

SPECIAL CALL MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Special Call meeting at the Ocean Springs City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 5:00 p.m. on September 3, 2013. Mayor Moran presiding, Aldermen Cox, Gill, McDonnell, Cody, Denyer, Dalgo and Impey were present. Also present was City Clerk Shelly Ferguson.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Alderman Cody gave the invocation and the Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Special Call Meeting is for the purpose of any and all matters pertaining to any and all issues related to the Public Hearing for the FY13-14 Budget.

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion was made by Alderman Denyer, seconded by Alderman Gill and unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing.

The City Clerk gave an overview of the proposed budget for FY13-14. She stated there was an increase in ad valorem tax revenue along with sales tax revenue. There are more cemetery plots available at Evergreen Cemetery and plan to place an advertisement to coordinate with All Saint's Day. She stated the City is completing the necessary research for collection of past due police fines. The proposed budget reflects a transfer from water and sewer. Building permit collections are up. All other revenues have remained the same. All departments have cut expenditures. The health insurance and workers' comp has decreased significantly.

She stated the proposed budget reflects no machinery and equipment, no capital outlay; it is a very tight budget again this year.

She also explained the water/sewer transfer to the general fund. There was discussion to increase the fee for garbage pickup by \$2.00 per household. The finance committee recommends no increase on garbage fees at this time but will be revisited later in the next budget year.

The Finance Committee recommends reestablishing a Human Resource Committee to be made up of two (2) Aldermen, the Human Resource Director, and the City Clerk to evaluate all positions, job descriptions, vacant positions, new hires and personnel.

Alderman Gill stated the proposed budget reflects no tax increase, no furloughs and no layoffs.

The City Clerk explained Windows XP will no longer be serviced as of April 14, 2014; therefore the City will have to replace the approximately 80 computers currently using that program. The City Clerk and Police Chief will be asking for authorization to solicit quotes from banking institutions for the purchase of these computers, the conversion along with the previously approved tazers and cameras for the Police Department in the amount of \$250,000. The current debt service millage will accommodate that payment without raising millage.

The City Clerk and Police Chief will also be asking for authorization to hire a collection agency for past due police fines. She explained 25% can be added to the original fine as the collection agency's fee. The City will receive the full amount of the old fine. There was discussion concerning the Police Officers serving warrants on old fines within the City limits. The Board requested a report from the Warrant Officers' showing the collections each month.

The Finance Committee recommends the Peer Review Committee to remain intake with the same members serving on the committee.

In order to reduce spending, the Finance Committee recommends to have the City Engineer present at board meetings and city department meetings only when needed; a less expensive phone system is being researched and having the Public Works Department handle the Parks and Recreation vehicle maintenance. The Human Resource Director will be contacting the college about having interns to help in the Parks, Court and Planning Departments. It has been successful in the Court Department.

The Mayor asked the Board to reconsider filling the Athletic Coordinator position. She feels it is a critical position overseeing hundreds of children and coordinating with leagues and tournaments. It was suggested using a college senior who must complete an internship as part of their curriculum as a recruiting tool and cost savings.

The Finance Committee also recommended considering a cost of living adjustment in March, 2014.

The City Clerk reported the Ocean Springs School District will increase their millage by .08 mills and the County will not have an increase in millage. She also presented a comparison of the millage collected in Moss Point, Gautier, Pascagoula and Jackson County.

Alderman Dalgo feels the Ocean Springs School District should be responsible for the collection fees imposed by the Tax Collector and notify the school by letter.

Alderman Gill left the meeting.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Denyer and unanimously carried to close the Public Hearing.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Denyer and unanimously carried to adjourn the Special Call meeting.

Meeting ended at 5:59 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor

**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS
COUNTY OF JACKSON
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

Call for a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

From: Mayor Moran

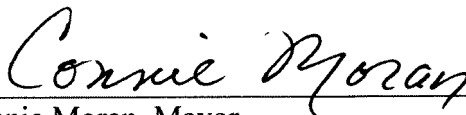
To: Aldermen Cox, Gill, McDonnell, Cody, Denyer, Dalgo, and Impey

You are hereby notified that a Special Call Meeting is called to meet at City Hall at **5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2013.**

THE OBJECT OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

Any and all matters pertaining to:

- a) Public Hearing - FY13-14 Proposed Budget



Connie Moran, Mayor

ATTEST:



Shelly Ferguson
City Clerk