

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM
NOVEMBER 2, 2021
5:00 P.M.

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

MAYOR CHARLES SCOTT, ALDERMAN ROBERT DEVAULL, ALDERWOMAN LADY B. GARTH, ALDERMAN EDWARD HAYNES, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, ALDERMAN JOHN ALLEN, MELISSA MOORE, CITY CLERK, BARBARA VASSER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK, AND CITY ATTORNEY ROBERT FAULKS.

Invocation: Mayor Charles Scott.

ROLL CALL.

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the proposed Minutes dated October 19, 2021. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderman Devaull to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated November 2, 2021. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Odom, and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Allen to authorize Dabbs Corporation to draft a cost estimate and proposal to repair City infrastructure that may be related to the claim of Richard Walker for home sewage backup. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize Dabbs Corporation to draft a cost estimate and specification proposal to repair City infrastructure along Parkway Drive and to temporarily block traffic from use of the affected area pending repairs. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Devaull to award the Oakland Drive contract to Hanna Construction which submitted the lowest and best bid/ quote in the amount of \$19,680.00. The work will be partially paid from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds. This action was recommended by the project engineer Dabbs. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Devaull to award the Highway 8 water meter tap and bore contract to Perma Corporation which submitted the lowest and best bid/ quote in the amount of \$26,675.00. This action was recommended by the project engineer Dabbs. The work will be paid from the Modernization Fund. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Allen to include an accounting "line item" for any Christmas Parade registration / entry fees received in the City Clerk's Office, and include proposed disbursement of the fees to the Chamber of Commerce on the Docket of Claims. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Devaull to terminate the employment of Clayton Angle for "No-Show", and to post/advertise for persons interested in being employed as a Fireman for 14 days. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Allen to advertise for persons interested in being appointed to the Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission for 14 days. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize the following City employees/officials to attend the following meetings or classes, and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines: Utility Department Employees Samona Johnson and Angela Fears to attend the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association Conference, Chattanooga, TN / November 17-19, 2021. The fee amount is \$455.00 each. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Devaull to adopt the State of Mississippi's legal holidays for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day in accord with the PROCLAMATION from Governor Tate Reeves. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Devaull, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize the purchase of a John Deere 6105E Cab Tractor for the Water Department from State contract vendor Deere & Company/ Wade, Inc., Hernando, MS at a State contract price of \$63,021.48. The purchase will be paid from the Equipment Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Allen to authorize a Full Service Vending Agreement with Pepsi Beverage Company. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay". Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Motion failed.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth to authorize Public Works Department Manager Richard Boone to attend the FEMA training class, at the Center for Domestic Preparedness, Huntsville, AL / during November 14-19, 2021. There was no second, and the matter was tabled to be discussed later in Closed Determination/ Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize a UDAG Loan to Harvey Hogan in the amount of \$52,500.00 with the collateral including parcel # 108H-27-015-001.00 / PPIN 7182 and parcel #108G-27-014-001.00 / PPIN # 6913. The UDAG Loan will be paid back at a monthly rate, with the term being seven years, and the interest rate at five percent (5%). On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Odom voted "Nay".

There was no motion concerning a proposed Resolution Authorizing the Aberdeen Electric Department to become a member of Seven States Power Corporation. This matter was tabled.

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize a Resolution establishing the Mayor's Youth Council. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Devaull voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to include an accounting "line item" for any funds received to fund activities of the Mayor's Youth Council. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Devaull and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Devaull to authorize the following City employees/officials to attend the following meetings or classes, and pay all necessary expenses according to state guidelines: Alderman Robert Devaull, Alderwoman Lady B. Garth, Alderman Edward Haynes, and City Clerk Melissa Moore to attend the MML 2022 Mid-Winter Legislative Conference, Jackson, MS / January 11-13, 2022. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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Mayor Report: Mayor Scott thanked the Mississippi Home Corporation representatives, realtors and insurer representatives for coming and sharing helpful information to the citizens of Aberdeen, which will direct them in the right path when they decide to buy a home. Mayor Scott will ask them to come back again and share information on how to improve credit ratings so the best interest rate will be offered to those interested in purchasing a home.

Mayor Scott stated that citizens need to be aware that they cannot burn leaves or any debris without a Burn Permit. Citizens must contact the Aberdeen Fire Department for a Burn Permit and obtain permission before they can burn anything in their yard, at their business, etc. "If you're caught burning trash in the City of Aberdeen without a permit, you'll be given a fine".

Mayor Scott stated that if any vendor is doing Pop-Up Shops or any other business in the City of Aberdeen the vendor must obtain a Privilege License and a Business License. The Privilege License is obtained at the City Clerk's Office in the Aberdeen City Hall. "It's important that we do the things that should be done to adhere to the rules, and do what's right particularly when other businesses are following those rules".

Mayor Scott stated that the main registration for the Christmas Parade is done online through the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce. The Monroe County Chamber of Commerce receives the registration funds for the Christmas Parade. However, some registrants have deposited their funds at the City Clerk's Office, and we need an accounting Line Item on the budget to record the Christmas Parade registration fees received in the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Scott stated that CDC has approved COVID19 Vaccines for children ages 5-up, and would like to ask citizens to have their children vaccinated. "No one has to wait on a testing site for the COVID19 Vaccine. It's available at your local pharmacies and the healthcare provider of your choice".

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Devaull: Alderman Devaull thanked Richard Boone and his Public Works Department, and the Electric Department for their work in Ward One. A tree that fell on Meridian Street needs to be cut up and removed. I will talk with Inspector Roy Haynes about a burned home that needs attention. I noticed the cleanup in Mrs. Odom's Ward on Highway 145. Alderman Devaull stated it bothers him when contractors from out-of-town come to Aberdeen and blow their debris in the streets and leave it for our Public Works to clean up.

Alderwoman Garth: Alderwoman Garth gave some of her input time to Fire Chief Fred Hodges to address the Board. Chief Hodges stated that Fireman Clayton Angle has missed four shifts (no call-no show) and Hodges requested termination of Angle's employment and to post/advertise for persons interested in employment as a Fireman. Alderwoman Garth discussed the big trucks driven thru town, and putting up the "No Truck" signs again. Mayor Scott stated that MDOT has been contacted and will be sending someone to do an evaluation of this issue.

Alderman Haynes: Alderman Haynes thanked everyone for the calls, texts and inbox messages during his illness. I encourage everyone to take the COVID19 Booster and Vaccines. The vaccination really helps and makes a difference in the side affects you may contract from the virus. Alderman Haynes asked Boone to make a little more effort in checking drains due to the leaves falling, because when it rains the leaves will clog the drains and create more problems. Alderman Haynes asked Boone if the cup that suctions up leaves has been repaired. Boone answered "it's being repaired and should be ready by Friday".

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Alderman Haynes stated to Boone "if the guys see leaf piles close to the streets, please pick them up to avoid leaves going in our drains". Alderman Haynes asked the question for all departments, "Are we working in getting everyone trained in their department?" So, if someone is out for whatever the reason may be the flow of the work will continue and it lessens overtime being paid.

Alderman Haynes stated that Public Works is not responsible for picking up trash and debris at an address/residence where there is no electricity use or no one residing there. If someone is placing trash, tree limbs, etc. at a residence where no one resides, the owner of that house will receive a citation until the trash has been picked up.

Alderman Odom: Alderman Odom thanked Inspector Roy Haynes and Mr. Boone and his crew for the work they've done on Highway 145 North. Things are looking good and I appreciate it. Mayor Scott stated he had checked on the speed bumps that Alderman Odom had inquired about, and some were damaged while trying to remove them from other places. This is due to the wear and tear on the speed bumps. Boone stated he has ordered more speed bumps. Alderman Odom thanked Boone.

Alderman Allen: Alderman Allen stated there's a large limb that has fallen in the street on West Commerce that needs to be removed. Boone said we will take care of that. Alderman Allen thanked him.

Citizen's Input:

Joyce Vasser informed the Board of the 4th Annual Bowl-A-Thon, Bowling Over Cancer that will be held Saturday, November 6, 2021, from 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Anyone that would like to bowl is more than welcomed to participate. Donations will be accepted, and all donations and proceeds will go to St. Jude's Hospital. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Joyce Vasser at 662-315-7673. Thank you!

Dustin Dabbs informed the Board he met with the Aberdeen Planning and Zoning Commission. The meeting was very productive. We submitted an Ordinance to Inspector Hayes, Mayor Scott and Attorney Faulks to review concerning Building Codes updates. The project contractor has completed the sidewalks and has installed new bleachers at General Young Park. Jason and Dabbs inspected the sewer infrastructure at the Richard Walker residence on Big John Road to address the sewer backup issue. Dabbs requested permission from the Board to do a cost estimate and proposal.

Dabbs Corporation has videoed several City pipes across town, and there are on-going issues at West Parkway and Jefferson Street. Parts of the streets need to be temporarily closed or traffic blocked, and plans need to be developed to repair the culverts.

Dabbs has quotes to remove a 24-inch pipe and install an arch pipe under Oakland Drive, and install an inlet to catch the water and do the side work that needs to be done. The two quotes are from the following:

1. Hanna Construction in the amount of \$19,680.00
2. Phillips Contracting in the amount of \$25,440.00

Dabbs also has two quotes for the Highway 8 water meter tap and bore to tie in the existing line bore under Highway 8 over to the new commercial development. The two quotes are as follows:

1. Perma Corporation in the amount of \$26,675.00
2. Four-D Contracting in the amount of \$33,500.00

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Tina Robbins informed the Board of events scheduled in November as follows:

1. Main Street hosting the Aberdeen Christmas Open House on Sunday, November 7, 2021 from 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
2. The AFJROTC Cadets of Aberdeen High School will be hosting a Veteran's Day Luncheon and Assembly on Thursday, November 11, 2021 at the AHS Gymnasium. The start time is 12:00 P.M.
3. Applications for The Angel Tree in City Hall may be received starting Monday, November 8, 2021
4. City of Aberdeen Christmas Parade on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 @ 6:30 P.M.

Robbins informed the Board of advertising for the City of Aberdeen as follows:

1. Barnes Crossing Digital Billboard will be starting December 1-31, 2021
2. MC Christmas Magazine has a half page ad in the Monroe Journal
3. We're participating and partnering with the Mississippi Main Street for the Official Tour Guide that will be coming out in February
4. The Southern Living full page ad in the January issue
5. Three feature articles will be in the River's Edge Magazine, Farm Country Magazine and Mississippi Magazine.

Kathy Seymour addressed the Board stating the Historic Preservation Commission is in need of three new members, and asked the City to advertise for persons interested in serving on the Historic Preservation Commission. Seymour is inviting everyone to attend the South Monroe County Community Fund Get Together at the Chamber Office @ 5:30 P.M. on Monday, November 8, 2021.

Seymour complimented on how nice and clean the Vine Street neighborhood and the Acker Park looks. Alderman Haynes gave thanks to Ward Three for helping keeping it clean. Frankie Provias asked Seymour whether the City owned Acker Park. Seymour said yes. Provias wanted to know if the City gave any donations to the Blues Festival and help clean the Park. Mayor Scott stated the City employees did help with the work at the Acker Park. Provias said that was great and it was beautiful.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth to enter into a closed determination to determine whether to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning the proposed employment of Alforzinie Sims and Jovoni Jones. 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 personnel issues concerning the proposed employment of Alforzinie Sims and Jovoni Jones. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

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

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Devaull to authorize a pay raise for Court Clerk Janel Davidson in the amount of one dollar per hour. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

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A motion was made by Alderman Devaull, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the employment of Alforzinie Sims as a Full-Time Patrolman for the Aberdeen Police Department at a rate of pay of \$15.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize the employment of Jovoni Jones as a part-time Laborer in the Public Works Department at a rate of \$12.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to terminate the employment of Trevonte Sisk from the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to terminate the employment of James Buchanan from the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

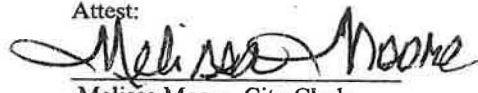
A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Devaull to post and advertise for two weeks for persons interested in employment as police officers in the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

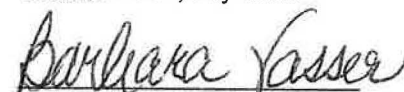
A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to authorize a proposed Agreement with the Aberdeen Housing Authority to provide Additional Police Services to patrol the Housing Authority areas at 20 hours per week. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to adjourn until the November 16, 2021 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".


Charles Scott, Mayor

Attest:


Melissa Moore, City Clerk


Barbara Vasser, Deputy City Clerk