

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

MARCH 16, 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, March 16, 2021, 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 Willie Jennings led the invocation, and Councilman Markel Whittington 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 Whittington, to confirm the agenda and agenda order. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS AGENDA

PROCLAMATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF RED CROSS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Jason Shelton presented a proclamation for Red Cross Month to Representative KC Grist.

APPENDIX A

RECOGNITION GIRL/BOY SCOUTS

Councilman Lynn Bryan introduced members of Boy Scout Troop #12. Attending the meeting were Jackson Root, Tripp Riles and Dawson Tackitt, who are working toward the Citizenship in the Community and Communications merit badge. They were accompanied by Counselor Duke Loden.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The following employees were recognized for their service time with the City of Tupelo:

Edward Kiste	5 years	Department of Development Services
Susan Reed	5 years	Municipal Court
Iry Gladney	15 years	Fire Department

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Councilwoman Nettie Davis thanked all those involved in the Ida B. Wells dedication held last week. She also asked everyone to pray for the Greg Humphrey family.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Jason Shelton thanked everyone involved in the Hancock Estates and King Pine Public/Private Partnership. He also extended his condolences to the Greg Humphrey family. Governor Reeves opened the COVID-19 vaccination to everyone over 16 today and encouraged all to get their vaccine as soon as possible. The Lee County mask mandate on county property has been lifted, but the mask mandate on City properties and in City facilities is still in effect. He mentioned the serious weather predicted for the coming days. He encouraged everyone to be prepared. The municipal elections are quickly approaching along with deadlines for absentee voting. 10 for Tupelo is scheduled for Saturday, March 20th.

ACTION AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-001

Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to ratify Executive Order 2021-001 concerning continued mandates for the COVID-19 pandemic. The vote was unanimous in favor.

APPENDIX B

ROUTINE AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 2, 2021

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 2, 2021. 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 Beard moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, 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

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF STATE BOND FUNDING AGREEMENT

City Clerk Kim Hanna discussed with the Council the intent approved at the September 22, 2020, Council meeting between the Department of Finance and Administration and the City of Tupelo. Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to approve the State Bond Funding Agreement. The vote was unanimous in favor and a copy of the agreement is attached to these minutes as **APPENDIX E**.

IN THE MATTER OF FY 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT #4

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to approve the FY 2021 budget amendment #4, as presented by CFO Kim Hanna. The budget amendment makes changes to both the general fund and the capital fund. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX F**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2020

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the August 10, 2020, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX G**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the September 14, 2020, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX H**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES OCTOBER 12, 2020

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the October 12, 2020, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX I**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES NOVEMBER 9, 2020

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the November 9, 2020, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX J**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2020

Councilman L Bryan moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the December 14, 2020, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX K**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARE COMMITTEE MINUTES JANUARY 11, 2021

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to accept the Major Thoroughfare Minutes from the January 11, 2021, meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX L**

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS VEHICLE

Police Chief Bart Aguirre submitted a request to surplus a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN 2FAP71W8XX156676, no longer needed for use by the City of Tupelo. Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to surplus this vehicle, remove from the fixed asset list, and scrap due to its age and condition having no value. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX M**

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS AND RETIREMENT OF DUTY WEAPON (SANDERSON)

Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to declare as surplus and approve Cpl. Philip Sanderson's purchase of his duty weapon for \$1.00. Chief Bart Aguirre explained that it is common practice for a retiring police officer to purchase his duty weapon upon retirement. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX N**

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS AND RETIREMENT OF DUTY WEAPON (HARPER)

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to declare as surplus and approve Lt. Robert Harper's purchase of his duty weapon for \$1.00. Chief Bart Aguirre explained that it is common practice for a retiring police officer to purchase his duty weapon upon retirement. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX O**

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS AND SALE OF VEHICLE

Police Chief Bart Aguirre submitted a request to surplus a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN 2FABP7BV9AX121964, no longer needed for use by the City of Tupelo and sell to the City of Verona. Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to surplus this vehicle, remove from the fixed asset list, and sell to the City of Verona for the amount of \$1. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX P**

IN THE MATTER OF RATIFICATION OF FIRE STATION #2 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to ratify the construction contract for Fire Station #2 with Hooker Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,896,125. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX Q**

IN THE MATTER OF PW ASSET TRANSFER TO AIRPORT

Public Works Director Chuck Williams requested that the Council approve the surplus and donation of a 1993 IHC SA47540 Dump Truck, VIN 1HTSCPHN9PH504358, to the Tupelo Airport Authority. This truck is no longer needed for use by the City of Tupelo. Councilman Beard moved, seconded by

Councilman Whittington, to approve the transfer of the dump truck from the Public Works Department to the Tupelo Airport Authority. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX R**

IN THE MATTER OF BID FOR 2021 TUPELO ROADWAY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to award Bid # 2021-005PW annual term bid for the 2021 Tupelo Roadway Maintenance Program. One bid was received from James A. Hodges Construction, Inc., and is found to be an acceptable bid in the combined, total unit price for all items of \$14,213. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX S**

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS FIXED ASSETS

Public Works Director Chuck Williams presented a list of items no longer needed by the City of Tupelo to be surplus and sold at auction. Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings to approve the list as submitted for surplus and auction. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX T**

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF CHERYL DEXTER TO THE TPRD ADVISORY BOARD

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to appoint Cheryl Dexter to the Tupelo Parks and Recreation Department Advisory Board. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX U**

IN THE MATTER OF BID FOR BEL AIR CENTER AND PRO SHOP BID #2021-006BA

Parks and Recreation Department Director Alex Farned asked the Council to award bid # 2021-006BA for the construction of the Bel Air Center and Pro Shop submitted by M & N Construction Company, LLC with a total bid with add alternates of \$1,854,156. Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan to award the lowest and best bid to M & N Construction Company, LLC. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX V**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR THE BEL AIR CENTER AND PRO SHOP BID #2021-006 BA

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to approve the contract with M & N Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$1,854,156 for the construction of the Belair Center and Pro Shop - Bid 2021-006BA. The vote was unanimous in favor to approve the contract. **APPENDIX W**

IN THE MATTER OF CVB APPOINTMENT

Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, to appoint Steven Blaylock, as the CDF Representative, to the Convention & Visitors Center Board. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX X**

IN THE MATTER OF CVB MINS. MARCH 3, 2021

Councilman Palmer moved, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2021 Convention and Visitors Bureau. **APPENDIX Y**

IN THE MATTER OF COLISEUM MINUTES NOVEMBER 16, 2020

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to accept the minutes of the Coliseum Commission dated November 16, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX Z**

IN THE MATTER OF COLISEUM MINUTES DECEMBER 21, 2020

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to accept the minutes of the Coliseum Commission dated December 21, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX AA**

IN THE MATTER OF COLISEUM MINUTES JANUARY 25, 2021

Councilman L Bryan moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to accept the minutes of the Coliseum Commission dated January 25, 2021. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX BB**

IN THE MATTER OF BID AWARD 2021-002WL

TWL Director Johnny Timmons asked the Council to award bid # 2021-002WL for the purchase of a single engine powered high-velocity combination sewer cleaner/vacuum and chassis submitted by Mid-South Septic Services in the amount of \$374,000. Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to award the lowest and best bid to Mid-South Septic Services. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX CC**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 11, 2021

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to accept the February 11, 2021, Minutes of the Traffic Committee. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX DD**

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. VANCE PHILIPS TO THE NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT BOARD

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Jennings, to re-appoint Vance Phillips, to the Northeast MS Regional Water Supply District Board. The term will expire in 2025. The vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX EE**

STUDY AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPT/REJECT STREET DEDICATION

The Council instructed that the item on the Study Agenda, Accept/Reject Street Dedication of Riverbend Road, be moved to the Action Agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Beard moved, seconded by Councilman Whittington, to determine the need for an Executive Session. Attorney Ben Logan said the session will be for the prospective purchase, sale or leasing of lands under Miss. Code Anno. 25-41-7 (g) (c) (1972 as amended). The vote was unanimous in favor.

Councilwoman Davis moved, seconded by Councilman L Bryan, to enter an Executive Session. The vote was unanimous in favor. The following were invited to attend the Executive Session: Mayor Jason Shelton, Don Lewis, Kim Hanna, DDS Director Pat Falkner, Engineer Dennis Bonds, PW Director Chuck Williams, TWL Director Johnny Timmons, Jimmy Spencer - Representative of Cook Coggin Engineers, and Steven Reed. Executive Session was entered at 6:45 p.m.

A discussion was held concerning the topic approved for Executive Session.

Councilman Jennings moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to come out of Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor, and Regular Session resumed at 7:34 p.m.

RECESS

Councilman Whittington moved, seconded by Councilman Palmer, to recess the meeting until Tuesday, March 23, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., for the purpose of re-entering executive session for matters not concluded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

This the 16th day of March, 2021 at 7:35 p.m.

Mike Bryan, President
City Council

ATTEST:

Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council

Jason Shelton, Mayor

Date