

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

DECEMBER 01, 2020

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, December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council members Markel Whittington, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Buddy Palmer, Mike Bryan and Willie Jennings; Attorney Ben Logan and Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council.

Councilman Markel Whittington gave the invocation. Councilman Travis Beard led the pledge of allegiance.

President Mike Bryan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

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

PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

Councilman Lynn Bryan commended Greg Pirkle and the Major Thoroughfare Committee for all the hard work they do and said he thinks they have done and continue doing a great job.

Councilwoman Nettie Davis said she hopes everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and gave a special thanks to all those who gave turkeys for the holidays. She also invited all to attend the 75th birthday celebration of Emanuel Church of God in Christ, which will be held on Sunday, December 6.

Councilman Mike Bryan reminded everyone to shop local.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Shelton began by saying that he was appreciative that he had the option to use ZOOM due to COVID-19. He echoed Councilman M Bryan in urging all to shop local to support our businesses. He agreed with Councilman L Bryan's comments concerning what a wonderful program MTP is and how it has been a benefit to the City of Tupelo. He mentioned several Proclamations that he has recently signed: 1. Slim Jxmmi Day (**APPENDIX A**) 2. Swae Day (**APPENDIX B**) 3. Asya Branch Day (**APPENDIX C**) and 4. Lung Cancer Awareness Month (**APPENDIX D**). The economy of the City of Tupelo is strong, in spite of COVID-19. Sales tax receipts for the last 8 years is record setting. There are currently local and state executive orders concerning protocol to fight the spread of COVID-19: masks, hand washing, social distancing and avoiding large crowds.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES FOR TUPELO MAJOR THOROUGHFARE PROGRAM VII

Mr. Eddie Carnathan, former member of the Major Thoroughfare Committee, encouraged the Council to continue to support the Major Thoroughfare Program and to consider partnering with other agencies to widen Gloster/Highway 145 North from Tupelo to Highway 45.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR REZONING

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to table this item for rezoning of property located at 2003 S Veterans Boulevard from Industrial to Mixed Use Residential. The vote was unanimous in favor to table.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING STREET IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR THE TUPELO MAJOR THOROUGHFARE PLAN PHASE VII

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to approve the Ordinance Establishing Street Improvement priorities for the Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Plan Phase VII. The Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program Committee recommended a list of priorities for Phase VII which is contained in the Ordinance. Under the terms of this ordinance, the Major Thoroughfare Citizens Oversight and Lobbying Committee has also recommended to the City Council that 2.5 mills of the 10 mills annually received for the Major Thoroughfare Phase VII Program will be used by the City to maintain Major Thoroughfare roads. Eligible roads for maintenance are attached and incorporated by reference to the ordinance. An executed copy of the Ordinance is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX E**.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE FOR REZONING

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to table this Ordinance for Rezoning. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX F**

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting dated November 17, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor.

IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY

Bills were reviewed at 4:00 p.m. by Council members: Travis Beard, Markel Whittington, and Willie Jennings; and Accounts Payable Clerk Traci Dillard. Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX G**

IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to approve the advertising and promotional expense list, as submitted. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX H**

IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF RFP 2020-034CO FOR WIRELESS NETWORK FOR THE COLISEUM

The City advertised and received proposals for the design, equipment and installation of a new high-density Wi-Fi solution for the Coliseum. Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to approve Synergetics, Inc for this project. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX I**

IN THE MATTER OF CVB MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 5 AND NOVEMBER 2, 2020

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve the Minutes of the Convention and Visitor's Bureau for October 5 and November 2, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX J**

IN THE MATTER OF REJECTION OF BID #2020-32BA FOR BEL AIR CENTER AND PRO SHOP

Tupelo Park and Recreation Director Alex Farned requested that the bids for the Bel Air Center and Pro Shop # 2020-032BA be rejected because all bids exceeded the construction budget by more than 10%. Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan to reject the bids. The vote was unanimous in favor of rejecting the bids. **APPENDIX K**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF FINAL LOAN AGREEMENT FOR SRF LOAN SRF-C280885-07

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to approve the Final Loan Agreement for SRF Loan SRF-C280885-07 in the total amount of \$2,495,797.77. The vote was unanimous in favor and a copy of the agreement is attached to these Minutes as **APPENDIX L**.

IN THE MATTER OF RATIFICATION OF BID # 2020-030MT FOR JACKSON STREET IMPROVEMENTS (COLEY – AIRPARK)

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to ratify the contract with Cook & Son, LLC, Jackson Street Improvements Coley to Airpark - Bid # 2020-0030MT, which was awarded at the October 6, 2020 Council meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX M**

IN THE MATTER OF TRA MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to accept the TRA Minutes dated November 19, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX N**

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER #2 BID # 2020-014FP FOR FAIRPARK DEVELOPMENT IV INFRASTRUCTURE

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve change order #2 for bid # 2020-014FP for Fairpark Development IV Infrastructure. The change is an increase in the amount of \$9,200.00 making the total bid \$1,644,840.34, which is below the original contract amount. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX O**

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK POLICY NUMBER #502

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to approve the order for revision of employee handbook policy #502 Use of Equipment and Vehicles. The vote was unanimous in favor and the Order and revision are attached to these Minutes as **APPENDIX P.**

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF DR. RICHARD PRICE TO ELECTION COMMISSION

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to approve the appointment of Dr. Richard Price to the City of Tupelo Municipal Election Commission. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX Q**

IN THE MATTER OF TEMPORARY CHANGE OF LOCATION OF VOTING FOR WARD 1 PRECINCT 1

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to approve a Resolution to temporarily change the location of the Ward 1 Precinct 1 voting precinct from Bel Air Center to the American Legion Post 49 located at 1875 Legion Lake Road. This change is due to pending construction to the Bel Air Center during the 2021 City of Tupelo elections. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX R**

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE OF LOCATION OF VOTING PRECINCT FOR WARD 3 PRECINCT 4

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve a Resolution changing the location of voting precinct Ward 3 Precinct 4 from the Old Lee County Courthouse to the Calvary Baptist Church Family Ministry Center. This change is by request from Lee County due to space limitations at the existing location. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX S**

STUDY AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION CALLING AND PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL ELECTION WITHIN THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, TO DETERMINE IF THE CITY OF TUPELO SHALL INCREASE THE LIMITATION PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 27-39-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED, TO AUTHORIZE CONTINUING THE SPECIAL LEVY OF TEN (10) MILLS OF AD VALOREM TAXES UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF TUPELO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016, AND FOR EACH OF THE NEXT FOUR (4) SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEARS THEREAFTER, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM WHICH SPECIAL LEVY TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING

**CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING OR PAVING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS,
PARKWAYS, WALKWAYS OR PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES AND PURCHASING LAND
THEREFOR**

This item will be moved up to the next agenda.

IN THE MATTER OF NUISANCE PROPERTIES ORDINANCE

This item will be moved up to the next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. This the 1st day of December, 2020.

Mike Bryan, President
City Council

ATTEST:

Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council

Jason Shelton, Mayor

Date