

MINUTES, BOARD OF ALDERMEN, BOOK NO. 19

DEMENT-MERIDIAN 61-2994

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
MAY 7, 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:

ALDERMAN DOUG STONE, ALDERMAN DAVID EWING, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM AND ALDERMAN JIM BUFFINGTON; AND JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

INVOCATION: Alderman Jim Buffington.

Absent: Mayor Maurice Howard, Alderman Alonzo Sykes.

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve the proposed Minutes dated April 16, 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 May 7, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve the application of Gary Hatten to rezone the following described property to R-2: "property located on Burnett Street and described as Parcel No. 108R-34-005-001.00 PPIN 8101, Day & Hopkins Subd., Block B Lots 10 Thru 14 Less 20 X 150 off West Side of Lots 12, 13 & 14, S-T-R 34-14-07, Deed Book 2007 Page 3919". The Aberdeen Planning and Zoning Board adopted an Order in favor of the re-zoning. Notice of the public hearing was published in the Monroe Journal and was posted at the site by Zoning Administrator Haynes. No one stated an objection to the rezoning request. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to take the cemetery mowing bids under advisement. Bids received included: Lenoir Lawn Services - \$71,000, Robert Devauld - \$70,000.00, Laster Lawn Service - \$97,000.00, Lee's Home Improvement, Nelson Lee - \$69,599.96, and Wilson Hill Lawn Service - \$75,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve three change order requests by Byrum Construction Inc. regarding the Aberdeen M&O Depot rehabilitation project: (1) existing pier modification work at a cost of \$1,665.00; (2) concrete ledge for the building foundation at a cost of \$1,376.73; and (3) concrete landing at door 5A work at a cost of \$3,349.00. The total additional cost of the change orders is the amount of \$6,380.73. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to accept a Mississippi Department of Archives and History 2019 Certified Local Government grant in the amount of \$15,083.35 for the Aberdeen City Hall Restoration (painting) Project. Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson Kathy Seymour announced the grant award. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Kathy Seymour also announced that the South Monroe County Community Fund, which she also chairs, will award the Aberdeen Police Department a \$3,000 grant for body cameras during its awards ceremony in June 2019.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to accept the resignation of Aberdeen Street Department employee Jovoni Jones. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to employ Derrick Hogan as a Laborer in the Aberdeen Street Department at the wage of \$9.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone, to authorize the following City employees/officials to attend the following meetings or classes, and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines: Karen Crump - Accountants Meeting - Murfreesboro, TN - May 15/17, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to adopt the rate changes itemized in the "Cost of Service Study Summary / Local Rate Adjustment (LRA) Proposal" researched and recommended by TVA. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Citizens appearing before the Board of Aldermen and not on the printed Agenda:

- Ann Tackett thanked the Board for participation in the Aberdeen Housing Authority Scholarship program. Tackett commented about the success of local Aberdeen students and that one of the past recipients of the AHA scholarship would be graduating from Ole Miss later in the week.
- Bishop Eugene Sacus commented about the condition of the Aberdeen High Street Community Center and offered to help. He shared his concerns particularly for the need for blinds on the windows.
- Barry McMillian complained about his utility bills.
- Aberdeen Park and Recreation Department Director Michelle Stewart announced that the Scott and Moore families' reunion will include a festival on July 5 and 6, 2019, and a host of activities, a live music festival, a fashion show, a spades tournament and a dance. Stewart asked the Board to authorize the closure of a section of College Street, from Meridian to Hickory Streets, on July 5 for the music throughout the day and a fashion show that night. The spades tournament will be held at the Aberdeen Park and Recreation Building July 5, and the Your Night in White Dance, where attendees will dress in all white, will be July 6 at Aberdeen High School.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to close College Street between Hickory and Meridian Streets on July 5, 2019 for the music festival and fashion show. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington commended Aberdeen Animal Control Officer Pedro Clay for his work enforcing the City Pit Bull Dog Ordinance provisions. The City Police Department has provided a law enforcement officer to assist the Animal Control Officer.

Alderman Stone commented favorably regarding the recent National Day of Prayer event in Aberdeen.


A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize a donation of \$1,500.00 to the Aberdeen Main Street Depot Restoration Project. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington 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 Alderman Buffington to come out of closed determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to authorize the City Clerk Jackie Benson to retain an appraiser to appraise the Huffman Property that the City is interested in purchasing. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to recess until the May 21, 2019 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jackie Benson, City Clerk