

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
AUGUST 6, 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, ALDERMAN ALONZO SYKES, DOUG STONE, ALDERMAN DAVID EWING, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM AND ALDERMAN JIM BUFFINGTON; AND JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK; AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

INVOCATION: Alderman Alonzo Sykes.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve the proposed Minutes dated July 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 August 6, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to renew the City employee health and life insurance policies with Blue Cross Blue Shield, Gulf Guaranty and Cigna, with Marketing Group of Mississippi Insurance, LLC as the agent of record. Mr. Homer Braylock of Marketing Group of Mississippi Insurance, LLC provided information on the anticipated premiums cost. City Clerk Benson had information showing the premiums cost from these insurers has increased on the health insurance plan but the premiums charged for the other insurance plans was not increased. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to authorize an application to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, requesting a Community Heritage Grant for the M&O Depot rehabilitation project, as presented by Kathy Seymour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to schedule an adjudication hearing at the Board Meeting on September 3, 2019. Building Inspector Roy Haynes is requested to provide the statutory notices to the property owners. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to adopt the RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MONROE COUNTY AND THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI, ACTING IN CONCERT, DECLARING THE INTENTION TO LEVY UP TO BUT NOT EXCEEDING ONE (1) MILL UPON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE FOURTH SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT OF SAID COUNTY, TO BE EXPENDED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE SUPPORT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ABERDEEN - PRAIRIE STANDARD INDUSTRIAL PARK, AS AUTHORIZED BY SENATE BILL NO. 2306, LAWS OF MISSISSIPPI, 1971 REGULAR SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize an application to USDA - Rural Development for federal funds for the purchase of one (1) 100-110 horse power tractor with front end loader; and to set a public hearing to provide the citizenry an opportunity to become acquainted with the project and to comment on such items as economic development and environmental impact, service area, and alternatives to the project. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, 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: Jason Roberson - Water School - Biloxi, MS - September 9-13, 2019; Calvin Parker and David Young - Tupelo, MS - October 7-11, 2019; Jackie Benson - Clerks Update - Louisville, MS - October 2-4, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Ewing, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize City Clerk Benson to contact a qualified inspector to determine the environmental/ asbestos related risks if any at the former Aberdeen Big Star Grocery site, prior to any agreement by the City to accept a donation of said property. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to approve an Interlocal Agreement and the three year renewal of the County/Amory/Aberdeen Contract for Emergency Ambulance Service with MedStat EMS, Inc., and an increase of Aberdeen's annual subsidy to MedStat EMS, Inc. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Ewing, seconded by Alderman Sykes to authorize an agreement with an Energy Service Contractor per recommendation of Engineer Dustin Dabbs. The Aberdeen Municipal School District has indicated it will also retain the Contractor to reduce costs. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) program was established to incentivize public entities to update utility and related systems in order to minimize energy demand and to maximize revenues. According to Dabbs, the Energy Services Contractor may provide an analysis of existing lighting & HVAC equipment, control systems, etc. in order to determine the components that have the highest demand on the system and to provide alternatives for these components that may be cheaper to operate. New equipment may decrease maintenance costs compared to old equipment. Control systems may also be evaluated to determine whether programmable measures may be installed on lights, thermostats, etc. so that these systems are operated more efficiently. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to correct the contract award amount to MS Rural Tank Service for repainting the Aberdeen 250,000 Gallon Elevated Tank, project # 216182, on its lowest and best bid in the amount of \$241,200.00. MS Rural Tank Service had a \$200 mathematical error on its bid quote. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Sykes stated that a City lot located on Chestnut Street and Whitfield Street needed to be mowed.

Citizens appearing before the Board of Aldermen and not on the printed Agenda included: No citizens requested to speak at this Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, 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 Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Ewing to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue concerning Aberdeen Police Department Officer Lance Taylor. 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 Aberdeen Police Department Officer Lance Taylor.

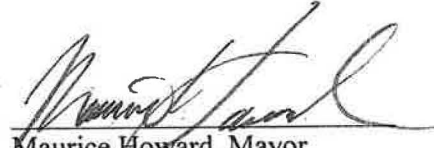
A motion was made by Alderman Odom, seconded by Alderman Buffington to come out of Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

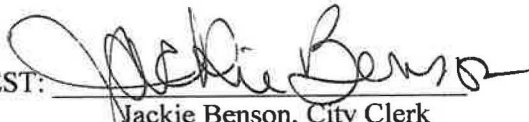
A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Buffington to suspend Aberdeen Police Department Officer Lance Taylor for one week without pay and place him on probation (30 day) when he returns to work. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Buffington voted "Aye"; and Aldermen Sykes, Stone and Ewing voted "Nay". Motion failed.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to terminate the employment of Aberdeen Police Department Officer Lance Taylor. On a roll call vote, Aldermen Sykes, Stone and Ewing voted "Aye"; and Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Buffington voted "Nay". Motion passed.

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A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to adjourn until the August 20, 2019 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Jackie Benson, City Clerk