

## **REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2021**

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Regular Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on December 7, 2021. The Mayor presiding, Aldermen Burgess, Authement, Wade, Cox, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present were City Attorney Will Norman, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, Police Chief Mark Dunston, Fire Battalion Chief Ryan Heath, Planning & Grants Administrator Carolyn Martin, Building Official Darrell Stringfellow, Public Works Director Allan Ladnier, Human Resources & Risk Management Director Mindy McDowell, Parks & Recreation Director Stephen Glorioso, and Executive Assistant to the Mayor & Board Ravin Nettles.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Reverend Perkins from Grace Baptist Church gave the invocation and Alderman Impey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the agenda and addendum.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing regarding the adoption of an Ordinance amending the total number of allowed Residential Short Term Rentals (RSTR) (Exhibit 3-a).

The Planning & Grants Administrator said this Ordinance amendment will increase the cap of RSTRs from 50 to 75 and the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval. She said currently all 50 are issued and there have been no reported issues.

No public input in favor or against.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing.

Alderman Papania requested the Ordinance be reviewed and altered to give residents more input. He requested the Mayor form a committee to review the Ordinance. The Planning & Grants Administrator explained the Ordinance has been well vetted by a committee and the Planning Commission before it was adopted. She said she would provide Alderman Papania with some of the documentation that was used.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Burgess to adopt an Ordinance; an Amendment to the Zoning Regulations on Residential Short-term Rentals. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	Aye
Alderman Burgess	Aye
Alderman Authement	Aye
Alderman Wade	Aye
Alderman Papania	Nay
Alderman Blackman	Aye
Alderman Impey	Aye

The Ordinance will be effective in 30 days.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing regarding the adoption of the Unified Development Code an Amendment to the Code of Ordinances consolidating and updating zoning and development regulations (Exhibit 3-b).

The Planning & Grants Administrator said this is the last step of readopting the UDC with the reversion of RM1 back to R1A to comply with the Judge’s order. She said the pages with changes have been presented, and this would readopt the UDC as it was initially approved with the subsequent changes presented.

Mike Illanne spoke in favor of the proposed changes and the readoption of the UDC after verifying footnote 13 is included.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing.

A motion was made by Alderman Authement and seconded by Alderman Cox to adopt the Unified Development Code; an amendment to the Code of Ordinances consolidating and updating zoning and development regulations. The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	Aye
Alderman Burgess	Aye
Alderman Authement	Aye
Alderman Wade	Aye
Alderman Papania	Aye
Alderman Blackman	Aye
Alderman Impey	Aye

Unanimous vote, Ordinance effective immediately.

## **AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Alderman Impey said he requested the City Attorney draft an Ordinance prohibiting pets at City Events and Parades using Biloxi's Ordinance as a guideline. He verified that adoption events at the festivals are allowed. Alderman Authement said he is Downtown during festivals and is not aware of any issues. Alderman Impey said during the 2021 Peter Anderson Festival in the four hours he was there, he witnessed 3 issues involving dogs at the festival. Alderman Papania agreed with Alderman Impey. Aldermen Cox and Authement expressed concerns over how the Ordinance would be policed and the times it would need to be policed. A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Papania to adopt an Ordinance amending Animal Control Ordinance Section 5-16 (Exhibit 5-a). The motion failed with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	Aye
Alderman Burgess	Nay
Alderman Authement	Nay
Alderman Wade	Nay
Alderman Papania	Aye
Alderman Blackman	Nay
Alderman Impey	Aye

Alderman Blackman said the need for an Ordinance regarding setting regulations for outside contractors digging, boring and excavating in the City has been discussed in previous meetings. A motion was made by Alderman Blackman and seconded by Alderman Authement to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 21, Article II, Section 21-6, et seq., Excavations, of the Code of Ordinances (Exhibit 5-b). The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	Aye
Alderman Burgess	Aye
Alderman Authement	Aye
Alderman Wade	Aye
Alderman Papania	Aye
Alderman Blackman	Aye
Alderman Impey	Aye

The Deputy City Clerk presented different City locations The OSPREYS have requested to install bike racks: Fort Bayou Boat Launch, City Hall, Fallo-Pleasant Municipal Parking, and Government Street in front of the Lovelace building (Exhibit 5-c). A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to authorize the installations of bike racks by The OSPREYS on City property.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to rescind the motion to reschedule the December Recess Meeting made at the November 16, 2021 meeting; the meeting will take place on the regularly scheduled date of December 21, 2021.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to appoint Tyler Cox as a member of the Historic Preservation Committee to complete the open term, term expiring June 30, 2022.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Authement requested the City Attorney review regulations regarding moving the March 1, 2022, Regular Board Meeting due to Mardi Gras (Exhibit 6-a).

Alderman Authement said the concrete panels on Front Beach drive are not level. He said Coastal Lift & Level did a test that worked to level one panel and they have given an estimate to complete the project (Exhibit A-1a). A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to adopt a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to request assistance from Jackson County in the amount of \$49,995.00 for Phase 1 repairs to Front Beach Drive per the estimate received from Coastal Lift & Level (Exhibit A-1a).

A motion was made by Alderman Impey and seconded by Alderman Authement to adopt a Resolution authorizing the following signers on the City accounts with The First National Banking Association: Mayor Kenny Holloway, City Clerk Patty Gaston, Deputy City Clerk Vicky Hupe, and Mayor Pro-tempore Michael Impey (Exhibit A-1b). The motion carried with a roll call vote as follows:

Alderman Cox	Aye
Alderman Burgess	Aye
Alderman Authement	Aye
Alderman Wade	Aye
Alderman Papania	Aye
Alderman Blackman	Aye
Alderman Impey	Aye

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda except item 7-L-c pulled by Alderman Impey:

- a. Authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement for Planning and Consulting Services with Slaughter & Associates, PLLC for preparation of a Comprehensive Plan (Exhibit 7-a)
- b. Approve Walk/Run Permit application for GCRC & YMCA Winter 10K Run; Saturday, January 22, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.; YMCA Pine Avenue 10 K route, no cost to the City, the applicant pays associated event cost (Exhibit 7-b)
- c. Adopt Resolution terminating the existence of local emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak (Exhibit 7-c)
- d. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Addendum to Video Services Agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., d/b/a AT&T Mississippi term ending December 31, 2028 (Exhibit 7-d)
- e. Ratify checks to Mary C Class instructors and Officer per diem reimbursement: Bridgett Beesley for \$217.50, Julie Ann Black for \$221.25, MS Tactical Officers Assoc. for \$300.00, Officer 1 per diem for SWAT school for \$663.00, Officer 2 per diem for SWAT school for \$663.00 and Bridgett Beesley for \$217.50 (Exhibit 7-e)
- f. Ratify \$6,215.95 check to Advance Collision Service Inc for the repair of unit #1805 paid with insurance funds (Exhibit 7-f)
- g. Ratify \$1,085.56 check to WEX Bank for City fuel charges for October 2021 (Exhibit 7-g)
- h. Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting November 16, 2021 (Exhibit 7-h)
- i. Authorize the transfer of 2009 Ford Ranger Asset #4772 VIN#PA33442 from the Fire Department inventory to the Parks & Recreation Department (Exhibit 7-i)
- j. Authorize the Fire Chief to execute the Fire Department elevator maintenance contract with Coast Elevator Company (Exhibit 7-j)
- k. Authorize Lease Purchase of Turnout Gear for a 5-year term with payments beginning March 1, 2022; Fire rebate funded (Exhibit 7-k)
- l. Human Resources action items (Exhibit 7-l):
  - a) Authorize employment of Josiah Doughty, Patrolman, Step 1, \$18.00 hourly rate; effective December 13, 2021; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
  - b) Authorize transfer of General Services Officer Paul Moshenrose to Patrolman, Step 1, \$18.00 hourly rate; effective December 25, 2021; six months probationary status
  - c) Accept retirement of Police Deputy Chief Derek Hoppner, effective December 31, 2021
  - d) Accept the resignation of Patrolman Dimitrius Cruz, effective November 29, 2021; and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position

- e) Accept the resignation of Probationary Dispatcher Krista Leeper, effective December 2, 2021; and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- f) Authorize removal of Patrolman John Rhodes from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- g) Authorize removal of Court Clerk Peter Rigby from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- h) Accept retirement of Fire Inspector Wayne Schwartz, effective December 31, 2021; and authorize to begin the process of filling the vacant position
- i) Authorize removal of Firefighters Daniel Chad Jay and Harris Paul Williams from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- j) Authorize employment of Cedric Porter, Drainage Laborer, Step 1, \$12.88 hourly rate; effective December 8, 2021; one-year probationary status, pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements
- k) Authorize removal of Mechanic Bryan Favre from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- l) Authorize removal of Assistant Parks Director Chris Kostmayer, Parks Maintenance Supervisor Scott Dossett, Parks Grounds Supervisor Jack Williams, Sports Complex Supervisor Demaurio Preyear, and Parks Maintenance Class A Laborer Eddie Ward from probationary status to full-time status effective immediately
- m. Accept Code Enforcement Report through December 1, 2021 (Exhibit 7-m)
- n. Accept Tree Department Recommendations – Tree Applications through November 30, 2021 (Exhibit 7-n)
- o. Authorize the demolition of a structure in excess of 50 years at 1808 Bienville Boulevard (Exhibit 7-o)
- p. Approve Facility Use Agreement with Southern Elite Lacrosse for use of Football Field 2 at Highway 57 Sports Complex from November 29, 2021, until December 14, 2021 (Exhibit 7-p)
- q. Authorize the Mayor to execute the 2022 rental agreement addendum with Northwood Church (Exhibit 7-q)

Alderman Impey said the Police Chief informed him the authorization to begin the process to fill the vacant position was left off of the Deputy Chief's retirement. The City Clerk and Human Resources Director said there was a prior agreement to restructure the upper positions of the Police Department and hold on replacing the Deputy Chief position. The Police Chief said he will need to fill a position, not the Deputy Chiefs position. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to accept the retirement of Police Deputy Chief Derek

Hoppner, effective December 31, 2021, and to authorize to begin the process of filling a vacant position.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### City Clerk:

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cox, and unanimously carried to approve the docket of claims; the Board finds that all other expenditures are appropriate and authorized by law (Exhibit 8-a and A-2a).

A motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman, and unanimously carried to approve the monthly budget report (Exhibit 8-b).

Alderman Burgess requested more guidelines set for the sewer adjustments with a cap on the adjustment and criteria to qualify. Alderman Authement said he has concerns that plumbers are not being called immediately after an issue is discovered. A motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Papania, and unanimously carried to adjust the water/sewer accounts listed on Exhibit 8-c except for 1208 Iola Road due to it being a water only account; with the finding that the customers did not receive the benefit of the utility and the excess usages were due to unforeseen circumstances (Exhibit 8-c).

### Grants Administration:

The Planning & Grants Administrator said the Deana Road Project has a sewer lift station component that needs to be expedited and has been divided into its own project with an overall net increase. A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Authement, and unanimously carried to authorize concurrence for Deana Road water sewer projects to be funded by MS SB 2002 and MS SB 3065 (Exhibit 8-d).

## **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Bill Moore reminded all The Duchess Club is doing the toy drive for Ocean Springs children in need at Christmas and there are several locations around town to get information.

Paul Gergen said he went to the Jackson County Board of Supervisors meeting where Comprehensive Plans were discussed in great detail. He also suggested Workmen's Compensation guidelines be reviewed by staff.

## **ALDERMEN'S FORUM**

Alderman Burgess welcomed Ravin Nettles, the newly hired Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Board. She asked the Public Works Director for the status of the Fort Bayou Boat Launch lighting; he said that was ordered. She asked the Parks and Recreation Director about a structure to be built around the port o lets at the boat launch. He replied he would like to meet with her with some alternate ideas.

Alderman Authement said there were new business ribbon cuttings each day last week with a great turnout. He thanked all involved in the Christmas Tree Lighting event's success.

Alderman Papania remembered Pearl Harbor Day today. He sent condolences to the family of Billy Hubbard.

Alderman Blackman asked the Planning and Grants Administrator for an update on the Government Street Sidewalk Project. She said the final engineering invoice is on the docket tonight and the push button has been corrected and installed.

Alderman Impey asked about the Jackson County Paving Project. The Public Works Director said there will be two paving companies in the City in 2022. He also sent condolences to the family of Billy Hubbard. He said the Christmas Tree Lighting Event was great and thanked all those involved.

The Mayor reiterated the success of the Christmas Tree Lighting Event and the Christmas Parade. He requested the Aldermen and Departments go through the Project Manager with any engineering request before contacting any engineering firm. He also said an attorney request should go through the Mayor's office first. Alderman Papania said requests for Departments should not be done during the Board Meeting but through the Mayor's office.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

A motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Wade, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on December 21, 2021.

Meeting ended at 7:11 p.m.

Betty Maston 01/04/2022  
City Clerk Date

[Signature] 01/04/2022  
Mayor Date

