

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
JANUARY 21, 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 DOUG STONE ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, AND ALDERMAN JIM BUFFINGTON; JACKIE BENSON, CITY CLERK; AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

ABSENT: ALDERMAN DAVID EWING

Invocation: Alderman Alonzo Sykes.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the proposed Minutes dated January 7, 2020. 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 January 21, 2020. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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

- Aberdeen Visitor Bureau Director Tina Robbins asked for the public's help in voting online daily for the City's nominees on the Mississippi Magazine's "Best Of 2020" list. Aberdeen has nominees in the Best Place to Live and the Best Downtown categories. The Magnolias is nominated for Best Historic Site, and The Cottage Tea Room is nominated for Best Sweet Tea and Best Blue Plate Special.

- Linda Record announced that the next City of Aberdeen Clean-up is scheduled on March 28, 2020; and also stated that the Aberdeen Food Pantry would also need some volunteers for distribution at the Food Pantry on that day as well.

Alderman Stone commented regarding the news of a stop order being issued on the \$12 million rehabilitation of the Thomas G. Abernethy Federal Building. The building was vacated by the U.S. District Court in late 2017 due to mold issues, and the scope of the rehabilitation project included replacement of the HVAC system, more energy-efficient additions, numerous improvements and remediation of the mold. Stone asked for a unified effort to voice the City of Aberdeen's desire to keep the project active, and to mount a campaign to our legislators - Trent Kelly, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker and the President of the United States in support of the Federal Building rehabilitation project.

A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone 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 Alderman Stone to go into Executive Session to discuss an Industrial Prospect at the Prairie Industrial Park and a personnel issue concerning Aberdeen Sanitation Department employee Pacall Parks. 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 and a personnel issue concerning Aberdeen Sanitation Department employee Pacall Parks.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Stone 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 Stone to suspend Aberdeen Sanitation Department employee Pacall Parks for three days without pay for violation of City Employee Handbook policy. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


A motion was made by Alderman Sykes, seconded by Alderman Stone to authorize a lease of the City of Aberdeen/Monroe County owned building 12-19 (the old Rest O Lounger building) to Greg Linder for a one year term, requiring initial rental payments of \$200.00 per month for six months and subsequent rental payments of \$500.00 per month thereafter. This Lease is contingent on approval of the joint property owner Monroe County. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Buffington, seconded by Alderman Sykes to adjourn until the February 4, 2020 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".



Maurice Howard, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Jackie Benson, City Clerk