

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
JANUARY 7, 2020
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 DAVID EWING, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, AND ALDERMAN JIM BUFFINGTON; JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK; AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

Absent: Alderman Doug Stone.

Invocation: Alderman David Ewing.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the proposed Minutes dated December 17, 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 January 7, 2020. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Buffington left the Board room.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to adopt a RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL OF AN AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION TO AXIAL 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 Sykes, seconded by Alderman Buffington to employ Ryan Love as a part-time Aberdeen Park and Recreation Department Gym Supervisor at the wage of \$9.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the following City employees/officials to attend the following meetings or classes, and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines: Mayor, Board of Aldermen, City Clerk and City Attorney - MML - Biloxi, MS - June 29 - July 2, 2020; Jackie Benson IIMC - St. Louis, MO, May 17-20, 2020 (scholarship) and - Ole Miss Seminar - Bay St. Louis, MS - March 25-27, 2020; Chief Henry Randle - Excel - March 16, 2020 - Tupelo, MS. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Buffington to appoint Judge Brandon Davis to serve as Aberdeen Municipal Judge Pro-Tem. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to adopt an ORDINANCE CLOSING AND VACATING A SECTION OF WEST JEFFERSON STREET. The City Attorney advised that the abutting property owner affected by the street section closing has submitted a written request for the closure and to waive any statutory rights to compensation. The section of West Jefferson Street to be closed was never paved nor used by the traveling public. The Ordinance shall be published as required by law, recorded in the City Clerk's Ordinance Book, and take effect as provided by law. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing to approve for Dabbs Corporation to conduct a survey and draft property descriptions of the City owned properties in the Prairie Mississippi area. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the disposal/destruction of electric meters that have previously been declared surplus. The City was unable to sell the surplus meters. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2020
PAGE 2**

Person appearing before the Board by not on the printed Agenda:

- Jenny Pounders and Neil Palmer invited everyone to attend a Mardi Gras Parade and the Mardi Gras Gala Ball on February 8, 2020. The purpose of the Mardi Gras events is to raise money to construct a larger building for the Friends of the Aberdeen Animal Shelter thrift store including space for a veterinarian and an adoption center. The parade will be at 2 p.m. through downtown, and the deadline to enter is January 21. The gala will begin at 6 p.m. at Stevens Auction Company alongside Meridian Street, and doors will open at 5:30 p.m.
- Jenny Pounders also thanked Mayor Howard for his assistance in pulling her vehicle out of a ditch by a street in a residential area of Aberdeen.

Alderman Sykes thanked the Aberdeen Electric Department for quickly restoring City street lights and electrical service after the recent severe storms.

Aberdeen Ewing thanked the Aberdeen Fire Department for assistance following the fire at the Cook building on Vine Street.

Alderwoman Odom requested the Aberdeen Police Department to contact the gentleman that operates a wheelchair on City streets all over town, concerning his safety. Alderwoman Odom also requested the Aberdeen Public Works Department to repair some potholes on Frontage Road adjacent to the Church of Christ Church and on Lakewood adjacent to the St. Mark Methodist Church, and to repair the street signs on Bellview Drive and Glen Iris.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Ewing 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 Buffington, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to go into Executive Session to discuss an Industrial Prospect at the Prairie Industrial Park. 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 an Industrial Prospect at the Prairie Industrial Park.

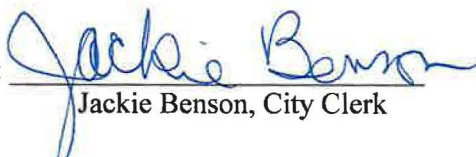
A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Ewing to come out of Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Buffington to authorize the City Clerk to negotiate terms of a proposed lease of City property with the potential Industrial Prospect. The Board will consider the proposed Lease at the next Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to recess until the January 21, 2020 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jackie Benson, City Clerk