

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
OCTOBER 15, 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: Alderman Jim Buffington.

Aylissa Wright appeared before the Board of Aldermen and the audience, discussed her qualifications and stance on various issues, and asked for support in her candidacy for the Office of Monroe County Tax Collector.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to approve the proposed Minutes dated October 1, 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 October 15, 2019. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to award the contract for the Aberdeen City Hall Restoration (painting) Project to Barnett's Painting which submitted the lowest and best bid/quote in the amount of \$17,460.00. Other quotes were received from Webb Co - \$42,240.00, Hanna Construction - \$43,258.00, Thompson Construction - \$46,300.00, and Parker Roberson - \$44,900.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington departed from the Board room prior to the discussion of appointments to the Aberdeen Housing Authority Board.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to appoint Terry Smith, Eddie Buchanan and Dorothy Wilson Overton to serve as Commissioners on the Aberdeen Housing Authority Board for a five year appointment. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington departed from the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to adopt a "RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ABERDEEN TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MUNICIPAL INTERCEPT COMPANY, LLC ("MIC") TO COLLECT THE CITY'S DEBT BETWEEN MIC AND THE CITY OF ABERDEEN AS AUTHORIZED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEBT COLLECTION SETOFF ACT". On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the Agreement to Collect Municipal Debt with the Municipal Intercept Company, LLC as provided in the aforementioned Resolution, to designate the Aberdeen City Clerk to act as the "local debt collection coordinator" in accordance with the Agreement, and to designate the Aberdeen City Clerk to act as the Hearing Officer at any hearings scheduled for the contest of any applicable debt subject to the Agreement to Collect Municipal Debt with Mississippi Intercept Company LLC. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to authorize the closing of two checking accounts, Fund # 29 - Common City Bond and Interest Fund - \$1.00, and Fund # 43 - Street Paving Bond and Interest Fund - \$135.18, and to transfer the funds into the Common City General Fund # 10. According to City Comptroller Karen Crump, all bond obligations associated with these two accounts have been paid and fulfilled. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Ewing to authorize the write-off of the sum of \$52,358.49, UDAG Fund # 87, as "uncollectible", for accounting purposes only. The unpaid debts will be referred for debt collection procedures. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2019
PAGE 2**

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Ewing to amend the 2019 Administration and Finance Department budget, as recommended by Comptroller Karen Crump, and to publish notice in the newspaper of the Department's expenditures exceeding 10% of the originally adopted budget for that Department as follows:

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
BUDGETED EXPENSE REPORTS
FOR THE MONTH ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

	CURRENT	YEAR TO	YTD	ANNUAL	OVER OR	
	MONTH	DATE	BUDGET	BUDGET	UNDER	% BUDGET
Donation to Main Street Program	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Salaries-Adm. & Finance	\$4,445.05	\$69,202.59	\$76,134.00	\$76,134.00	\$6,931.41	90.90%
Matching Retirement	\$773.44	\$9,345.35	\$9,437.00	\$9,437.00	\$91.65	99.03%
Matching Social Security	\$268.61	\$4,174.07	\$4,720.00	\$4,720.00	\$545.93	88.43%
Matching Medicare	\$62.81	\$976.06	\$1,104.00	\$1,104.00	\$127.94	88.41%
Group Insurance Cost-All Depts	\$26,860.31	\$280,628.87	\$270,000.00	\$270,000.00	-\$10,628.87	103.94%
Unemployment Ins.-All Depts	-\$75.78	\$9,424.43	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$3,075.57	75.40%
Board Paid W/C Insurance	-\$262.39	\$95,600.94	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$24,399.06	79.67%
Bank Service Charge	\$852.60	\$8,986.08	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$513.92	94.59%
Office Supplies	\$374.71	\$9,094.99	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$905.01	90.95%
Reimbursement-Salaries	\$0.00	\$70,845.10	\$70,800.00	\$70,800.00	-\$45.10	100.06%
Gas & Oil	\$0.00	\$154.66	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$45.34	77.33%
Legal Fees	\$4,575.00	\$36,396.34	\$62,000.00	\$62,000.00	\$25,603.66	58.70%
Professional Fees	\$54,584.90	\$83,360.16	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	-\$58,360.16	333.44%
Auditing and Data Processing	\$7,772.50	\$20,863.19	\$34,000.00	\$34,000.00	\$13,136.81	61.36%
Telephone	\$356.52	\$21,650.97	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00	-\$2,150.97	111.03%
Travel and Business Expense	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,475.00	1.67%
General Insurance	\$88.00	\$94,039.76	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$5,960.24	94.04%
Utilities Buildings	\$589.85	\$24,332.34	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	-\$332.34	101.38%
Utilities Street Lighting	\$19,557.62	\$231,587.66	\$270,000.00	\$270,000.00	\$38,412.34	85.77%
Equipment Maintenance	\$394.33	\$17,076.05	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	-\$1,076.05	106.73%
City Hall Maintenance	\$1,077.68	\$13,046.41	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$4,953.59	72.48%
Copier Machine Expense	\$131.17	\$1,604.69	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$395.31	80.23%
Elevator Maintenance	\$0.00	\$3,472.57	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,527.43	69.45%
Schooling and Training Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
County Health Department	\$70.83	\$849.96	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$0.04	100.00%
Blue Bluff Festival	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Christmas Decoration Expense	\$0.00	\$2,020.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$2,020.00	100.00%
Donation American Red Cross	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Downtown Canopy Repair Holley Bldg. Maintenance Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
Matching Grant Expenses	\$0.00	\$9,133.18	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	-\$4,133.18	182.66%
National Guard Armory Expense	\$0.00	\$119,539.75	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	-\$89,539.75	398.47%
Match Historical Preservation	\$905.10	\$7,362.51	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$1,137.49	86.62%
Match Historical Preservation	\$1,131.61	\$238,590.45	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	-\$213,590.45	954.36%
Pest Control Contract	\$50.00	\$900.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	90.00%
Dues and Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$9,254.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$3,246.00	74.03%
Ambulance Service Allocation	\$0.00	\$23,840.00	\$24,500.00	\$24,500.00	\$660.00	97.31%
Aberdeen Pilgrimage	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Property Tax Expense	\$0.00	\$955.69	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$44.31	95.57%
Sign Repair Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
Fishing Tournament	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
Donation Loaves & Fishes	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Weather Sirens Expense	\$0.00	\$1,195.37	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	-\$195.37	119.54%
Storm Shelter Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$124,584.47	\$1,547,029.19	\$1,305,245.00	\$1,305,245.00	-\$241,784.19	118.52%

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2019
PAGE 3**

The Administration and Finance Department budget shall be amended due to unexpected increased professional fees associated with the Street Paving and Sidewalk project, unexpected increased matching grant expenses incurred for the Street Paving and Sidewalk project and for the M&O Railroad Depot repairs, unexpected extra expenses incurred for the maintenance of the Holley Manufacturing building due to their closing of their business and termination of their lease, unexpected repairs to the weather sirens, and an unexpected increase in telephone expenses also occurred this year.

A motion was made by Alderman Ewing, seconded by Alderman Sykes to authorize a professional services contract with Donald Smith Company, Inc., Shannon, MS to conduct a camera survey, perform a pump test and remove material, and other services necessary for the Water Well # 6 rehabilitation project in the total amount of \$14,740.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize the City to solicit competitive contractor quotes from qualified contractors for the Walters Drive Drainage project. City Engineer Dabbs Corporation estimates a project cost not exceeding \$26,500. All bids or quotes must be submitted to the Board for consideration. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize Dabbs Corporation to schedule and conduct a video recorded test of drainage issues in the High Extension and Glendale Circle area. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Aberdeen Park and Recreation Department Director Michelle Stewart informed the Mayor and Board that the Department had raised approximately \$4,000.00 to fund the resurfacing of the Martin Luther King basketball courts. Director Michelle Stewart thanked the Aberdeen community for their donations.

Shina White requested that a tree stump be removed at Timberlake Apartments.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, seconded by Alderman Sykes to lift the recent burn ban within the Aberdeen City limits due to the recent rains. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Stone asked everyone to "shop local" to help increase the sales tax base.

Alderwoman Odom stated that she would like to see all of the Department Heads working together.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to authorize installation of a speed bump on Evergreen Drive and Woodcrest. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye", except Alderman Buffington who voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to schedule a hearing date for the adjudication of the privately owned areas of the Oddfellows East Cemetery, and directing the Building Inspector to provide the proper statutory notices of the hearing to the owner of the property. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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 Stone, seconded by Alderman Buffington to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues regarding Animal Control employee Carver Hale and the pending adversary proceeding with the Bankruptcy Trustee in the Pioneer Hospital bankruptcy case. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2019
PAGE 4**


The Mayor and Board announced to the public that the Board was entering into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues regarding Animal Control employee Carver Hale and the pending adversary proceeding with the Bankruptcy Trustee in the Pioneer Hospital bankruptcy case.

A motion was made by Alderman Stone, 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 continue to employ Carver Hale as a part time employee, and to split the budgeted 38 part-time hours (per pay period) between the three Animal Control part-time employees. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize a Settlement Agreement with Marshall Glade, Liquidating Trustee of the Estate of Pioneer Health Services Monroe County. City of Aberdeen shall pay the confidential, agreed upon amount. Further, all proofs of claim filed by the City of Aberdeen in the Pioneer Hospital bankruptcy are to be approved and allowed as liquidated and timely filed by the Trustee. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Stone to adjourn until the November 5, 2019 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Jackie Benson, City Clerk