

# **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

## **MUNICIPAL MINUTES CITY OF TUPELO**

### **STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**MAY 04, 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, May 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council members Markel Whittington, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Davis, and Mike Bryan; Attorney Ben Logan and Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council. Councilman Willie Jennings attended by phone and Councilman Buddy Palmer was absent.

Councilman Travis Beard led the invocation. Councilman Lynn Bryan introduced Boy Scout Walker Tate, who led the pledge of allegiance.

Council President Mike Bryan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Council Member L Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Whittington, to confirm the agenda and agenda order with the following changes:

Add: Item #12 Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency, Ending Emergency Closing Status and Request to Governor for Declaration of Disaster in the City of Tupelo

Add: Item #13 Addendum #1 to Contract #80420 to Add Tornado Proclamation Dated May 2, 2021, for Direct Administrative Cost and Project Management.

Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor.

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

#### **RECOGNITION GIRL/BOY SCOUTS**

Mayor Jason Shelton introduced Walker Tate of Boy Scout Troop #12.

#### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Mayor Jason Shelton introduced Fire Marshall, Michael Montgomery, and presented a 25 year employment certificate.

## **PUBLIC RECOGNITION**

Council Member Nettie Davis thanked all who have had any part in the clean up after the EF1 Tornado from May 2, 2021. She also acknowledged that Mayoral Candidate, Victor Fleitus, was working in her neighborhood with the efforts.

Council Member Travis Beard also praised the City's team during the tornado and with all the cleanup. He stated that City's plan was in place, followed and was successful.

## **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

Mayor Shelton thanked the members of Council who gave their kind words of thanks and encouragement from the recent tornado. He said the City has the best group of department heads to work with. After the storm on Sunday night, the roads were passable by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning and of approximately 1,000 power outages, all but 50 were back on as of 10:00 a.m. Those without power are due to some type electrical work that must be done before restoring power. The Fire Department handled the street assessments immediately following the storm and there were no ambulance calls due to weather. It is estimated that there will be 35,000 cu yds. of debris from the storm.

The general election is June 8, and Mayor Shelton reminded everyone to be sure to go vote. The National Day of Prayer will be Thursday and as soon as the details are available, it will be announced.

The Mayor ended his remarks with the news that his son, William, crawled for the first time today.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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

No one appeared to speak on the public hearing for the following properties:

### **APPEALS**

There were no appeals.

### **CITIZEN HEARING**

There were no citizen hearings.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

There were no items on the Action Agenda.

## **ROUTINE AGENDA**

### **IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 20, 2021**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Whittington, to accept the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 20, 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 Lynn Bryan; and Accounts Payable Clerk, Traci Dillard. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member L Bryan, to approve the payment of the checks, bills, claims and utility adjustments. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX A**

### **IN THE MATTER OF THE 2022 BUDGET CALENDAR**

Council Member Whittington moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to approve the 2022 Budget Calendar, as presented by CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX B**

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Councilman Beard, to confirm the appointment of Britt Harris to the Historic Preservation Commission. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX C**

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

Council Member Whittington moved, seconded by Council Member L Bryan, to approve the lot mowing list, as submitted. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor, and a copy of the list is included as **APPENDIX D.**

### **IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING DONATION FROM MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

Fire Chief Thomas Walker addressed the Council and asked that the City accept the donation of a 2019 Ford F-250 pickup, VIN 0764, from the Philadelphia Fire Department. This vehicle was originally funded from the Mississippi Department of Homeland Security. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX E**

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF INTERIM FIRE CHIEF**

Mayor Jason Shelton addressed the Council saying that Fire Chief Thomas Walker will retire, with his last day on the job to be May 28, 2021, and requested the the Council approve his submission of Interim

Fire Chief Jimmy Avery. Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Davis to confirm the appointment of Deputy Chief Jimmy Avery as Interim Fire Chief, effective May 28, 2021. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX F**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COLISEUM MINUTES FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Whittington, to accept the minutes of the Coliseum Commission of February 22, 2021. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX G**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #6**

Council Member Beard moved, seconded by Council Member Whittington, to approve Budget Amendment #6, as presented by CFO/City Clerk Kim Hanna. Of those present, the vote was unanimous. **APPENDIX H**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY, ENDING EMERGENCY CLOSING STATUS AND REQUEST TO GOVERNOR FOR DECLARATION OF DISASTER IN THE CITY OF TUPELO**

The City of Tupelo experienced an EF1 tornado on Sunday, May 2, 2021, beginning at approximately 9:30 p.m., making conditions very dangerous. Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council Member Whittington, to approve a Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency, Ending Emergency Closing Status and Request to Governor for Declaration of Disaster in the City of Tupelo. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX I**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF ADDENDUM #1 TO CONTRACT #80420 TO ADD TORNADO PROCLAMATION DATED MAY 2, 2021, FOR DIRECT ADMINISTRATIVE COST AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Council Member Whittington moved, seconded by Council Member L Bryan to approve addendum #1 to Contract #80420 with Schaus, LLC, to extend professional services support for the tornado damage that occurred on May 2, 2021, as follows:

Item 3.1.7 to state: SCHAUS will assist the City of Tupelo with Administrative Assistance and Project Management for FEMA matters associated with the tornado dated May 2, 2021, and inclement weather through the week of May 3, 2021.

Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor. **APPENDIX J**

#### **STUDY AGENDA**

#### **IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO LEGGETT AND PLATT COMPONENTS COMPANY, INC. #0341**

The Council unanimously agreed to move the item 'In the Matter of Resolution Granting Exemption from Ad Valorem Taxes to Leggett and Platt Components Company, Inc. #0341, to the next meeting's Action Agenda. **APPENDIX K**

**IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO LEGGETT AND PLATT COMPONENTS COMPANY, INC. # 0908**

The Council unanimously agreed to move the item 'In the Matter of Resolution Granting Exemption from Ad Valorem Taxes to Leggett and Platt Components Company, Inc. #0908, to the next meeting's Action Agenda. **APPENDIX L**

**IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO LEGGETT AND PLATT COMPONENTS COMPANY, INC. #4201**

The Council unanimously agreed to move the item 'In the Matter of Resolution Granting Exemption from Ad Valorem Taxes to Leggett and Platt Components Company, Inc. #4201, to the next meeting's Action Agenda. **APPENDIX M**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTER AND PROSPECTIVE PURCHASE OF LANDS UNDER MISS. CODE ANNO. § 25-41-7 (g) (1972 AS AMENDED)**

Council Member L Bryan moved, seconded by Council Member Davis, to determine the need for an Executive Session. City Attorney Ben Logan submitted that the following topics were acceptable items for Executive Session:

**DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTER AND PROSPECTIVE PURCHASE OF LANDS UNDER MISS. CODE ANNO. § 25-41-7 (g) (1972 AS AMENDED)**

The need of Executive Session, was therefore, determined and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Council Member Davis moved, seconded by Council L Bryan to enter executive session. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor, and the city council and invited members of the administration went into executive session at 6:25 PM.

After a discussion of a personnel issue and the prospective purchase of real property, Council Whittington moved, seconded by Council Member Beard, to return to the Regular Council Meeting. Of those present, the vote was unanimous in favor, and the open meeting resumed at 6:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Council Member Whittington seconded by Council Member Jennings, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Of those present, the vote

was unanimous to adjourn.

This the 4th day of May, 2021.

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Mike Bryan, President  
City Council

ATTEST:

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Missy Shelton, Clerk of the Council

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Jason Shelton, Mayor

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Date