

MINUTES, BOARD OF ALDERMEN, BOOK NO. 19

DEMENT-MERIDIAN 61-2994

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
AUGUST 20, 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, ALDERMAN DOUG STONE, ALDERMAN DAVID EWING, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM AND ALDERMAN JIM BUFFINGTON; AND JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK; AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

INVOCATION: Mayor Maurice Howard.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve the proposed Minutes 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 pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated August 20, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Coy Flynn and David Flippo, on behalf of the State of Mississippi Bass Fishing Federation, asked the Mayor and Board to consider approval of a contract agreement and financial support for the City of Aberdeen to be the host site of the State Bass Tournament in March 2020. Aberdeen has been a host of the Tournament in past years. The Mayor and Board will take the matter under advisement and will consider including funds in the 2020 City Budget.

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize the purchase of a new HVAC System unit (7.5 ton) for the Aberdeen Utility Department building in the amount of \$12,803.00 from Brown & Son Heat & Air, Amory, MS. The other quote received was from M&M Heating and Cooling, Tupelo, MS in the amount of \$14,150.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made from Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Sykes to increase the hourly wage of Aberdeen Electric Department employee Ethan Donahoo by one dollar, upon satisfactory completion of his probation period. 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: Henry Randle - Crime Stoppers - Biloxi, MS - October 15-18, 2019; Karen Crump - TVPPA Accounting - Franklin TN - October 23-25, 2019; and Jackie Benson - IIMC Meeting - San Antonio, TX - December 5-8, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington departed from the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the sale of certain City property located along Matubba Street, PPIN #'s 8974 and 8973, to Westlake Company in the amount of \$19,500.00. The price is the average of the two appraisals and ½ of the appraisers cost. The Board finds that the property is not needed for municipal purposes, that the sale of the property in the manner otherwise provided by law is not necessary, and that the proposed use of the property will promote development and improvement of the community. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye" except Alderman Sykes, who voted "Nay".

Alderman Buffington returned to the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to accept the resignation of Aberdeen Police Department Dispatcher Brenda Watson effective immediately. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Buffington to employ Annea Vance as a fulltime Dispatcher in the Aberdeen Police Department at the wage of \$10.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Buffington to accept the resignation of Aberdeen Police Department Officer Tommy Hall effective immediately. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize 2 handicap parking spaces on Commerce Street per the request of the Caring Hearts Adult Daycare. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Citizens appearing before the Board of Aldermen and not on the printed Agenda included:
- Joyce Vasser stated that she was doing a fundraiser for the St Jude Bowl-a-thon in Tupelo on September 28, and encouraged everyone to participate.

Mayor Howard stated that he had been contacted by a family whose utility service had been cut off for non-payment, and requested the Board to authorize the utility service to be turned back on.

Alderman Stone thanked Mayor Howard for attending a function in Amory.

Alderman Ewing asked when various properties in Aberdeen would be scheduled for adjudication hearings.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Buffington 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 Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning Aberdeen Street Department employee Bobby Smith and Aberdeen Fire Department employee Montrel Clay. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

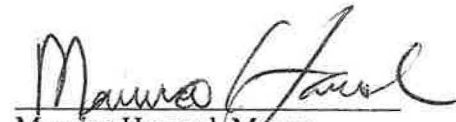
The Mayor and Board announced to the public that the Board was entering into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning Aberdeen Street Department employee Bobby Smith and Aberdeen Fire Department employee Montrel Clay.


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

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to suspend Aberdeen Street employee Bobby Smith for two weeks without pay for failure to comply with City Employee Handbook policies. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to terminate the employment of Aberdeen Fireman Montrel Clay for failure to comply with City Employee Handbook policies during his probation period. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye", except Alderman Sykes who voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to adjourn until the September 3, 2019 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Jackie Benson, City Clerk