

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

**August 2, 2022
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 AND ROBERT FAULKS, CITY ATTORNEY.

Invocation: Mayor Charles Scott.

ROLL CALL:

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the proposed Minutes dated July 19, 2022. 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 Allen, seconded by Alderman Devaull to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated August 2, 2022. 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 adopt the (1) Policies and Procedures for Procurement using Federal Grant Awards, the (2) Written Code of Conduct for Employees, Officers, and Agents Engaged in the Selection, Award, and Administration of Contracts, and the (3) Supplementary Terms and Conditions attachment for contracts. This is for ARPA funded and other federally funded projects. These policies, procedures and forms are to be adopted by the Aberdeen Visitors Bureau Board as well. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Allen to authorize Engineer Dustin Dabbs / Dabbs Corporation to retain a qualified contractor on behalf of the City to clear the N. Meridian Street City lots purchased from Jeffrey Ausborn, for the use of the Aberdeen Water Department, and to burn the debris on site, so long as the contractor price quoted is less than \$5,000.00. If the contractor quote exceeds \$5,000.00, additional contractor quotes will be required, and considered by the Board at a later date. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment by Contractor Cook Development, LLC in the amount of \$95,600.00, regarding the Aberdeen Public Utilities building on N. Meridian Street. This payment was recommended by project engineer Dustin Dabbs / Dabbs Corporation, and will be paid from the 2003 Electric Debt Reserve. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the Resolution Naming Authorized Representative and Authorizing the Grant Application for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) Program through the Mississippi State Department of Environmental Quality, and Naming Charles Scott, Mayor as the Authorized Representative for the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderwoman Garth and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

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A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Allen to authorize the opening of a checking account at BancorpSouth Bank, named 2022 GO Public Improvement Bond Fund. This is for the funds from the \$1,286,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Mayor Report: Mayor Scott asked Tina Robbins to provide the Board with an update.

Robbins shared with the Board she attended the Teacher Convocation and provided welcome bags to the new teachers and staff.

The Public Hearing concerning the operation and parking of 18-wheeler truckers / trailers will be held August 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Boardroom.

The Let's Get Groovy Baby Senior Citizens Prom will be held on August 12, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Elvis will be the movie at the Elkin Theatre on August 12-13, 2022.

Robbins discussed Policies and Procedures for Procurement using Federal Grant Awards which the Aberdeen Visitors Bureau would be required to adopt, along with the Supplementary Terms and Conditions to contracts, and the Written Code of Conduct for Employees, Officers, and Agents Engaged in the Selection, Award, and Administration of Contracts in order to be awarded ARPA Funds. Robbins stated if the amount of the proposed contract cost is less \$5,000.00, bids would not be required, but if a proposed contract would cost in the range of \$5,000.00 - \$250,000.00, bids would be required.

Mayor Scott asked Aberdeen Public Utilities General Manager LaMarcus Thompson to update the Board concerning the TVA Energy Right Program. Thompson stated that TVA representatives Josh Wooten and David Sparks will reschedule their meeting with Aberdeen for another date and time, due to meetings they have in Chattanooga, Tennessee. TVA has some Energy Right Programs that will be rolling out the beginning of the Fiscal Year. Home Uplift is one of the programs TVA is offering, and customers will be required to meet certain codes in order to qualify for that program. Customers must complete an application and await a response from TVA.

Thompson stated that any customers who believe their electric bill charges are incorrect may contact the Electric Department office, and complete an application for an Energy Audit. TVA will have someone inspect the customer's home, free of charge.

Mayor Scott asked Dustin Dabbs to update the Board concerning the Mill & Overlay Contracts. Dabbs stated the contractor should be starting the work the week of August 22, 2022. Dabbs stated that additional streets can be added for paving once the City has the funds.

Dabbs has two quotes for the installation of the parking lot that he will bring to the next Board Meeting. The Excavation Work on the Aberdeen Public Utilities Building will be finished by next week. The contractor will start this week or next week. Murphree's Paving will be paving the street and parking lot. Dabbs added there will be a meeting with the contractor this week at Aberdeen Public Utilities on Monday morning. Dabbs stated we are a few days behind but the progress is good.

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Dabbs asked the Board to authorize the burning of the debris on the land purchased for the Water Department. It would be cheaper for us to burn the debris on site and have a contractor remove it. If the work costs more than \$5,000.00, two quotes will be given to the Board, and it will be less than \$10,000.00 for sure. Attorney Faulks asked Dabbs who is the proposed contractor and did he have the quotes. Dabbs answered no. Attorney Faulks suggested to the Board to wait until they see the actual quotes and the identity of the contractors.

Dustin Dabbs asked the Board to approve an Application and Certificate for Payment by Contractor Cook Development, LLC in the amount of \$95,600.00.

Mayor Scott presented the Resolution Naming Authorized Representative and Authorizing the Grant Application for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant (MCWI) Program through the Mississippi State Department of Environmental Quality, and Naming Charles Scott, Mayor as the Authorized Representative for City of Aberdeen. Mayor Scott asked the Board for approval to apply for the ARPA & MCWI Grant.

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Devaull Alderman Devaull thanked the Public Works Department for the removal of the house that burned on the south side of town. Alderman Devaull stated that everyone is complementing the General Young Park, and how beautiful the Park looks. Alderman Devaull asked citizens to please take value in the Park and take care of it. Alderman Devaull has received calls and texts from citizens asking about grant funding for storm shelters. He informed them they must submit an application and await for an approval from the Federal Government.

Alderwoman Garth Alderwoman Garth had nothing to report at this time.

Alderman Haynes: Alderman Haynes asked everyone to please stay safe and be careful due to COVID19 being on the rise again. Alderman Haynes stated he contacted insurance company agents in this area and none of them offer \$100,000.00 Liability Coverage for dogs.

Alderman Haynes described 4-5 older vacant houses that have overgrown trees, branches and weeds growing onto other citizen's property. Alderman Haynes requested the City Inspector to "put some teeth down on the ground" and contact the property owners. Alderman Haynes will provide the listing of the vacant properties to Mayor Scott.

Alderman Haynes is challenging citizens to be pro-active in their neighborhoods by picking up the trash in their neighborhoods. Alderman Haynes will ask the Chief of Police to prosecute the offenders to the fullest extent of the law for littering the streets and neighborhoods in the City of Aberdeen.

Alderman Haynes asked Mayor Scott about bids to purchase the City property on Hillcrest Drive and Commerce Street. Mayor Scott stated this will be discussed in Executive Session.

Alderwoman Odom: Alderwoman Odom stated she needs a follow-up on the hair salon business, dogs running at large, and more speed bumps on Meadowlane Drive.

Alderwoman Odom wanted to know if anyone was able to locate the owner of Colonial Place Apartments. Mayor Scott stated that City Inspector Roy Haynes sent a certified letter and a copy of the new Ordinance to the owner.

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Alderman Allen: Alderman Allen stated there needs to be additional Do Not Enter Signs on Thayer Avenue and West Commerce Street. Alderman Allen stated that on North Long Street by the school and in front of Evans Memorial Library the shrubs need to be trimmed so the visibility will be better for parents picking up their children from school. Alderman Allen stated there are four roads that need graving and replaced with gravel, and he would like for the County to be contacted and offer assistance with this because our citizens pay County taxes too.

Alderman Allen spoke with Rotary Club members on Monday and two heavily hot topics discussed included trash and big trucks. Alderman Allen was asked if the City could pick up the trash, and he told them we do not have the employees to do this. Alderman Allen politely said the citizens around town have to help in picking up trash in their neighborhoods.

Citizen's Input:

No citizen input given at this time.

A motion was made by Alderman Devaull, seconded by Alderman Haynes to authorize a Mississippi Apprenticeship Program for the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Devaull to accept the resignation of City employee Lenzo McMillian. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Devaull to terminate the employment of City employee Brandon Blanchard. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderman Devaull to authorize the purchase of a 12.5 Ton Trane Package Gas & Cooling System in the amount of \$16,380.00 and a 10 Ton Trane Package Gas & Cooling System in the amount of \$14,620.00, totaling \$31,000.00, for the Aberdeen Park and Recreation Department from Evans Plumbing and A/C. This was the lowest and best bid/ quote received that was responsive to the Request for Bids/ Quotes. 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 Devaull, seconded by Alderman Allen to request the City attorney to work on City of Aberdeen Zoning Ordinance and City of Aberdeen Subdivision Regulation / Development Guidelines. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Allen, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to authorize the purchase / installation of a Surveillance System at the City property (formerly the Holley Front Parking Lot) to Switzer Electronics in the amount of \$4,840.00. After further discussion it was decided to table discussion of this matter. Alderman Allen and Alderwoman Odom withdrew their motion and second, and Alderman Devaull withdrew his "Yes" vote.

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 Alderwoman Odom to come out of Closed Determination. 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 Garth to approve a \$1.00 per hour pay raise to City employee April McMillian. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

Attorney Faulks was requested by the Board to do a title search on the City property located on the corner of Hillcrest Drive and Commerce Street, which has been offered for sale to the public.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Devaull to adjourn until the August 16, 2022 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, Alderman Devaull, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Allen voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".


Charles Scott, Mayor

Attest:


Melissa Moore, City Clerk