

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

August 5, 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, CITY CLERK MELISSA MOORE, and CITY ATTORNEY WALTER H. ZINN, JR.

Invocation Mr. LaMarcus Thompson

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the agenda with correction to line item #12 in its form, 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, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the Board Minutes dated July 15, 2025, with corrections to page #6 paragraph two. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to post and advertise for an evaluation for a licensed plumber to provide guidance to the Board on how many Sump Pumps needed to completely drain the basement at the High Street Community Center. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the lowest quote submitted by Sunbelt Solomon, Temple, Texas for six (6) Single Phase Pole Mount 15 KVA @ \$900.00 each, and four (4) Single Phase Pole Mount 25 KVA @ \$1,000.00 each totaling \$9,400.00 for the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the lowest quote submitted by Emerald Transformer, McKinney, Texas for three (3) Stock Single Phase Pole mount 100 KVA (65 degree C Rise, 60 Hertz) @ \$2,804.00 each totaling \$8,412.00 for the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Kimberly Payne and Tammy Johnson to attend the TVPPA Class: Selling Utility Services, Chattanooga, TN / August 21, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve Purchase Order Requisitioned Rowe Heating and Cooling, Aberdeen, MS for one (1) 4-ton compressor and condenser in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2025

Page 2

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to authorize and approve for the City of Aberdeen Animal Control to be a stand-alone department in the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Holliday to approve and accept the Large Group Renewal rate change of \$301.64 (employee only) and Medplus Annual Deductible of \$1,000.00 (single) for City of Aberdeen employees given by Mr. Homer Braylock a representative with Marketing Group Insurance of MS, LLC / BlueCross BlueShield of MS from 9/1/2025 - 9/1/2026. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the 2024 CDBG Wastewater Lagoon Improvements / Pace Excavating, LLC – Pay Request NO. 7 in the amount of \$40,850.33 and paid from the Sewer Rehab Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve the Three Rivers Planning and Development District Invoice for the CDBG Program Contract Professional Services in the amount of \$12,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the invoice submitted by G&C Contracting, LLC, Columbus, MS for Asphalt Patching on Canal Street in the amount of \$4,990.00 paid from Infrastructure Modernization Account. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve Elected Official Enhancement and pay all charges according to state guidelines for Mayor Johnny Stevens to attend NADO Training Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah / October 13-17, 2025, at no cost to the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to TABLE the invoice submitted by Holloway Body Shop to repair the 2016 Dodge Charger Police 4-door Sedan in the amount of \$5,688.55. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to TABLE paying the invoice submitted by Holloway Body Shop for the 2021 Dodge Charger Police 4-door Sedan in the amount of \$9,920.35. 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 Victoria Loggan and Charity Davis to attend the Mississippi 911 Coordinators Conference, Biloxi, MS / August 11-14, 2025 / Registration Fee: \$595.00 each. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve Employment Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Dontavious Lyons to attend the Mississippi State Fire Academy, Jackson, MS / Fire Fighter 1001-1-11 Certification / August 10, 2025 – October 2, 2025, and pay for his meals totaling \$2,140.00. (Amended from June 3, 2025 Board Meeting). On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve to post and advertise for a part-time janitor for City Hall. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2025

Page 3

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the lowest quote submitted by Hanna Contracting Company, Aberdeen, MS to repair Stinson Road in the amount of \$17,700.00 and paid from the Infrastructure Modernization Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye"

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to increase and raise the water rates at Sterling Specialty Chemical (formerly Kemira Chemicals, Inc) from \$0.43 cents per 1000 to \$0.53 cents per 1000 to match the water rates with Westlake Chemicals, and this will take effect once they have been properly notified by City Attorney Walter H. Zinn, Jr. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to increase sewer rates by forty percent (40%) with one hundred on both sides, and effective date will be October 1, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to increase Assistant Chief of Police Kelly Drake salary to \$25.00 per hour, effective immediately as of August 6, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve for Central Bidding, Baton Rouge, LA to assist the City of Aberdeen in Bids for a Grapple Truck for the Aberdeen Public Utilities. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to pay all bills submitted by proper vendors as recorded on the Docket of Claims dated August 5, 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 August 5, 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 meeting at 6:42pm and returned at 6:43pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to award Hanna Contracting Company, Aberdeen, MS the Project: Concrete Box Work on the corner of Woodruff and Franklin Street in the amount of \$4,875.00, and paid from Infrastructure and Modernization Account. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the refund of \$75.00 to Sheena Jones for an overcharge of picking up debris at her residence. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve City Attorney Walter H. Zinn, Jr. Invoice in the amount of \$1,110.00 dated July 16-August 5, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the invoice from Sirchie Acquisition Company, LLC, Youngsville, N.C. in the amount of \$73.75 for a Latent Print Tech Kit for the Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2025

Page 4

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the invoice from JCS Roofing Service, LLC, Amory, MS in the amount of \$18,200.00 for roof repair on the Magnolia's, paid from the 2022 Magnolia's Improvement Account. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderwoman Moore, seconded by Alderman Holliday to TABLE the Change Order invoice in the amount of \$3,850.00 for repair work on the Magnolia's. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve an invoice submitted by W. Mark Watson, PC, LLC, Tupelo, MS in the amount of \$5,750.00 for the survey work done on the High Street Community Center. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to hire TKO StaffPro's Employee Mathew J. Straughter as a Laborer for the Street Department at a rate of pay of \$12.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve Employee/ Elected Officials and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Johnny Stevens, Nicholas Holliday, Rhonda Moore, James Ivory, Jeremy Belle, John Cain, Melissa Moore and Walter Zinn, Jr. to attend the 2025 Small Town Conference, Philadelphia, MS / October 14-16, 2025 / Registration Fee: \$125.00 each. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stevens asked Aberdeen Visitor's Bureau Director Ms. Tina Robbins to share updates and events going on in the city. Ms. Robbins shared with the Board Absolutely Aberdeen August 2025 Volume 27 events happening within the City of Aberdeen for the month of August.

Mayor Stevens invited Ms. Kathy Seymour to the Board to provide an update and recommendations on the Structural Evaluation of the High Street Community Center, and the American Legion Post #231 (Black Library). Mayor Stevens stated that his personal contractor, Mr. Rick Harris, is assisting with the renovations of the buildings.

Ms. Seymour shared with the Board that she had a conversation with Mrs. Latoya Loyd Fields, an employee with Home Depot, about donating some supplies. Ms. Seymour shared with the Board that she and Mr. Edward Haynes attended training in Booneville, MS, that discussed tax credits for Municipalities.

Mayor Stevens invited Ms. Anna Nunez, Public Affairs Specialist, Field Operations Center East Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience (U.S. Small Business Administration). Ms. Nunez shared with the Board, and everyone present that Monroe County, MS are eligible for Economic Injury Disaster Loans. The application deadline is February 23, 2026. Ms. Nunez asked that information be posted on social media, bulletin boards, and newsletters. If anyone has questions or concerns, please call 770-876-4779 or email anna.nunez@sba.gov.

Mayor Stevens shared with the Board that Citadel Insurance will host a luncheon tomorrow for the department heads / supervisors, board members and mayor at the Mexican Restaurant at 12:30 PM.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2025

Page 5

General Manager of Aberdeen Electric Department, LaMarcus Thompson came before the Board with two quotes for transformers for the Aberdeen Electric Department:

1. Sunbelt Solomon, Temple, Texas for six (6) Single Phase Pole Mount 15 KVA @ \$1,297.00 each, and four (4) Single Phase Pole Mount 25 KVA @ \$1,000.00 each totaling \$9,400.00.
2. MS-TN Transformers, Inc., Greenwood, MS for six (6) Single Phase Pole Mount 15 KVA @ \$1,297.00 each, and four (4) Single Phase Pole Mount 25 KVA @ \$1,467.00 each totaling \$13,650.00

General Manager of Aberdeen Electric Department, LaMarcus Thompson came before the Board with two quotes for transformers for the Aberdeen Electric Department:

1. Emerald Transformer, McKinney, Texas for three (3) Stock Single Phase Pole mount 100 KVA (65 degree C Rise, 60 Hertz) @ \$2,804.00 each totaling \$8,412.00
2. MS-TN Transformers, Inc., Greenwood, MS for three (3) 100 KVA Single Phase Pole Mount @ \$5,712.00 each totaling \$17,136.00

Mayor Stevens invited Mr. Homer Braylock and Mr. Matthew Branson representatives with Marketing Group Insurance of MS, LLC / BlueCross BlueShield of MS to share the renewal for the City of Aberdeen employee's medical insurance for 9/1/2025-9/1/2026.

Mayor Stevens shared with the Board that Covington Sales would like to come and display their Knuckle Boom to the Street Department on September 2, 2025.

Aldermen/Alderwoman Input

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday asked that everyone please check on the elderly and youth within the City of Aberdeen. The temperatures are high in digits and very hot some days. Please assist them with care, and if any trouble arises in the communities, please do not hesitate to call the local authorities. Alderman Holliday asked Deacon Roy Hazzle (St Peter's Methodist Church) to come to the meeting with concerns regarding the Smoke Shop wanting to open in a building next to the church. Alderman Holliday expressed to Deacon Hazzle that he has discussed this matter with Board Members, and they support his decision in not allowing this type of business opening next door to the church.

Alderwoman Moore: Alderwoman Moore commended the Mayor's Youth Council on volunteering to paint the paw prints on Bulldog Boulevard, and volunteering at Elkin's Theatre. The Mayor's Youth Council will volunteer at Aberdeen Loaves and Fish Pantry on August 23, 2025. Alderwoman Moore is asking everyone to please support the children in the Aberdeen School District when they play their volleyball, football, basketball, softball, etc. games at home. Alderwoman Moore ask Ward Two to please be patient as they continue to research funding to repair the streets, potholes and right-of-way. Alderwoman Moore had a discussion with Monroe County Chamber of Commerce about ways the City and County can work together for the betterment of the city, and they will be interviewing Board members about the loss of population.

Alderman Ivory: Alderman Ivory stated he's excited about the work being done in Ward Three and the renovations being done to the American Legion Building. Alderman Ivory stated the city is moving forward and there's a lot of things going on in the city. Alderman Ivory stated the Board and Mayor is trying to get businesses and jobs in Aberdeen and asking everyone to please get excited and continue to pray for the City of Aberdeen.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2025

Page 6

Alderman Belle: Alderman Belle mentioned his concerns about Oddfellows Cemetery, and what can the city do in helping to fix the problems. Alderman Belle stated an Ordinance needs to be put in place for the city cemeteries. Alderman Belle thanked Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority for bringing the movie Mississippi Scholar to the Elkin's Theater. Alderman Belle stated the city needs to be proactive in getting ready for the weather associated with the Winter months. Alderman Belle invited Brenda Dobbs to the Board Meeting to talk about the sewer issues at her home on Pullen Lake. Alderman Belle would appreciate it if individuals wouldn't post things on Facebook about the city officials that's not true. Alderman Belle asked the Board to agree with his motion to repair Stinson Road. Alderman Belle asked that everyone please pray for the Provias family due their loss of a loved one.

Alderman Cain: Alderman Cain made a motion to raise the water rates for Sterling Specialty Chemical (formerly Kemira Chemicals, Inc.). Alderman Cain motioned for sewer rates to increase by 40% with an effective date October 1, 2025. Alderman Cain motioned for Asst. Chief of Police Kelly Drake salary be raised to \$25.00 per hour. Alderman Cain stated Central Bidding will assist with the purchase of a Grapple Truck for Aberdeen Public Works.

Citizen Input (2 minutes)

Mr. Coultree mentioned the continuous yard sale on Columbus Street and why no one is responding to this matter, and when will it stop.

Ms. Joyce Vasser wanted to know what will happen if the city decides to close Oddfellow Rest Cemetery

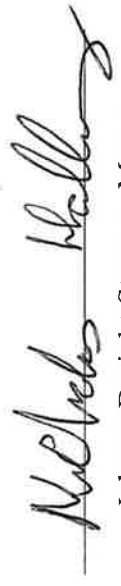
There was no City Business or Personnel Issues that needed to be discussed in Closed Determination or Executive Session.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to adjourn until the August 19, 2025, Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Attest:



Melissa Moore, Master Municipal Clerk


Johnny Dwight Stevens, Mayor
Nicholas Holliday, Vice-Mayor