

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

April 15, 2025

5:00 P.M.

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

MAYOR JOHNNY D. STEVENS, ALDERMAN NICHOLAS HOLLIDAY, ALDERWOMAN RHONDA MOORE, ALDERMAN JAMES IVORY, ALDERMAN JEREMY BELLE, ALDERMAN JOHN CAIN, DEPUTY CITY CLERK DEVONSHAE YOUNG, AND CITY ATTORNEY WALTER H. ZINN, JR.

Present on the telephone for Roll Call: Alderman Nicholas Holliday

Absent from Meeting: City Clerk Melissa Moore

Invocation: Mr. LaMarcus Thompson

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the agenda in its form, remove Line Item #3e, but if any new business came before the Board, we're allowed to discuss it in detail and amend at that time. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, Alderman Belle, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve the Board Minutes dated April 1, 2025. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, Alderman Belle, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve Purchase Requisition for Raborn Media, Madison, MS in the amount of \$6,846.50 submitted by Aberdeen Visitor's Bureau, and will be paid from the ARPA Funds. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to have Mayor Johnny Stevens to execute the Real Estate Purchase Agreement with Westlake Chemicals & Vinyl's, LLC. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to allow the Mayor, City Clerk and All Department Heads with the City of Aberdeen to attend the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Crisis Track / Damage Assessment Training 2025 on May 8, 2025, at Monroe County Building, 1619 Highland Drive, Amory, MS 38821 / 9AM -11AM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory that its Mandatory for the Water Department and Public Works Department employees' clock in daily. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, Alderman Belle and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Holliday voted "Sustain".

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A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to install Commissioners for City of Aberdeen to be effective at the next board meeting on May 6, 2025. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”. Alderman Holliday and Alderman Belle voted “Nay”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay the 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements (REBIB) — Part 2: Well Site Improvements/ Perma Corporation -- Pay Request NO. 1 in the amount of \$31,350.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve and pay the 2024 CDBG Wastewater Lagoon Improvements / Pace Excavating, LLC – Pay Request NO. 3 in the amount of \$77,113.02 and will be paid from Sewer Rehab Investment Funds. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay the invoice submitted by Three Rivers Planning and Development District for the City of Aberdeen CDBG Program Contract for Professional Services in the mount of \$5,000.00 and will be paid from the Sewer Rehab Investment funds. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Chief Quinell Shumpert to attend the 2025 MACP Summer Educational Conference, Biloxi, MS/ June 16-20, 2025 / Registration Fee: \$350.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Fireman Dontavious Lyons to attend the Fire Fighter NFPA 1011-11 Training at MS Fire Academy, Jackson, MS / June 8- July 31, 2025 / Expenses: \$2,142.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the 2025 Membership Application for Building Officials Association of Mississippi (BOAM) for Fire Chief Norris James / Membership Fee: \$100.00. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”. Alderman Belle “Recused” from meeting at 5:32pm and returned at 5:37pm.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Fire Chief Norris James to attend the Building Officials Association of Mississippi (BOAM) 2025 Summer Conference, Gulfport, MS / June 9-13, 2025 / Registration Fee: \$275.00. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”. Alderman Belle “Recused” from meeting at 5:32pm and returned at 5:37pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Fire Chief Norris James to attend the MML 94th Annual Conference, Biloxi, MS / July 21-23, 2025 / Registration Fee: \$350.00. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”. Alderman Belle “Recused” from meeting at 5:32pm and returned at 5:37pm.

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A motion made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to Table to Declare Electric Department Equipment Surplus at next scheduled Board Meeting on May 6, 2025. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, Alderman Belle and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to Table to Declare Holley Building. Equipment Surplus until Monday Work Session on Monday, April 21, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the replacement of 4-5 Magnolia Trees @ \$150.00 each for Boulevard on Main Street. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to Table Mississippi Pavement for continuing work on High Extension and Thayer Avenue until the next board meeting on May 6, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the refund to Charlene Tally for Fingerprinting she had done on April 1, 2025 in the amount of \$10.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Stevens invited Ms. Tina Robbins to the Board Meeting to provide an update on the events going on with the city and any new business with Aberdeen Visitor’s Bureau.

Ms. Robbins introduces Mr. Dillon Smith to Board Members. Mr. Smith is a reporter for Monroe Journal Newspaper. Ms. Robbins asked Board Members to approve the Purchase Requisition for Raborn Media in the amount of \$6,846.50. Ms. Robbins updated the Board Members with the exciting weekend of the Aberdeen Pilgrimage.

The following events scheduled for the remaining month of April:

1. Glory in the Park Youth Revival – April 18, 2025 @ 6:00 PM
2. Mayor’s Youth Council Walk for Autism – April 19, 2025 @ 10:00 AM
3. Aberdeen Park & Recreation Easter Egg Hunt – April 19, 2025 @ 2:00 PM
4. Movies at Elkin Theatre – April 11-12, 2025 / April 25-26, 2025

Mayor Stevens shared with Board Members there was an Auction held Aberdeen on Saturday, April 12, 2025, 10:00 AM. The On-Site Auction address: 309 South Matubba Street, Aberdeen, MS 39730

Mayor Stevens invited Mr. Chase Chaudoin, 4-M Contracting, LLC, Eupora, MS, to share information with Board Members about his business that involves Asphalt Paving and Maintenance. Mr. Chaudoin may be reached on 662-617-1547.

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Mayor Stevens ask Alderman Belle to share information about Stinson Road and Murphree Circle Repair. Alderman Belle stated that residents that live on Stinson Road and Murphree Circle has been inquiring about the repairs that needs to be done and would like for the roads to be fixed as soon as possible. Alderman Belle shared a quote in the amount of \$211,000.00 to pave Murphree Circle. Alderman Holliday stated more may be discussed about the road issues at the next Work Session.

Aldermen/Alderwoman Input

Alderman Holliday shared with Board Members that work is being done to the ditch in Ward One, and the overgrowing grass. Alderman Holliday stated that if anyone need anything done or sprayed, please let him know before it gets out of hand. Alderman Holliday stated a Port Committee will be discussed at the next Work Session.

Alderwoman Moore commended Mr. Boone and his crew on a job well done in putting down speed bumps in Ward 2. Alderwoman Moore wanted to know how much land the City of Aberdeen owns by Stinson Field. Alderman Cain stated about 80 acres, but he will verify that information and follow-up with Alderwoman Moore.

Alderman Ivory stated that Mr. Hyde shared with him that the Gas Company messed up his driveway and would like for it to be repaired. Mr. Hyde lives on Matubba Street. Alderman Ivory will discuss this matter further with Mayor Stevens. Alderman Ivory discussed with Mr. Leon Manning about repair work that needs to be done on the corner of Dr. Woodruff and Franklin Street near Pilgrim Rest MB Church. Alderman Ivory stated Ward Three and other Wards within the City of Aberdeen have major projects taking place and asking everyone to please be patient while the work is being done.

Alderman Belle stated he received a few calls regarding the sewage and potholes in Ward 4 and other Wards within the City of Aberdeen. Alderman Belle stated work is being done on these issues and he reports them as they come to him. Alderman Belle mentioned that Park & Recreation Director Fernando Davis is putting together a plan for the Storm Shelter. Alderman Belle inquired about the Aberdeen Blue and White Festival and if anyone plans to donate, please do so as soon as possible.

Alderman Cain shared with everyone that the following businesses have donated to the Aberdeen Blue and White Festival: Westlake Chemical donated \$5,000.00, Pierce's Place donated \$500.00, Wrecker Works donated \$500.00, and Kemira donated \$250.00. Alderman Cain stated that Mr. LaMarcus Thompson through TVA and a Matching Fund for \$14,000.00, and Mr. Thompson has another donation for \$500.00 along with a nice YETI Cooler that will be auctioned off that day. Alderman Cain has asked Neel-Schaffer, Tim Alford with Bank of Okolona, Dabbs Corporation, Hanna Contracting, East Mississippi Lumber Company, The Pallet Company, Mr. Hozay Hausley with Renasant Bank, and Mr. Tomey with McDonald's for a donation for the Aberdeen Blue and White Festival. Alderman Cain stated any amount is accepted, so please give as soon as possible. Alderman Cain talked with Alderman Holliday about the ditch on Dr. Martin Luther King Street behind the carwash, and work being done to get it cleaned up. Alderman Cain stated Manhole covers are a problem, and the city will do there best in purchasing the rubber inserts. Alderman Cain is having a Ward Five Meeting on April 28, 2025, at the Aberdeen Public Utilities.

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Citizen Input (2 minutes)

Mr. Leon Manning inquired about trees on his property that need to be cut down.

Mrs. Provias wanted to know if the business that is set up in the parking lot of Shelaine's have a permit. Mayor Stevens stated they have a privilege license, and current. Mrs. Provias asked if letters have been sent to the individuals that have UDAG Loans.

Mr. Albert Barker inquired about the grass that needs to be mowed on Highway 45 near The Cross. Alderman Cain stated its under contract and governed by Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) which do not have any funds at this time.

Mr. Justin Crosby asked about the mapping of Wards before the election in 2028.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated April 15, 2025, **EXCLUDING** any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated April 15, 2025, **INCLUDING** any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Belle "Recused" from the meeting at 6:04pm and returned to the meeting at 6:05pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the lowest of two quotes for a Bad Boy Zero Turn Rebel 61 in Kawasaki 35HP Engine Serial# BRB6135KA from CMS Small Engine Repair and Sales, Aberdeen, MS for the Aberdeen Electric Department in the amount of \$8,855.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle to assign the 2021 Ford Explorer to Assistant Chief of Police Kelly Drake. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to accept the resignation letter from City Employee Bryant Butler with an effective date of April 25, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded Alderman Belle to post and advertise for two Apprentice Linemen for the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the lowest of two quotes to purchase two pumps for the Water Department from ESG/Tupelo, MS in the amount of \$23,705.47 (\$11,983.51 & \$11,721.86). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to get Johnny McMillian a retiree plaque. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Alderman Cain shared with the Board and Mayor that City Employee Johnny McMillian will be retiring from the City of Aberdeen on May 27, 2025. Mayor Stevens is asked to present Mr. McMillian with a plaque for his years of long-term service with the City of Aberdeen.

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A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to go in Closed Determination to ascertain if we need to go into Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

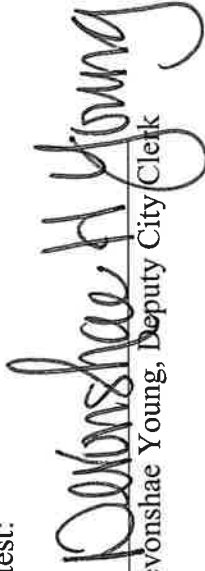
A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to come out of Closed Determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”

The Board of Aldermen / Alderwoman didn’t have any issues or concerns that warrants Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the remaining balance of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds in the amount of \$221.624.02 to the Well Site Improvements under the 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements Project. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to adjourn until the May 6, 2025, Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

Attest:


Devonshae Young, Deputy City Clerk


Johnny Dwight Stevens, Mayor