

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CITY HALL BOARD ROOM

January 5, 2021

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, 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: Inspector Roy Haynes

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve minutes dated December 3rd, 15th, 23rd, 2020 with a correction in paragraph nine changing the name from Sun Industries to Priority Power, and in paragraph five adding the statement made by Alderwoman Garth, "That the purchasing of the police cars be approved by Chief Randle". On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay". Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye". Attorney Zinn, Jr. explained to the Board that changing the company name doesn't change the Consultant Agreement that was approved and passed by the Board in the minutes dated December 15, 2020. Attorney Zinn, Jr. told the Board they need to vote to accept those minutes. A second motion was made to approve the minutes with the corrections by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth. On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen abstained from voting and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay" and Alderwoman Odom, Alderwoman Garth, and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to pay bills to proper vendors. On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen voted "Aye" with the exception of M & J Lawn Service, Alderwoman Odom voted "Aye" but asked the question, "Why is Barbara getting overtime?" It was explained by Mayor Howard and Alderman Haynes that Barbara Vasser is the City Clerk's Assistant. The overtime amount was \$117.45. Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to suspend the motion in the December 15, 2020 minutes giving Danny Morris a ten percent (10%) raise due to the incorrect information he shared with the Board. On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen and Alderwoman Odom voted "Nay". Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Garth, and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve extending unused vacation time for the calendar year 2020 to January 31, 2021 for all departments. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve motion for the City to get our land (Stinson Field) back. Symbiotic Partners, LLC, Meridian, MS has agreed to give the City all of the land back for \$750.00. (PPIN: 32482 / Parcel: 106J-20-001-031.02 / PT W ½ NE ¼ W OF HWY ABERDEEN / \$350.00) (PPIN: 32512 / Parcel: 106K-20-001-002.03 / PT SE ¼ NW ¼ ABERDEEN NOT DESIGNATED / \$350.00). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday for Mayor Howard to give a statement to Charles Scott having him removed from the Sports Complex, property of the City. On a roll call vote, Alderman Allen and Alderwoman Odom voted "Nay". Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Holliday voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to adjudicate the following properties, as being a public hazard and nuisance and in such a state as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community; and further directing that said properties be demolished and/or cleaned, as applicable. Building Inspector Roy Haynes stated that he provided the statutory notices to the property owners, and none appeared to contest:

1. Tonya Lovett Bell Jackson, (Burnett St.) PPIN# 8152 Parcel# 108R-34-008-001
2. Jack and Ruby Parson, (409 Burnett St.) PPIN# 8155 parcel# 108R-34-008-004
3. Doris Blanchard, (608 Short St.) PPIN# 7052 Parcel# 108H-27-006-007.00
4. Joe Jones, (2176 Poplar St.) PPIN# 6278 Parcel# 107N-35-017-011
5. Benjamin Wax, (745 Short St.) PPIN# 6840 Parcel# 108G-27-009-008.00
6. Alvina Mosley, (Monroe St.) PPIN# 7441 Parcel#108J-34-013-003
7. Chris lee and Penny Carol, (309 S. Maple) PPIN# 6088 Parcel# 107M-35-016-006.00

On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Comptroller Karen Crump asked the Board will the City be paying for the traffic violation that Officers Dewayne Ealy and Kelly Drake got in Iowa while traveling to Minnesota to pick up a prisoner. Citation#: 012.0014730431 / Pin#: 641220 / Make: Dodge / Model: Charger / Posted Speed: 55 MPH / Vehicle Speed: 84 MPH / Plate Number: G63964. Amount due: \$250.00 / Due date: 01/09/2021. Chief Randle was asked to speak on this and how it should be handled. Alderwoman Odom said the City will not pay for a traffic violation an officer got, because they know better and shouldn't be violating the law. Alderwoman Odom said the City needs to take it out of the check of officer that was driving. Officer Chris Dobbins told the Board if the City will not pay the ticket, we'll take care of it.

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Allen asked the Board why a decision is being made to take the 10% raise back from Danny Morris. Alderman Holliday told the Board Danny Morris wasn't truthful in what he told the Board. Alderman Allen asked why Leon Manning cannot open the American Legion to play bingo when all the guidelines are being followed. Alderwoman Garth shared with the Board that bingo cannot be played at the American Legion due to guidelines of the State not being followed. The governor has spoken on it since May, and we are further along in the pandemic. Alderwoman Garth said Mr. Manning has been misguided on his information. Chief Randle addressed the Board with the issues of COVID19 and will be asking the businesses to comply with the mask mandate or be given a fine. Chief Randle told the Board he will comply with the ruling of the Board as it relates to the mask order and the curfew.

Alderwoman Odom asked Chief Henry Randle to please ask his officers to attend to all calls, especially the widow and women that lives alone. When officers respond to the call have them to walk around the house, ring the doorbell, check to see if the individual is okay and problems have been resolved.

Alderman Haynes shared with the Board there will be a department head meeting, January 7, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Alderman Haynes is monitoring the overtime. It was a little higher due to the holidays. He would like to see unity with one another within the City of Aberdeen.

Alderwoman Garth asked Comptroller Karen Crump and Attorney Zinn, Jr. where we stand with Tony Rogers UDAG Loan and why he hasn't received it. Ms. Crump said they're waiting on Mr. Rogers to provide the City with his collateral. If Mr. Rogers has given the appropriate information could you'll have it to him by Friday. Attorney Zinn, Jr. said yes. Alderwoman Garth receiving calls about electric bills, either there up or is there a reason I need to tell the people. Alderman Holliday said we are in peak season, and due to being cold the electric bills went up. Alderwoman Garth asked Inspector Roy Haynes

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to please handle the dispute between the McMillian and Jones family as it relates to the property lines. Inspector Haynes told the Board this feud has been going on between these two families for years. He will get Attorney Zinn, Jr. involved and claim the City Street. Alderwoman Garth asked Inspector Haynes to please see to this being done. He said okay.

Alderman Holliday is getting complaints from residents of Aberdeen about the curfew, and will the City end it. Chief Randle expressed his concern about COVID19 and the curfew, and would like for the City to keep the curfew in place. Alderman Holliday said whatever the decision the Board makes about the curfew, he is okay with it. Alderman Holliday asked Attorney Zinn, Jr. is it legal for the Board to extend the unused vacation time or buy it back from them using the Cares Act (COVID19) funds.

Attorney Zinn, Jr. said he would like to research it because the COVID funds do implicate it can be used for vacations related to COVID overtime. Mayor Howard said we need the facts if Mrs. Barbara, Mrs. Sharon and others can be reimbursed for their sick time they lost due to COVID19. Attorney Zinn, Jr. will let the Board know.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Howard said he would like to have the mask mandate to be enforced with local businesses and eliminate gatherings that doesn't comply with the governor's order. Mayor Howard would like to see the curfew lifted or the time changed. Mayor Howard explained to the Board the invoice agreement given to him by Symbiotic Partners, LLC.

Mayor Howard presented Michelle Thomas, Co-Founder / CEO of Safe Sanitizing Solutions (3S) to discuss safety in the workplace as it relates to COVID19, Influenza A & B, SARS, MRSA and other viruses. Mrs. Thomas did a great presentation and provided the Board with helpful information. The price given to the Board to complete the services for the City will be \$17,578.00. Mrs. Thomas will create an invoice itemizing the services they offer and the prices. She'll email the information to the Mayor, Board and City Clerk.

Alderman Holliday and Mayor Howard asked the Board to please bring ideas and Economic Development Plans to the next meeting. Mayor Howard would like to give the Board an opportunity to share their ideas.

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

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, 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 Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issue with Park and Recreation Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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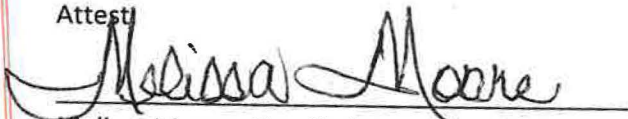
A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to come out of Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to adjourn until the January 19, 2021 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Maurice Howard, Mayor



Attest



Melissa Moore, City Clerk