

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
**JULY 15, 2025**

The Tupelo City Council held its regular meeting in the Council Chambers in the City Hall building on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The following Council Members attended: Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, Bentley Nolan, Janet Gaston, Ben Logan, City Attorney and Sandra Shumaker, Clerk of the Council. Chad Mims and Rosie Jones were absent. Council Member Lynn Bryan requested Kelly Knight to give the invocation and Council Member Nettie Davis led the pledge of allegiance. Council President Janet Gaston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to amend the agenda to add Item #18, IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 3 APPROVAL PEMBERTON AVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

**PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS AGENDA**

Mayor Jordan issued a proclamation to commemorate the 155<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Tupelo, Mississippi and declaring July 20, 2025 as “CELEBRATE TUPELO DAY”

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Todd Jordan recognized and congratulated Zach Vanstory with Development Services for being named the 2025 Building Inspector of the Year by the Building Officials Association of Mississippi.

Mayor Jordan recognized and congratulated Jeremy Bramlett for his completion of the 16-week Monroe County Reserve Officer Training Course and becoming a certified officer for the Development Services Code Enforcement Division.

Mayor Jordan recognized and presented Officer Christopher Brown with a certificate to commemorate his 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Tupelo Police Department.

**PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS**

Council Member Beard congratulated the employees where were recognized at the meeting.

Council Member Davis also congratulated the employees on their accomplishments and invited everyone to attend the historical marker unveiling at Parkhill Dynasty on Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> and the Juneteenth celebration at Gumtree Park on Saturday July 19.

Council Member Nolan commended the Mayor, Fire Department, and Police Department and said he was proud of the city for the assistance at the funeral services held for Colonel Smitty Harris. The Tupelo spirit is alive and well.

Council President Gaston thanked everyone who assisted with the Fourth of July Celebration at Ballard Park. She invited a special guest to make a presentation to the council. Anna Nunez with the SBA gave the council information on the assistance available to citizens and businesses affected by state declared disasters. APPENDIX "A"

### **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Jordan expressed condolences for the passing of Colonel Smitty Harris and said the funeral was well attended. The Mayor also mentioned that there will be a swim meet in town this weekend which benefits the economy of the city.

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

No one appeared to speak on properties on the lot mowing list.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 17, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING**

Council Member Nolan moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2025 council meeting. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX "B"

### **IN THE MATTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR MAYOR TODD JORDAN**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve international travel for Mayor Todd Jordan to Frankfurt, Germany and Munich, Germany with the Community Development Foundation for the purpose of learning about current projects by the Liebherr Company. The travel dates are October 14-18, 2025 and the per diem cost is \$130 per day for Frankfurt, Germany and \$150 per day for Munich, Germany. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX "C"

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF WILLIE ALLEN AS JUDGE AT THE TUPELO MUNICIPAL COURT**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the appointment of Willie Allen as judge for the Tupelo Municipal Court. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX "D"

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF JAY WEIR AS JUDGE AT THE TUPELO MUNICIPAL COURT**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Bryan, to approve the appointment of Jay Weir as judge for the Tupelo Municipal Court. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX "E"

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF RHONDA COLE AS COURT  
ADMINISTRATOR/COURT CLERK AT THE TUPELO MUNICIPAL COURT**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the appointment of Willie Allen as judge for the Tupelo Municipal Court. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “F”

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD BABB AS CITY PROSECUTOR AT  
THE TUPELO MUNICIPAL COURT**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the appointment of Willie Allen as judge for the Tupelo Municipal Court. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “G”

**IN THE MATTER OF BILL PAY**

Council Members Davis, Beard and Nolan reviewed bills at 4:30 p.m. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “H”

The bills were paid with check numbers 435245-435525 50003714-50003748

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

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the advertising and promotional items for Amazing Grace Promotions in the amount of \$4,000 and the Tupelo Furniture Market in the amount of \$1,000 for the Lee Williams Event on July 25-27, 2025. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “I”

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION FOR THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AIRPORT  
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT (AIG) PROJECT NO 3-28-0070-057-2025 WITH THE TUPELO  
REGIONAL AIRPORT AND THE FAA**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the Mayor to execute the Airport Infrastructure Grant for Project No 3-28-0070-057-2025 with the Tupelo Regional Airport as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “J”

**IN THE MATTER OF FINAL LOT MOWING LIST**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to approve the properties on the lot mowing list as follows. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “K”

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel</u>
481 South Feemster Lake	088Q3403100
157 Harvester’s Sq	079V3209500
Veteran’s Boulevard	088A2804500

### **IN THE MATTER OF LOT MOWING LIENS**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the liens as presented. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “L”

<u>Address</u>	<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Amount</u>
205 Doe Run	079S3003901	\$600.00
912 Hill-N-Dale	112A0412800	\$300.00
2483 Patterson Drive	077F2606900	\$330.00
South Madison Street	113E0602300	\$650.00

### **IN THE MATTER OF CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR TUPELO ROADWAY MAINTENANCE BID NO. 2025-014PW**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Bryan, to approve the Contract for Tupelo Roadway Maintenance No. 2025-014PW. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “M”

### **IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 1 APPROVAL ARPA CHICKASAW TRAIL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BID 2024-039PW**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Bryan, to approve Change Order 1 for the ARPA Chickasaw Trail Drainage Improvements, Bid 2024-039PW. Kelly Knight, Director of Public Works explained that this was a closeout change order with a deduction of \$22,139 bringing the final total to \$367,870. APPENDIX “N”

### **IN THE MATTER OF AD VALOREM TAX APPLICATION FOR HAWKEYE INDUSTRIES**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the application for ad-valorem tax exemption from Hawkeye Industries in the amount of \$504,717.09 for a ten-year period beginning January of 2025. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “O”

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF ORDER AUTHORIZING A LOAN TO THE TUPELO REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Bryan, to authorize the Mayor, Chief Financial Officer and City Attorney to negotiate a loan agreement with the Tupelo Airport Authority not to exceed the principal amount of Six Hundred Eight Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars and Fourteen Cents (\$685,758.14) and present the negotiated agreement to the City Council at its July 15, 2025 regular meeting for review and approval. The vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “P”

### **IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER 3 APPROVAL PEMBERTON AVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan, to approve the change order for Pemberton Drainage Improvements. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. APPENDIX “Q”

### **IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to close the regular meeting to determine the need for executive session. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to enter into executive session to discuss prospective litigation and acquisition of real property. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Nolan to come out of executive session with no action to be taken in regular session.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Council Member Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025.

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Janet Gaston, Council President

ATTEST:

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Sandra Shumaker, Council Clerk

APPROVED

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Todd Jordan, Mayor

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Date