

## **RECESS MEETING OF MAY 19, 2015**

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Recess Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on May 19, 2015. *Mayor Pro Temp* Gill presiding, Aldermen Cox, McDonnell, Cody, Denyer and Impey were present. Also present was Deputy City Clerk Karen Kennedy and City Attorney John Edwards. The Mayor and Alderman Dalgo were absent.

The *Mayor Pro Tem* called the meeting to order.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Rahalski stated his intention to appeal the Tree Committee's recommendation to deny the removal of a tree located on his property at 3821 Bergerac Lane. He stated the Tree Committee authorized him to remove 2 of the 3 trees in his front yard. He said due to his age, he cannot rake the leaves and maintain the tree and requests permission to remove all three (3) trees. The Building Official stated the tree may cause issues in the future due to its close proximity to the house and recommends removal of all three trees. Motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Denyer and unanimously carried to allow removal of all three (3) trees in the front yard at 3821 Berergac Lane contingent upon Mr. Rahalski planting additional trees further away from the house (Exhibit 3-a).

Mr. Arturo Barajas presented the new Ocean Springs Tourism Website. He explained he has created this website at no cost to the City and is now asking for approval from the Board to link it to the City's website. He will then begin work on the phone app capability. The website will have a directory to all of the businesses in the City. If the business is a member, the website will link directly to the business where they can give daily specials, menus, sales, etc. The City Attorney stated his concern about using the "1699" logo since is a registered trademark with the Secretary of State. He also said the City needs to look at all of the details concerning this website.

Motion was made by Alderman McDonnell, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried draft an agreement between the City of Ocean Springs and Arturo Barajas concerning the tourism website and also directed Mr. Barajas to create a site without using City logos and symbols in order to launch it by June 1<sup>st</sup>, contingent upon approval of City Attorney (Exhibit 3-b).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Scott Lemon of Lemon-Mohler Insurance made a presentation to the Board concerning the property insurance which includes the facilities and art work owned by the City. Mr. Lemon explained that after meeting with the Finance Committee, he was asked to bring other options to the Board to reduce the City's premiums. He said he would look at all of the City's insurance including the policies concerning Parks and Recreation equipment; reducing coverage or increasing deductibles.

Alderman McDonnell asked if we could get an extension from Zurich to allow the Board to receive their options from Mr. Lemon in order to make a decision and get significant savings. The renewal is due by May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board asked Mr. Lemon to meet with the Finance Committee, who will make the recommendation to the Board before the May 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to renew.

Ms. Pam Heard, Troop Leader, introduced three (3) Junior Girl Scouts from Troop 5307, Sarah Beth Heard, Birkie Hughes and Trinity Thompson. She explained the girls are working on their Bronze Award which entails finding something in their environment that needs improving. The Junior Girl Scouts asked permission to adopt the live oak tree located in the center of the cul-de-sac on Harbor Cove. The Building Official said he would inquire about getting donations for supplies and place "No Parking" signs around the tree. The Building Official will meet with Public Works and the troop to make a plan. Motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to allow Junior Girl Scout Troop 5307 to adopt the live oak tree at Harbor Cove and place "No Parking" signs in the median. Alderman Denyer said he is available to meet with them also (Exhibit 4-b).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Steven Crump, 1202 Hillcrest Drive, spoke against Vacation Rental by Owners (VRBO).

Ms. Sherry Star, 307 Wisteria Lane, stated she wanted to applaud the Aldermen for making the recommendation to require a majority of the homeowners' approval before opening the short term rentals in residential areas. She sees it as a zoning issue.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion was made by Alderman McDonnell, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda and Addendum with exception of item (6-h) which was pulled by Alderman Cox.

Alderman Cox pulled item (6-h) to ask if the City would let them use the new parking lot on Government Street for the flea market. Alderman McDonnell said there is some synergy the flea market wants to build off of because the Red, White and Blueberry Festival will be held in the depot parking lot on the same day, June 6th. He also stated he has heard of some preliminary discussion about other events that private individuals want to do in the Fallo-Pleasant parking lot. Motion was made by Alderman McDonnell, seconded by Alderman Impey and unanimously carried to approve the street closure at on West Robinson from Washington Avenue to Church Avenue (Exhibit 6-h).

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Public Works:**

Motion was made by Alderman McDonnell, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to accept the quote from Lawns Etc. in the amount of \$16,500 for topsoil and Bermuda sod delivered and installed according to the City landscape design pending final approval from the Department of Marine Resources through the Grants/Planning Administrator.

### **Community Development & Planning:**

Motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox to adopt **Ordinance No. 2015-09 An Amendment to Ordinance No. 13-1976 Rezoning Property herein described from R-5 to C-3** (Exhibit 7-a). The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	<u>Voting Aye</u>
Alderman Gill	<u>Acting Mayor and Not Voting</u>
Alderman McDonnell	<u>Voting Aye</u>
Alderman Cody	<u>Voting Aye</u>
Alderman Denyer	<u>Voting Aye</u>
Alderman Dalgo	<u>Absent</u>
Alderman Impey	<u>Voting Aye</u>

## **ALDERMEN'S FORUM**

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman McDonnell and unanimously carried to allow consumption of beer on Front Beach between the Earl Fayard property and Washington Avenue on June 19-21, 2015 between 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman McDonnell and unanimously carried to provide police escort for 2-3 hours for participants in the Bill Fish Tournament on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> for a pub crawl beginning at Salvetti's to Murky

Waters on Government Street at 5:00 p.m. The Police Chief agreed to meet with Mr. Bobby Carter and Alderman Cody concerning this matter.

Alderman Cody stated he has a matter concerning a Contract to be considered as an Executive Session item.

Alderman Denyer stated his concern about the Board having to make quick decisions in limited amounts of time and feels we need to have a better plan to get the information concerning such matters as employment, salaries, insurance, etc.

Alderman Denyer spoke about a letter the Board received from a citizen who lives on Lover's Lane and is concerned that the fire truck cannot make it down the road due to the low hanging tree limbs. The Fire Chief stated he recommends trimming the whole tree canopy on Lover's Lane by 12-18" to allow a ladder truck to maneuver down the street without hitting the low hanging limbs. Alderman McDonnell asked the Fire Chief and Building Official to identify a minimal standard to allow a fire truck down the street especially when it concerns life safety.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to go into closed session to determine the necessity of going into executive session.

The Deputy City Clerk returned to the meeting and announced a motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss potential litigation regarding a Contract; potential litigation regarding insurance and potential litigation regarding VRBOs. Alderman Denyer recused himself from Executive Session during the discussion concerning insurance. The City Attorney announced a motion was made by Alderman McDonnell, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to remain in Executive Session to discuss personnel in Human Resources Department.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to return to regular session.

Motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to adjourn until 6:00 p.m. on June 2, 2015.

Meeting ended at 9:48 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor

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Date

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Date

**AGENDA**  
**MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS**  
**RECESS MEETING**  
**May 19, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Discussion on appeal of Tree Committee decision concerning tree removal at 3821 Bergerac Lane – Mr. Michael A. Rahalski (Exhibit 3-a)
- b) Presentation of Ocean Springs Tourism Website – Mr. Arturo Barajas (Exhibit 3-b)

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Insurance Presentation – Lemon-Mohler Insurance Company - Mr. Scott Lemon
- b) Request of Junior Girl Scout Troop 5307 to adopt live oak tree at Harbor Cove – Ms. Pamela Heard and Girl Scout Troop 5307 (Exhibit 4-b)

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes. The Board will take all comments under advisement for potential action at a later date if warranted.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA\***

*\* Consent Agenda – All matters listed under Item 6, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.*

**Mayor:**

- a) Accept Economic Development Council minutes from May 11, 2015 (Exhibit 6-a)

**City Clerk:**

- b) Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting May 5 2015 (Exhibit 6-b)
- c) Approve payment: Docket of Claims and spread summary upon the Minutes (Exhibit 6-c)
- d) Accept Action Report (Exhibit 6-d)
- e) Ratify payments of \$1,020.00 to Dennis C. Walker and \$756.00 to Robert W. Sweeting (Exhibit 6-e)
- f) Approve Special Event Permit Application for 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Face Off at the Fort sponsored by Paddles Up Paddleboards on Saturday, June 20, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Front Beach in front of Fort Maurepas Park (Exhibit 6-f)
- g) Approve Special Event Permit Application for OS Mega Reunion on Friday - Sunday, June 19-21, 2015 at various times and locations; city services paid by O'Keefe Educational Media in the amount of \$4,000.00 (Exhibit 6-g)
- h) Authorize street closure of the west end of Robinson Street from Washington Avenue to Church Avenue on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for the Bay House Flea Market normally held at the Depot parking lot (Red, White and Blueberry Festival will be held the same weekend), Police Chief concurs (Exhibit 6-h)

**Police Dept.:**

**Fire Dept.:**

- i) Accept Monthly Department Report (Exhibit 6-i)
- j) Authorize removal of Firefighter Jacob Jones from probationary status to full-time status, \$11.18 hourly, effective immediately (Exhibit 6-j)

**Human Resources/Risk Management:**

**City Engineer:**

**Public Works:**

- k) Accept resignation of Devin Sonnier, effective May 21, 2015, and authorize to begin the process to fill the vacant position, H.R. Committee concurs (Exhibit 6-k)

**Community Development & Planning:**

- l) Approve Final Plat of Seaside Phase III – PUD, East Beach Partners, LLC, Public Works and City Engineer concur (Exhibit 6-l)
- m) Authorize the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding for project implementation for the MDOT Youth Corps Program (Exhibit 6-m)

**Building Department:**

- n) Accept Tree Committee Report (Exhibit 6-n)
- o) Accept Building Department Report (Exhibit 6-o)
- p) Authorize removal of Lacia Walsh from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately (Exhibit 6-p)
- q) Approve demolition permit for structure at 1226 Vermont Avenue (Exhibit 6-q)

**Parks & Leisure Services:**

**City Attorney:**

**Facilities:**

**Peer Review Committee:**

**Finance Committee:**

**H.R. Committee:**

- r) Accept H.R. Committee minutes from May 5, 2015 (Exhibit 6-r)

**7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Mayor:**

**City Clerk:**

**Police Dept.:**

**Fire Dept.:**

**Human Resources/Risk:**

**City Engineer:**

**Public Works:**

**Community Development & Planning:**

- a) Adopt an Amendment to Ordinance No. 13-1976 Rezoning Property herein Described from R-5 to C-3 – Robert Parker – 3420 Groveland Road (Exhibit 7-a)

**Building Department:**

**Parks & Leisure Services:**

**City Attorney:**

**Facilities:**

**Peer Review Committee:**

**Finance Committee:**

**H.R. Committee:**

**8. ALDERMEN'S FORUM**

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURN UNTIL 6:00 P.M., JUNE 2, 2015**