

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

MARCH 21, 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, March 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council Members Chad Mims, Travis Beard, Lynn Bryan, Nettie Davis, Buddy Palmer, Janet Gaston and Rosie Jones; Ben Logan, City Attorney and Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council. Council Member Chad Mims gave the invocation. Council Member Travis Beard 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, with the following addition:

Add: Item # 7.1 IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF JON M. MILSTEAD TO THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE MARCH 28, 2023

The vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF AMERICAN RED CROSS PROCLAMATION

Mayor Jordan introduced KC Grist, Executive Director of the North MS Chapter of the American Red Cross, who read a proclamation declaring March 2023, as American Red Cross Month.
APPENDIX A

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Council Member Nettie Davis told about the annual Our Mississippi Banquet to be held on March 25 and the Hers Renewal, to be held on March 23. She thanked everyone who had a part in the Mission Mississippi event.

Council Member Travis Beard reminded everyone that the Time for Tupelo event, an annual cleanup day in Tupelo, will be held on Saturday, March 25 and encouraged everyone to participate.

Council Member Buddy Palmer wished the City team, going to Washington DC, a safe trip.

Council Member Chad Mims said that both of his daughters are members of the Tupelo Show Choirs and that they have had a great season. Tupelo will host an event for the Show Choirs in February of 2024.

Council Member Lynn Bryan echoed the encouragement for all to participate in the Time for Tupelo. He congratulated Andrew Brown, a Tupelo Middle School student, for his National Championship in track.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Todd Jordan congratulated the Tupelo Show Choirs on their great season and said that Council Member Mims was a 'Stage Dad' for the groups. He told the Council that we are entering the last two weeks of the Mississippi Legislative Session and encouraged them to contact the State Legislators concerning funding for the Tupelo projects.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE THE NEED FOR PROPERTY CLEANING OF 1527 (1521) N. MADISON STREET

No one appeared to speak concerning the public hearing to determine the need for property cleaning of 1527 (1521) N Madison Street. APPENDIX B

CITIZEN HEARING

Ms. Natalie Chilcutt addressed the Council as the new director of the MS State Department of Health in Tupelo. She offered services and a partnership with the City of Tupelo to address concerns.

Rev. Ms. Patricia Ross addressed the Council concerning old pine trees in her neighbor's yard and the needles that fall in her yard.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the minutes of the March 7, 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 Beard, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX C

IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – BROADBAND KITS

Grant Writer Abby Christian addressed the Council asking permission to submit for a Homeland Security grant for broadband kits in the amount of \$14,000. The Fire Department will use funding

allocated under this grant for the purchase of 2 4K Mobile Broadband Kits. There is no match for this grant. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the submission for this grant. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX F

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT –
FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCK**

Grant Writer Abby Christian addressed the Council asking permission to submit for a Homeland Security grant for a truck and vehicle upfit in the amount of \$90,000. The Fire Department will use funding allocated under this grant for the purchase of a 5500 Crew Cab Chassis 4 x 4 and an upfit. There is no match for this grant. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the submission for this grant. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX G

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT –
EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE DISPOSAL (EOD) TRUCK**

Grant Writer Abby Christian addressed the Council asking permission to submit for a Homeland Security grant for an Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) truck in the amount of \$99,135. The Police Department will use funding allocated under this grant for the purchase of a 3500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4 x 4 and an upfit to EOD equipment and other modifications. There is no match for this grant. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the submission for this grant. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX H

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT –
CAMERAS**

Grant Writer Abby Christian addressed the Council asking permission to submit for a Homeland Security grant for cameras in the amount of \$90,697.10. The Police Department will use funding allocated under this grant for the purchase of six (6) Active Solutions Safe City Neighborhood Watch Cameras and one (1) Skycop Mobile Surveillance Trailer. There is no match for this grant. Council Member Jones moved, seconded by Council Member Gaston, to approve the submission for this grant. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX I

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT –
SHIELDS**

Grant Writer Abby Christian addressed the Council asking permission to submit for a Homeland Security grant for ballistic shields in the amount of \$63,290. The Police Department will use funding allocated under this grant for the purchase of six (6) ballistic shields to replace out of date shields. There is no match for this grant. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the submission for this grant. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX J

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to approve the Major Thoroughfare committee meeting minutes of February 13, 2023. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX K

IN THE MATTER OF RATIFICATION OF CONTRACT FOR BID # 2023-003MT NORTH VETERANS BLVD IMPROVEMENTS (REESE ST TO HAMM ST)

The Council previously awarded a bid and contract for Bid # 2023-003MT - North Veterans Blvd Improvements (Reese St to Hamm St) at the March 7, 2023, meeting. The contract is now being brought forward for ratification. Council Member Palmer moved, seconded by Council Member Jones, to ratify the contract between the City of Tupelo and James A. Hodges Construction Inc. in the amount of \$1,014,124.47 for Bid # 2023-003MT. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX L

IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY CLEANING AND DEBRIS REMOVAL AT 1527 (1521) NORTH MADISON STREET

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to adjudicate the following property, which is deemed to be in such a condition to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and in need of property cleaning and debris removal pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. 21-19-11 (1972) as amended.

1527 (1521) N Madison St. (Parcel # 084N-19-076-00)

The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX M

IN THE MATTER OF LOT MOWING RESOLUTIONS

Council Member Jones moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve 76 Resolutions Adjudicating Cost and Assessing Lien Against Real Property, under Miss. Code Ann. 21-19-11(1972 as amended). The resolutions are attached to these minutes as APPENDIX N.

The vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS OF ASSETS FOR PUBLIC WORKS

Council Member Gaston moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the surplus items, listed on APPENDIX O, These items are no longer needed by the City of Tupelo and should be auctioned/destroyed, as noted on the list. The vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF REMOVAL OF FIXED ASSETS FOR AUCTION

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Palmer, to approve the list of surplus items on APPENDIX P, no longer needed by the City of Tupelo. These items will be sent to auction. The vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TUPELO WATER & LIGHT DEPARTMENT'S SERVICE PRACTICE STANDARDS: SCHEDULE OF RULES, REGULATIONS AND FEES FOR UTILITY SERVICE

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to approve the "Ordinance Amending the Tupelo Water & Light Department's Service Practice Standards: Schedule of Rules, Regulations and Fees for Utility Service". The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX Q

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Mims, to determine the need for an executive session. Attorney Ben Logan said the session will be for the prospective land purchase, sale or leasing and personnel matters under Miss. Code Anno. 25-41-7 (a)(g) (1972 as amended). The vote was unanimous in favor at 6:33 p.m.

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

After discussion in executive session, Council Member Mims moved, seconded by Council Member Jones to return to the regular meeting at 7:19 p.m. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

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

This the 21st day of March, 2023, at 7:20 p.m.

Lynn Bryan, Council President

ATTEST:

Missy Shelton, Council Clerk

APPROVED

Todd Jordan, Mayor

Date