

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

## CITY HALL BOARD ROOM

December 15, 2020

5:00 P.M.

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN MET IN THE CITY HALL BOARD ROOM WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**MAYOR MAURICE HOWARD, ALDERMAN NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY, ALDERWOMAN LADY B. GARTH (Live Streaming by Cellular Phone), ALDERMAN EDWARD HAYNES, CITY ATTORNEY WALTER H. ZINN, JR., MELSSA MOORE, CITY CLERK AND BARBARA VASSER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK.**

**Not Present: ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, ALDERMAN JOHN ALLEN**

Invocation: Alderman Edward Haynes

## ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve minutes dated December 1, 2020. (December 3, 2020: Special Call Meeting will be approved at next Board Meeting on January 5, 2020). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to pay bills to proper vendors. (Correction made by Karen Crump on the Water Department Claim. S & S Communication and Fiber charge for \$60.00 was added in error and was removed changing the total to \$61,015.46) On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve MaxxSouth Internet Bills to be lowered with a 3-year agreement on account number: 8282-41-097-0155142 from \$129.65 to \$78.35 and account number: 8282-41-097-0148055 from \$118.95 to \$78.35. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the hiring of Jamerius Hayden for the Sanitation Department at \$11.00 per hour. Alderman Haynes asked that it be put in the minutes that Mr. Hayden must improve his work skills on a daily basis. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve \$60,000.00 of the Cares Act (Mississippi Emergency Relief Program) to purchase police cars for the Aberdeen Police Department. Alderwoman Garth ask the minutes to reflect that she shared with the Board that Chief Henry Randle will approve the police cars he would like to purchase for his department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Holliday to accept land bids from Cylina Hodges on lot #13 (PPIN #6750; Parcel ID #108G-27-002-013.00) for \$600.00 and lot #6 (PPIN #6742; Parcel ID #108G-27-002-006.00) for \$200.00, total amount \$800.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Holliday to accept ION Business Concepts & Payment Systems for the electronic payments made online for the Aberdeen Electric Department. ION charges a one-time set-up fee of \$450.00. Customers that use the electronic payment system online will be charged a 3.5% service fee. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to accept the resignation letter from Brandon Williams. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to accept Priority Power Consultant Agreement contingent upon the approval of Attorney Zinn, Jr. This agreement is for consulting only, at no cost to the City of Aberdeen. Aberdeen will not spend a dime. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday and Alderwoman Garth voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

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A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to purchase Personal Protective Equipment for the following entities of the City of Aberdeen: Public Works, Electric Department, Electric Department Warehouse, City Hall, Fire Department and the Police Department. The Personal Protective Equipment will be purchased from 3S Safe Sanitizing Solutions, Inc. (5000 Masks @ \$2,750.00 and 200 cans of Lysol Disinfectant @ \$3,857.00 equaling \$6,607.00 plus \$65.00 (shipping/handling) totaling \$6672.00; Underground (Cordless Disinfectant Sprayer 5 @ \$350.00 each, totaling \$1750.00); and Cintas (3-Sanitizing Stations with stands). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

**Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:**

Alderman Holliday asked the Board to consider ending the curfew. The Board decided to keep the curfew until further notice. Alderman Holliday will be reaching out to Inspector Roy Haynes about some development for low income housing on the vacant lots within the City of Aberdeen. Alderman Holliday said houses are needed really bad in the City of Aberdeen.

Alderwoman Garth has reported lights out on Franklin Street, and asked Mayor Howard to please contact the Aberdeen Electric Department. If not done, she will contact the Electric Department herself. Alderwoman Garth asked why the Electric Department are not cutting the branches while it's cold, so when Spring and Summer comes the City will not have the lights out and branches falling on people houses. The Electric Department needs to be proactive in doing something to help.

Alderman Haynes reported the overtime hours are dipping down and they will continue to dip. We have decreased in overtime pay from \$13,000.00 to \$6,700.00. The slugged was taken down and done at the trailer on West Short Street, and the owner was happy with it. The Map Stands that Ms. Robbins told the Board about are in the process of being put up in three locations downtown. Alderman Haynes explained the worker's compensation law to the Board. He said worker's comp pays sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) and the employee can use their personal/sick leave for the remaining pay; however the amount cannot exceed the total amount of wages employee was earning at the time of injury. Attorney Zinn, Jr., read the worker's compensation law to the Board and said it's worded the same way Alderman Haynes explained it. Alderman Haynes shared with the Board about Officer Ealy and Officer Drake going to Minneapolis, Minnesota to pick up the prisoner and bring back to Mississippi. They will be leaving on December 16, 2020 and returning on December 17, 2020.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Howard told the Board that Inspector Roy Haynes needs to make sure the old abandon houses are being torn down while it's cold. Alderman Haynes said Inspector Haynes is working on that. Mayor Howard said a workshop will be done. Mayor Howard told the Board that he and Ms. Moore will be working on setting up Zoom for the next Board meeting. He would like a link put on the public Facebook page.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to enter into Closed Determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to come out of Closed Determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issue with Electric Department employee. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Haynes to give Danny Morris a ten percent (10%) raise in pay, which will be temporary until a General Manager is hired for the Aberdeen Electric Department, and Lamarcus Thompson will be giving a one-dollar (\$1.00) raise for getting his Commercial Drivers License, an a one-dollar (\$1.00) raise for completing his 90-days. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday and Alderman Haynes voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to advertise for the Aberdeen Housing Authority Board. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to adjourn until the January 5, 2021 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Maurice Howard, Mayor



Attest

  
Melissa Moore, City Clerk