

# **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

## **MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO**

### **STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**APRIL 06, 2021**

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 6, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council members Markel Whittington, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Buddy Palmer, and Willie Jennings; Attorney Ben Logan and Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council. Councilman Mike Bryan was absent.

Councilwoman Nettie Davis introduced her Pastor, Randy Jones, who then led the invocation. Councilman Willie Jennings led the pledge of allegiance.

Council Vice-President Buddy Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

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

Councilman L Bryan moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to confirm the agenda and agenda order. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

### **PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS AGENDA**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF NATIONAL JUNIOR AUXILIARY WEEK PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Jason Shelton presented a proclamation for National Junior Auxiliary Week for April 4-10, 2021.

APPENDIX A

#### **IN THE MATTER OF WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Jason Shelton presented a proclamation for 'Week of the Young Child' for April 10-16, 2021. APPENDIX B

### **PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

Councilwoman Davis wished all the Council members good luck in the ongoing elections. She recently attended an MML workshop named 'Leaders in Turbulent Times' at the mid-winter conference and said that Tupelo received high praise for their leadership.

Councilman Beard thanked the City Leadership and employees who contributed toward the benches in honor of Terri Blissard. He also said that he presented a proclamation to Sheila Davis at the Family Resource Center for National Child Abuse Awareness month.

Councilman Lynn Bryan reminded everyone to go vote in the Municipal elections. He thanked the Police Department and all the others that were involved in a recent dog issue and drainage issue.

Councilman Jennings also thanked all those that were involved in the dedication of the benches in memory of Terri Blissard. He said there is still a major litter issue and that it must be handled aggressively.

### **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Shelton spoke of Terri Blissard and how much she was valued by both her City Hall family and the City of Tupelo community. Terri lost her battle with COVID-19 on July 25, 2020. COVID-19 still remains a serious issue and asked all to get the vaccine if at all possible. The polls for the municipal election will close at 7:00. He said he is proud and gave thanks to the leadership of the City and the City Council in the construction of a new fire station #2. The groundbreaking will be Thursday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m. at 401 Clayton Avenue. He wished all the candidates involved in the municipal elections good luck.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF STREET DEDICATION (MOVED FROM STUDY AGENDA ON MAR 16, 2021)**

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to accept the maintenance of a new street, Riverbend Road, located off Endville Road in West Tupelo. This item was moved from the Study Agenda to the Action Agenda at the March 16, 2021, Council meeting. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX C

### **ROUTINE AGENDA**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 16, 2021 AND RECESSED MEETING ON MARCH 23, 2021**

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 16, 2021, and the Recessed Council meeting of March 23, 2021. 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: Markel Whittington, Travis Beard, and Buddy Palmer and Accounts Payable Clerk Traci Dillard. Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, 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 FY 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT #5**

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to approve the FY 2021 budget amendment #5, as presented by CFO Kim Hanna. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX E

### **IN THE MATTER OF 2020 CITY OF TUPELO AUDIT**

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. Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to accept the City of Tupelo Audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. 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 NEW BANK ACCOUNT-STATE BOND BILL**

CFO Kim Hanna made a request to the City Council to approve the opening of a new bank account for the purpose of receiving and expending State Bonds Funds from the MS Department of Finance and Administration for the Bancorp South Expansion and Renovation Project. The account will be opened at Trustmark National Bank and will be titled, "City of Tupelo 2021 State Bond Fund." Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve the new bank account. Of those present, the vote was unanimous.

### **IN THE MATTER OF REAPPOINTMENT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

DDS Director Pat Falkner requested that the City Council confirm the reappointment of Historic Preservation Committee Members, Tish Wright, Helen Bryson and Molly Turner for a term to expire in 2024. Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, to confirm the reappointment. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

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

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to approve the donation of sick time for DDS employee Cora Ward, as allowed by the employee handbook. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR WELLSTONE SUBDIVISION**

DDS Director Pat Falkner requested that a Real Estate Development Agreement for the Wellstone Subdivision be accepted. This is a 70 lot residential subdivision located off Purnell Road. The agreement meets the requirements of the Development Code and will authorize the Development Services Department to issue the permit for construction. Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to accept the development agreement for Wellstone Subdivision. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX F

### **IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF VEHICLE TRANSFER FROM CLINTON PD EOD**

Police Chief Bart Aguirre requested that the Council accept the donation of a 2015 F-250 VIN 1FT7W2B57FEB19517 from the City of Clinton Police Department. This vehicle was purchased with a MS Homeland Security grant and must be used for the purpose of the purchase. The vehicle will be used by the Tupelo Police EOD unit and will furnish another tool for rapid response to EOD situations.

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to accept the donation. Of those present, the vote was unanimous. APPENDIX G

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Councilman L Bryan moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. This the 6th day of April, 2021.

---

Mike Bryan, President  
City Council

ATTEST:

---

Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council

---

Jason Shelton, Mayor

---

Date