DEMENT-MERIDIAN 61-2994

REGULAR BOARD MEETING CITY HALL BOARD ROOM

October 6, 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 NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY, ALDERWOMAN LADY B. GARTH, ALDERMAN EDWARD HAYNES, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, ALDERMAN JOHN ALLEN; CITY ATTORNEY WALTER H. ZINN, JR., MELSSA MOORE, CITY CLERK AND BARBARA VASSER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK.

Invocation: Alderman Edward Haynes

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve minutes dated September 15,17,30 2020. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye", with the exception by Alderman Haynes on window tint.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to pay bills to proper vendors. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye", with the exception by Alderman Haynes, Alderman Allen and Alderwoman Odom on Mayor Howard's travel expenses and window tint.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to discuss Aberdeen Police Department hiring and terminating, and resignation of Brandi Sain in Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve vehicle purchase for Mayor Howard. On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay", and Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve Cruz Jimenez attending the MS Fire Academy in the amount of \$735.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Citizens Input:

None

Aldermen Input:

Alderman Allen asked the Board to review the Walters Drive Contract. There is a drain issue and it's washing out. Other issues of concern is on Parkway Drive with a tree on the end that's blown out and the water lines on High Extension. The water lines on High Extension need to be turned over to the Engineers. A question was asked of Attorney Zinn if he was representing Mr. Folliday. Attorney Zinn said, "I made an appearance". Alderman Allen asked Attorney Zinn if the City is being asked to pay for this. Attorney Zinn said no sir. Alderman Allen asked of Mayor and Board is it time to revisit the TVA Contract that was tabled a few weeks ago. Mayor Howard said no sir. Attorney Zinn shared with the Mayor and Board that he will prepare a memorandum updating the most recent conversation we had with TVA.

Alderwoman Odom asked that Mr. Boone check on Dexter Jackson's home on 508 Heath Place, some culverts are stopped up and water backing up in his front yard from the rain we've had. Residents on Cheryl Drive with ditch behind their house and Mr. Hendricks on Club Park yard will not drain.

Alderman Haynes talked about the concrete pads on top of water drains that's broken in half on Long Street and Hillcrest Drive need to be taken up and repaired. He asked that the Street Department go by and check on all of these. Trees are growing out in the streets that need cutting as well. Ms. Sykes is an

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elderly lady that lives on Vine Street that needs help bringing her garbage can to the end of the street. She lives across the street from the old Gosa Food Market in a blue house on the hill.

Alderwoman Garth would like to thank Public Works for working very hard on the good job they're doing. You can see the cleanliness throughout the City. Inspector Roy Haynes was asked about a house on Columbus Street that burned a while back and the debris need to be moved to the edge of street. Alderwoman Garth said the home belongs to Bobby Ferguson. Inspector Haynes will be making contact with Mr. Ferguson.

Alderman Holliday thanked the Board for helping him complete a project on Evergreen Drive. Construction should begin on Evergreen Drive next month. Looking for ways to come together and clean up Peacock Alley. There are several trees hanging over, and lighting is needed. We will be working on that in the next couple of months.

Mayor's Report Nothing to report

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to enter into closed determination. On a roll call vote, all present "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to come out of closed determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to go into Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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

Chief Henry Randle asked the Board to accept Officer James Buchanan termination and Officer Brandi Sain resignation. Chief Henry Randle told the Board that Officer James Buchanan opt out to work for Tupelo Police Department. Chief Henry Randle asked the Board to amend the hourly salary of Officers Michaela Gill and Davis Hankins from \$13.00 per hour to \$14.00 per hour. Chief Henry Randle told the Board the uncertified officers pay rate is \$13.00 per hour and certified officers pay rate is \$15.00 per hour. Chief Henry Randle asked the Board to approve the hiring of Vasquez Clark as patrolman for the Aberdeen Police Department.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to accept the termination on Officer James Buchanan. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderman Holliday to accept the resignation on Officer Brandi Sain with the exception of her repaying the Aberdeen Police Department the prorated amount due within the next three months. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to hire Vasquez Clark as a Patrolman for the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to amend the hourly salary for Aberdeen Police Officers Michaela Gill and Davis Hankins from \$13.00 per hour to \$14.00 per hour, effective immediately. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to give a 10% increase in salary to Janet Parks new position as Administrative Assistant and Barbara Vasser position as Deputy City Clerk within the City Clerk's Office. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to take matter of James Bell under advisement. On a roll vote, all present voted "Aye".

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Mayor Howard asked the Board why they will not approve of him getting a new vehicle being that the money is in the City budget. Alderman Haynes said it's too soon and the City is in a budget crunch, and the Aberdeen Police Department needs new police cars. Alderman Haynes said, "We're robbing Peter to pay Paul". Mayor Howard asked the Board to pay his mileage. Alderman Haynes asked Mayor Howard to itemize his travel expenses and submit to the Board.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to adjourn until the October 20, 2020 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Maurice Howard, Mayor

Melissa Moore, City Clerk