelton, Council Clerk

APPROVED

Todd Jordan, Mayor

Date