

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

June 6, 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, ALDERMAN JOHN CAIN, MELISSA MOORE CITY CLERK, AND WALTER H. ZINN, JR., CITY ATTORNEY.

Invocation: Alderman Shea Cain

Roll Call

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the proposed May 16, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Cain to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated May 16, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday approving Mr. William Sanford, P.E. with Neel Schaffer to begin and complete the City of Aberdeen City Drainage Improvements Project for South Hickory Street (\$135,000.00), South James / Madison Streets (\$86,400.00), and Short Street (\$158,670.00). The total amount of repairs cost \$380,135.00. This project will be paid from the Sewer Rehab Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for April McMillian and Heidi Clennan to attend the 16-Hour Orientation Course for Dispatchers, Canton, MS / June 12-13, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines for Tammy Johnson, Angela Fears, Tamanda Garth, Samona Johnson, Karen Crump, Devonsha Young, Kimberly Payne, Tamika Johnson, Contrina Garth, Valerie Page, Akela McNairy, Janet Parks and LaMarcus Thompson to attend the Customer Service Training Classes, Aberdeen Public Utilities, Aberdeen, MS / June 19-20, 2023 / 8:00am-4:00pm. The cost for the training: \$9,528.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the hiring of Tyler Nelson as Apprentice Lineman for Aberdeen Public Utilities at a rate of pay of \$17.50 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to accept City Employee Zaekery Westbrook resignation from the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Aberdeen Public Utilities Budget FY 2024 Public Hearing on June 13, 2023 @ 5:00p.m. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

**Regular Board Meeting
June 6, 2023
Page 2**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the Redistricting of Wards within the City of Aberdeen with Three Rivers Planning and Development District. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the refund of Mayor's Youth Council rental deposit of Aberdeen Park & Recreation in the amount of \$200.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to Table the discussion about City Inspector Roy Haynes being Code Enforcer. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Scott recognized the following people for their positive influence in the City of Aberdeen. They were given a certificate and plaque:

1. Mr. Randall Nivens - Monroe County Extension Agent
2. Ms. Ida Moore - Daycare and Educator
3. Mrs. Flora Outlaw – Owner of Flora's Collections / Aberdeen Main Street
4. Ms. Alysra Ivy - Mayor's Youth Counsel Advisor / Educator
5. Mr. Dwight McComb – Educator / Coach

Aberdeen Visitor's Bureau Ms. Tina Robbins shared with the Board upcoming events for the month of June:

1. Movie Night at the Magnolia's will be June 8, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.
2. Paradise Alley will be June 22, 2023
3. Summer of Fun Activities will be held throughout the month of June
4. Facebook Ad video campaign will be starting June 6, 2023, for three weeks, and YouTube will be starting two to three weeks later.
5. Prairie Fun Day will be June 10, 2023
6. Homecoming in DaVille will be June 17, 2023
7. Taste of Aberdeen Family Reunion will be June 30-July 1, 2023

Mississippi Archives and History, Kathleen Seymour will be having a meeting at the Aberdeen Public Utilities on June 13, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m. Mr. James Bridgeford, National Registry Coordinator will be the guest for the evening.

Mayor Scott shared with the Board the City of Aberdeen City Drainage Improvements Opinion of Probable Cost Summary and Pricing for the following streets provided by Neel-Schaffer:

1. South Hickory Street - \$135,000.00
 2. South James / Madison Streets - \$86,400.00
 3. Short Street - \$158,670.00
- Totaling: \$380,135.00.

Ms. Samona Johnson and Mr. Nick Orr came before the Board to share information about the Customer Service Training Classes that will be held at the Aberdeen Public Utilities on June 19-20, 2023 between the hours of 8:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. RWSmith Education Training and Consultants, LLC will be teaching the classes. The twelve participants will receive either a Diploma or Certificate of Completion. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that on June 20, 2023 there will be a Bad Debt List in their packet for them to approve. Ms. Johnson stated that Mr. Thompson would like for Tyler Nelson to hire as an Apprentice Lineman at a rate of pay of \$17.50 per hour.

Regular Board Meeting
June 6, 2023
Page 3

Mayor Scott thanked Ms. Moore for the work she's doing in her department by continuing to allow her personnel to attend training sessions.

1. Melissa Moore – Certificate of Achievement from MMSC on Basic Understanding of Workers' Compensation and Municipal Liability – March 2, 2023
2. Devonsha Young - Certificate of Achievement from MMSC on Basic Understanding of Workers' Compensation and Municipal Liability – March 2, 2023
3. Janet Parks – Certificate of Achievement from MMSC on Advanced Workshop on Protecting Your City from Litigation – March 28, 2023

Mayor Scott shared with the Board he had a conversation with Dr. Allen at Itawamba Community College, and they're currently evaluating the possibility of beginning a Water Training Course. Mayor Scott, Dr. Smith and others will be visiting Bevell Campus to discuss Water Training Classes and GED Classes. Mayor Scott stated that GED Classes are coming back to Aberdeen, and Mrs. Reed will be steer-heading that program.

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday asked the citizens of Aberdeen to please keep an eye on the youth during the summer months, and if you witness any behavior that's not right, please say something and report it to the Aberdeen Police Department. Alderman Holliday and Mayor Scott will have a City Wide Clean for the City of Aberdeen on June 10, 2023. Mr. Kevin Thomas, Affluent Consulting states the company is looking at six grants that will help with Aberdeen High Street Community Center and Newberger Park. The MOU is looking at 150 plus jobs coming to the City of Aberdeen and would like the paperwork to be signed by Friday, June 9, 2023.

Alderwoman Garth: Alderwoman Garth stated the citizens are dumping trash that the City doesn't pick up. Alderwoman Garth stated that the citizens need to be fined for trash, trees, debris and household items such as couches, appliances, floor covering, plumbing and furniture. These items sit weeks and weeks at a time in neighborhoods which make the City look trashy. Alderwoman Garth suggests the money collected from the Auctioneers replace the defective trucks at Aberdeen Public Works. Alderwoman Garth asked about getting State Contract Vehicles for Aberdeen Public Works.

Alderman Haynes: Alderman Haynes inquired about hiring a Water Department Manager and making sure that individual is Certified. Alderman Haynes suggest that the Auctioneer money needs to go toward buying trucks for Public Works. Alderman Haynes mentioned one of the Elections Commissioners decided against the position and the Board need to appoint someone in her position before this year ends. Alderman Haynes asked about the T-12 Truck and wanted to know when it will be ready for use. Mr. Boone stated that it should be ready by June 14, 2023. Alderman Haynes congratulated Aberdeen Public Utilities for taking action in getting the power back on in a reasonable amount of time after the stormy weather. Alderman Haynes wanted to post and advertise the Lot belonging to PPIN# 8026 besides J & E Enterprise for purchase to the highest bidder. Alderman Haynes mentioned the concerns he had about Odd Fellows Rest Cemetery Building on the West Side. Alderman Haynes reminded the public about Homecoming in DaVille at Newberger Park on June 17, 2023. Everyone is invited.

Alderwoman Odom: Alderwoman Odom thanked Ward 5 Alderman Cain for spending two days cleaning Oddfellows Rest Cemetery.

Regular Board Meeting
June 6, 2023
Page 4

Alderman Cain: Alderman Cain stated he will be getting with Mr. Boone about the potholes and other concerns within the City of Aberdeen. The power outage on Shady Oak Drive is being taken care of by General Manager LaMarcus Thompson. Alderman Cain stated there's a problem and has been for many years at the intersection on Mobile Extended and Thayer Avenue where Fairfield Apartments are located. The garbage cans are in the City streets on the side of the road down from Wendy's Restaurant. There's a drainage issue in that area that needs to be addressed by the Board. Alderman Cain stated citizens have a hard time getting in contact with the Electric Department on the after hour telephone number 662-369-2881, and he asked the citizens to please call 662-369-473. Alderman Cain shared with Mrs. Butler the issue with the flooding on Walters Drive was discussed at the Work Session with Mr. William Sanford, P.E. (Neel-Schaffer) and they are working on it.

Citizen's Input:

No Citizens Input at this time.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday to enter into Closed Determination to determine whether to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning Public Works City Employees Richard Boone, Matthew Sanders, Rodreck Pargo and Willie Sykes. 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 concerning Public Works City Employees Richard Boone, Matthew Sanders, Rodreck Pargo and Willie Sykes.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve the purchase of two Scag Tiger Cat II Zero Turn Mowers (STCII-61V-26FT-EFI) for Public Works from J&E Enterprises, LLC, Aberdeen, MS in the amount of \$20,018.00. (\$10,009.00 times two). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve the purchase of two 16-foot Utility Trailers in the amount of \$5,200.00 (\$2,600.00 times two) from MS Pesnut Supply & Equipment Company, LLC, Aberdeen, MS for Public Works. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines for Officers Jordan Gillespie and Christopher Dobbins to attend the Mississippi - Alabama D.A.R.E. Officer Training 2023, Montgomery, AL / 10/23/2023-11/2/2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve for Public Works Employee Matthew Sanders to keep his job and no suspension. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye" and Alderwoman Odom voted "Nay".

**Regular Board Meeting
June 6, 2023
Page 5**

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve Rodreck Pargo a temporary leave of absence without pay for 30 days with completion of proof of a certified program. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye" and Alderwoman Odom voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve a Public Hearing in two weeks for the City of Aberdeen Rental Ordinance Agreement. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to adjourn until the June 20, 2023 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".



Charles Scott, Mayor

Attest:



Melissa Moore, City Clerk



Devonsha Young, Deputy City Clerk