

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

June 20, 2023

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 NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY, ALDERWOMAN LADY B. GARTH, ALDERMAN EDWARD HAYNES, ALDERWOMAN CAROLYN ODOM, ALDERMAN JOHN CAIN, MELISSA MOORE CITY CLERK, AND WALTER H. ZINN, JR., CITY ATTORNEY.

Invocation: Imogene Dancy

Roll Call

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the proposed June 6, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated June 20, 2023. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom. Seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve the Resolution to recertify and continue to promote Welcome Home Mississippi Community Program. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the rezoning application for HHH for PPIN: 5508 / Parcel: 105N-21-001-020.00 to be held on July 6, 2023, at 5:00 PM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Sub-Award with MDEQ Agreement #45 -2- DW-5.15 \$4,000.00 Water Tank Project. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve and accept Aberdeen Public Utilities Bad Debt Write-Off List in the amount of \$48,395.29. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve the Aberdeen Public Utilities Budget FY 2024. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all the necessary charges according to state guidelines for Tohona Larthridge to attend the American Public Works Association Class, Jekyll Island, GA/ August 8-11, 2023 / Fee: \$645.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Haynes, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to "Table" the American Public Works Training, Jekyll Island, Georgia / August 8-11, 2023 for Richard Boone. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Garth, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Holliday voted "Nay".

**Regular Board Meeting
June 20, 2023
Page 2**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve lease-purchase financing on a 2017 Dodge Ram 5500 4x2 Bucket Truck priced at \$65,500.00 with Cadence Bank for 48 months @ \$1,531.67/monthly payments with a 5.78% lease rate for Aberdeen Public Utilities. . On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve purchase of two 2023 Dodge Ram 1500 Trucks from Carl Hogan Automotive, Columbus, MS at \$40,212.75 for each truck for Aberdeen Public Utilities to be paid from the Equipment Maintenance Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Odom seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the movement of July 4' 2023 Board Meeting to Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 5:00 PM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve Rental Ordinance Public Hearing for July 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to Table the approval for lease of Ford Police Vehicle PPV 4X4, Ford Interceptor. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to Table the approval of the purchase or lease of two vehicles for Aberdeen Public Works. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to approve to Advertise Redistricting Public Hearing July 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Mayor's Report:

Aberdeen Visitor's Bureau Ms. Tina Robbins shared with the Board upcoming events for the month of June:

1. Paradise Alley will be June 22, 2023
2. Tina asked the Board for approval for the Resolution for Welcome Home Mississippi
3. Swot Analysis
4. Travel App

Mississippi Archives and History, Ms. Kathleen Seymour will be having a meeting at the City of Aberdeen on July 11, 2023, at 5pm for all historical building which includes Long Street, Maple Street, Franklin Street, Commerce Street and High Street properties about the law and guidelines. The hearing for the Baptist-Ville Registry District for the State will be held on July 13, 2023 @ 1:00 PM, Jackson, MS. The South Monroe Community Fund gave two grants to the City of Aberdeen:

1. Aberdeen Police Department for bullet proof vests
2. Aberdeen Mayor's Youth Council

Mississippi Peanut Supply & Equipment- Mr. Brian Atkins shared his business with the City of Aberdeen. He has been in business since 2008 and his location is on Highway 45. His business contains outdoor equipment, three mechanics, full farmer supply and he sells fresh deep-fried peanuts. His concern was about getting on Aberdeen Water because right now he is on well water, internet and garbage pick-up.

Mayor's Youth Council President Ms. Tashanda White presented the 2023-2024 Mayor's Youth Council to the Board. Ms. Tashanda White and Mayor Scott recognized the New and Old Members of the Mayor's Youth Council. There are 37 members. Ms. Tashanda White informed the Board and citizens that if they need the Mayor's Youth Council to assist within the City, please give her a call. This year will be the first time having two advisors to help with the Youths; both advisors are educators in the Aberdeen School District. They are Ms. Alexis Calvert and Ms. Ashley Riding

Mayor Scott presented Mrs. Christine Holliday with a plaque for her hard work and dedication in helping the senior citizens in the City of Aberdeen.

City Inspector Roy Haynes shared with the Board that HHH Investments met with the Aberdeen Zoning Board asking for PPIN: 5508 / Parcel: 105N-21-001-020.00 be rezoned from an A-1 to R-3. Mr. Haynes asked the Board to approve a Zoning Hearing on July 6, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Aldermen/Alderwomen Input:

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday asked the citizens of Aberdeen to please keep an eye on the youth during the week of July 4th and if anyone witnessed any behavior that's not right, please say something and report it to the Aberdeen Police Department. Mrs. Michelle Thomas, Affluent Consulting states the company is looking to have a meeting with Transit-X on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Affluent Consulting are looking to bring a factory to the City of Aberdeen and bring 150 good paying jobs to access an economic engine for this community providing \$7.8 million in wages every year. Alderman Holliday recognizes Marcus Collins for being prompt on responding to the concerns of the citizens, and LaMarcus Thompson along with the Aberdeen Public Utilities Team for their outstanding job during the storm.

Alderwoman Garth: Alderwoman Garth stated that she needs to see Mr. Boone and Marcus Collins in the Executive Session. Alderwoman Garth asked that the following be included in her Input:

RULE 1.2 COPE OF REPRESENTATION

- (a) A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision concerning the objectives of the representative which they are to be pursued.

A lawyer shall abide by a client's decision whether to accept an offer of settlement.

RULE 1.13 ORGANIZATION AS CLIENT

- (a) A lawyer employed or retained by an organization represents the organization abide.
- (b) If, despite the lawyer's efforts in accordance with paragraph (b), the highest authority clearly shows a violation of law and is likely to result in substantial injury to the organization.

The Entity as the Client. An organizational client is a legal entity, but it cannot act. Officers, directors, employees, and shareholders are the constituents of the corporation.

Alderman Haynes: Alderman Haynes thanked everyone for attending the Homecoming in DaVille. Alderman Haynes thank everyone that contributed or played a part in making this event a success. Alderman Haynes asked Mr. Boone what'd the plan for the T12 since it's out of the shop. Alderman Haynes is concerned about hiring a Code Inspector. Alderman Haynes asked Mayor Scott about communicating with Solid Waste about trash pickup. Alderman Haynes asked that Attorney Walter Zinn Jr. draft a letter to Robinson Janitorial Cleaning Company about the complaints on cleaning the City Hall.

Alderman Odom: Alderman Odom would like for Tohona Larthridge and Mr. Boone to check on Big John Road by Anthony Sims home about the asphalt that's rolled up in his yard, and potholes on Big John Road and Murphree Circle.

Alderman Cain: Alderman Cain stated Mr. and Mrs. McCowan complained about random people parking and leaving their vehicles on Sunset Hill, an asked that the City of Aberdeen put down no parking signs. Alderman Cain stated that Mr. Boone and Mr. Roy Haynes is working on the garbage on Mobile Extended, and will be contacting the owners of Fairfield Apartments.

Citizen's Input:

Mary Ann Butler (Ward 5) thanked Alderman Cain for coming to Walters Drive to look at the flooding issue. Mrs. Butler was concerned about the safety of open-hole (culvert) on Pinehill Drive.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday to enter Closed Determination to determine whether to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Garth to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues concerning City Employees Richard Boone, Calvin Parker, and Marcus Collins. 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 City Employees Richard Boone, Calvin Parker, and Marcus Collins.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, 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 Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve the suspension for Calvin Parker with 5 days without pay. On a roll call vote, Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye" and Alderman Holliday, and Alderwoman Garth voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve City Employee Marcus Collins as the Assistant Water Supervisor and increase his hourly wage by \$2.00 per hour making his rate of pay \$18.34 an hour, and to reduce City Employee Calvin Parker hourly wage by \$2.00 an hour making his hourly wage \$16.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Odom, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye" and Alderwoman Garth, and Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve water certified company ESG Operational Inc. up until certified. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Odom to approve and hire ESG Operation, Inc, Tupelo, MS to certify the City of Aberdeen Water and Wastewater, pull samples and lab test once a month, and do routine monthly samples for lead and copper as needed for six months in the amount of \$5,000.00 per month. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Haynes to recommend Carolyn Mason as an Election Commissioner. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Garth, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the dismissal of Attorneys Mozingo and Quarles. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday and Alderwoman Garth voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Cain voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, and seconded by Alderman Haynes to adjourn until the July 5, 2023 Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Garth, Alderwoman Odom and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Haynes voted "Nay".

Attest:


Melissa Moore, City Clerk


Devonsha Young, Deputy City Clerk


Charles Scott, Mayor