

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

**May 2, 2023
5:00 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN MET IN THE ABERDEEN CITY HALL BOARD ROOM WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

MAYOR CHARLES SCOTT, ALDERMAN NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY, ALDERWOMAN LADY B. GARTH, ALDERMAN EDWARD HAYNES, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, MELISSA MOORE CITY CLERK, AND WALTER H. ZINN, JR., CITY ATTORNEY.

Invocation: Alderman Edward Haynes

Roll Call

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve the proposed April 18, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes. On a roll call vote, Alderman Haynes, and Alderwoman Odom voted "Aye". Alderman Holliday and Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay". Due to a tie vote, Mayor Scott voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated May 2, 2023. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderman Haynes, and Alderwoman Odom, voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve Corbett Legg & Associates to proceed with the Hospital / CLA Proposal and do the Sanitary and Sewer Repair for Monroe Regional Hospital in the amount of \$23,425.00. This project will be paid from the Sewer Rehab 1999 Investment Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the salvageable equipment for the Mid-South Auctioneers, Tupelo, MS / May 6, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve and award the CDBG Wastewater Lagoon Project to Neel-Schaffer Engineers in the amount of \$750,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to rescind the job offer to Mr. William Shaw as Laborer at Public Works Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve for Affluent Marketing and Consulting Company be placed on the Planning and Work Session Meeting on a regular basis to work hand-in-hand with the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve and give permission to Alderman Edward Haynes to attend the 2023 Annual MML Conference, Biloxi, MS on Saturday, June 24, 2023, so he can be present for the CMO Graduation Ceremony. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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Mayor's Report:

Mayor Scott invited Judge David Houston to the Board meeting to update the Board on the Monroe Regional Hospital Refurbishing Project (Sanitary Sewer Repair) being done by Corbett Legg & Associates.

Mayor Scott asked Ms. Tina Robbins to update the Board on the events going in within the City of Aberdeen:

1. Food Network Magazine -- Aberdeen Visitors Bureau has an ad in the magazine
2. National Day of Prayer – May 4, 2023 @ 11:30 AM on City Hall steps
3. Aberdeen Main Street Art Gallery – May 11, 2023 from 5pm-7pm
4. Special Olympics Torch Run – May 9, 2023 at 8:00am
5. Memorial Day Flag Service – May 20, 2023 at 8:30am and 10:00am

Mayor Scott thanked Alderman Holliday and Mr. Albert Barker for the visit / tour at Westlake Chemical Corporation Company. Mayor Scott talked about the potential of different projects that Westlake has for the City of Aberdeen. Mayor Scott shared with the Board that Mr. Jim Autry invited the leaders of Aberdeen to tour the company and see everything they do, and how they give back to the City of Aberdeen.

Mayor Scott stated there are several things going on within the City of Aberdeen. The Special Election for Alderman Ward 5 is being held today, and good luck to the candidates seeking to be elected.

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday invited Affluent Marketing and Consulting to the Board to give an update on projects they are working on for the City of Aberdeen. Mrs. Thomas shared with the board the following old / new ideas and plans:

1. How to Revitalize the Tombigbee Inn on Main Street to an upscale Boutique Hotel
2. Transportation Pod System
3. Rules of Engagement to stay engaged with weekly meetings in keeping the Board updated on the things they're doing for the City of Aberdeen
4. The Board to put together a Top-Ten list of priority projects

Alderman Holliday asked if the City of Aberdeen will have a Summer Program for the children to attend. Mayor Scott stated there will be a Summer Program, and three people went to a training session in Jackson. Mayor Scott asked Aberdeen Park and Recreation Director Fernando Davis to provide a status update on the Summer Program. Mr. Davis stated the Summer Program will not happen this year due to a lack of funding. The City of Aberdeen did not qualify this year. Mr. Davis stated being that the Aberdeen School District is hosting the Summer Program this year, the City of Aberdeen will have to wait until next year. Aberdeen Park and Recreation will be giving snacks to the children.

Alderwoman Garth: Alderwoman Garth didn't have anything to report at this time.

Alderman Haynes: Alderman Haynes asked the Board permission for him to attend the 2023 Annual MML Conference, Biloxi, MS on Saturday, June 24, 2023, so he can be present for the CMO Graduation Ceremony. Alderman Haynes announced "Homecoming in the Ville" on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Everyone is invited to attend this joyous event. If anyone would like to sponsor an activity or bring food / drinks / etc. please give him a call at 662-436-3068.

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Alderman Haynes thanked Public Works for attending to the list of things that needed attention in Ward Three. Alderman Haynes is asking that ditches be maintained so that debris will not clog up drains, and citizens need to do their part in helping to keep the City of Aberdeen clean. Alderman Haynes asked citizens do not put items on the side of the streets for Public Works to pick up when it's their (citizens) responsibility to haul it away. Alderman Haynes asked that everyone please congratulate the 2023 Graduates, and the Haynes Foundation will be giving a scholarship to deserving graduates.

Alderwoman Odom: Alderwoman Odom didn't have anything to report at this time.

Citizen's Input:

No Citizens Input was shared at this time.

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes to enter into a closed determination to determine whether to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues regarding City employees Officer Christopher Dobbins, General Manager LaMarcus Thompson, Public Utilities Jermaine Polk, Water Department Barry McMillian, and Park and Recreation Director Fernando Davis. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

The Mayor and Board announced to the public that the Board was entering into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues regarding City employees Officer Christopher Dobbins, General Manager LaMarcus Thompson, Public Utilities Jermaine Polk, Water Department Barry McMillian, and Park and Recreation Director Fernando Davis.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to come out of Executive Session. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, and Alderwoman Odom voted "Aye" and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve Employment Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Nicholas Orr, Karen Crump, and Samona Johnson to attend the 2023 CSA / PCS Annual User Education Conference, Orange Beach, Alabama / June 26-29, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve Employment Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for LaMarcus Thompson to attend the 2023 CSA / PCS Annual User Education Conference, Orange Beach, Alabama / June 26-29, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to terminate City employee Shevockus Swing due to job abandonment. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the Annual Preventative Maintenance Contract for 6 Whelen Sirens at a rate of \$2,000.00 annually, and Service Calls at a rate of \$150.00 given by Precision Communications, Amory, MS 38821. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve the purchase of Ipads for Aberdeen Park and Recreation Director Fernando Davis and Public Utilities General Manager LaMarcus Thompson. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve the \$1.00 raise for Public Utilities Brady Slupik on completing his Commercial Driving License Training. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the 10% raise for Public Utilities Jermaine Polk on completing his Lab One Training, Huntsville, Alabama. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to adjourn until the May 16, 2023 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

Attest:



Melissa Moore, City Clerk



Charles Scott, Mayor