

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM  
FEBRUARY 5, 2019  
5:00 P.M.**

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

**MAYOR MAURICE HOWARD; ALDERMEN: ALONZO SYKES, DOUG STONE, DAVID EWING, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM AND JIM BUFFINGTON; AND JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.**

INVOCATION: Alderman David Ewing.

ALDERMAN ALONZO SYKES attended by telephone.

Northern District of Mississippi Chief Judge Sharion Aycock appeared before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to give an update concerning anticipated repairs to the Thomas G. Abernethy Federal Building. With the exception of the Post Office area, the building has been vacated due to a mold infestation. Judge Sharion Aycock stated that funding has been approved for a \$12 million-plus renovation, that repairs would require an estimated 18 months to complete, and that Court personnel would be able to move back into the building afterwards.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Ewing to approve the proposed Minutes dated January 15, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated February 5, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to award a contract to Hanna Contracting of Aberdeen for the construction of sidewalk improvements alongside S. Franklin Street and near Matubba Street, subject to final approval of MDOT which is providing funds for sidewalk program, as recommended by Dustin Dabbs, Dabbs Corporation, Project Engineer. Hanna Contracting of Aberdeen submitted the lowest and best bid. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to adopt specifications developed by Dabbs Corporation and to authorize statutory publication of notice to prospective contractors to submit sealed bids for an annual term Roadway Mill and Overlay Program contract (for asphalt, milling and paving for the street paving project), as recommended by Dustin Dabbs, Dabbs Corporation, Project Engineer. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Ewing to adopt specifications developed by Dabbs Corporation and to authorize statutory publication of notice to prospective contractors to submit bids for the downtown City sidewalk project and the repair of the Aberdeen Fire Department), as recommended by Dustin Dabbs, Dabbs Corporation, Project Engineer. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington left the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Ewing to adopt a RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION TO AXIAL/WESTLAKE CORPORATION, ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye", except Alderman Buffington who was not present during discussion or the vote and had recused himself.

Alderman Buffington returned to the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Ewing, to authorize the following City employees/officials to attend the following meetings or classes, and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines: Brian Sanders - TVPPA - Brentwood, TN - 02/25-2/27/19; Samona Johnson - TVPPA - Nashville, TN - 03/4-3/6, 2019 and 3/25-3/27, 2019; Jackie Benson - Clerk Update - Southaven, MS - 3/20-22, 2019; Mayor, Board of Aldermen, City Clerk and City Attorney - MML - Biloxi MS - 6/23-27, 2019; Guyvester Dobbs, EMR Class - Palmetto Fire Department - 2/4-3/28, 2019; Quinell Shumpert and Jimmy Cockerham - Control Force - Gulfport, MS - April 22-26, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to contract with Central Bidding Services to conduct a reverse auction for the anticipated purchase of a bucket truck for the use of the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Ewing to advertise for persons interested in applying for employment as an Assistant Mechanic in the Aberdeen Public Works Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to employ Michelle Stewart as the fulltime Park and Recreation Department Director. On a roll call vote, Aldermen Ewing, Odom and Buffington voted "Aye"; and Aldermen Sykes and Stone voted "Nay". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to table discussion concerning employment of a Water Department laborer until the next Board meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Persons appearing before the Board but not on the printed Agenda:

- Joyce Vasser stated that there had been a report of persons wearing hoods and shooting guns near her residence on Ogle Street.

Alderman Stone stated that he had attended a recent Monroe County Supervisors meeting and that the Monroe County Supervisors had rejected all bids submitted for the purchase of the City/County building most recently occupied by Holley Performance. Alderman Stone also asked the Board to delay taking any action regarding the window coverings at the Arni Anderson's Studio.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to hold a meeting with Monroe County Board of Supervisors to discuss the City/County building most recently occupied by Holley Performance. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the advertisement and posting of the 15 day notice to the public of a public hearing concerning the application to rezone the James Bell's property on the Highway 45 North Bypass. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Sykes exited from the Board meeting (attended by telephone).

A motion was made by Alderman Ewing, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to enter into a closed determination to determine whether to go into Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

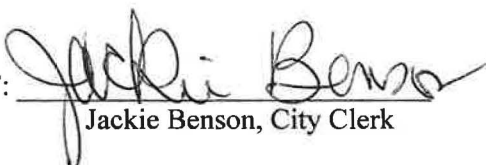
A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue concerning Michelle Stewart. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

The Mayor and Board announced to the public that the Board was entering into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue concerning Michelle Stewart.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to come out of Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Stone to pay Michelle Stewart a wage of \$14.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Stone to recess until the February 19, 2019 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

ATTEST:   
Jackie Benson, City Clerk

  
Maurice Howard, Mayor