

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

**September 2, 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
Absent from Meeting: Mayor Johnny D. Stevens
Serving in the Capacity of Vice-Mayor: Alderman Nicholas Holliday

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the agenda in its original form with no changes for tonight’s meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve the Board Minutes dated August 19, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve and pay Logistic Services, Inc. Invoice #002-05 in the amount of \$178,964.82 for additional site work and will be paid from the Port Maintenance Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve and pay Rayborn Media, Madison, MS Invoice in the amount of \$6,808.28, and will be paid from the ARPA Fund Account. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to authorize Attorney Kathryn Williams and Mr. Mark McClinton in the Withers vs. The City of Aberdeen case to begin the Proposed Settlement Offer at \$15,000.00 and not to exceed \$30,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay City of Aberdeen – 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements (REBID) – Part 2: Well Site Improvements – Perma Corporation – Pay Request NO. 5 in the amount of \$149,6255.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve and pay City of Aberdeen – 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements Part 1: New Elevated Water Storage Tank Maguire Iron, Inc. – Pay Request NO. 6 in the amount of \$148,447.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 2, 2025

Page 2

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve and pay City of Aberdeen – 2024 CDBG Wastewater Lagoon Improvements – Pace Excavating, LLC – Final Pay Request NO. 8, and will be paid from the Sewer Rehab Account. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to Strike Line Item #7 on the agenda. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve a refund to Hamilton Friendship Church Cross Fund in the amount of \$984.50 for a Water Meter and Sewer Tap. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the hiring of Emmanuel Cortez Head as a full-time Police Officer for the Aberdeen Police Department at a rate of pay of \$14.00 per hour. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to accept the Letter of Resignation from Officer Justin Sheely with an effective date: August 23, 2025. 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 Melissa Moore to attend the 2025 Municipal Liability & Workers’ Compensation Educational Workshop, Starkville, MS / September 16, 2025, at no charge to the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve for City Administrator Teresa B. Young to have a city cellphone and laptop. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to TABLE Line Item #13 until the next scheduled Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve and pay the lowest Bid submitted by Emerald Transformer, McKinley, Texas in the amount of \$19,737.00 for fifteen (15) Transformers for 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 and pay Atwell & Gent, Starkville, MS in the amount of \$18,284.00 for the Electric System Map Updates submitted by the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve and pay Atwell & Gent, Starkville, MS in the amount of \$170.00 for Engineering Services. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve City Attorney Walter H. Zinn, Jr. Invoice in the amount of \$2,152.00 dated August 20-September 2, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

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 September 2, 2025, EXCLUDING any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 2, 2025

Page 3

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 September 2, 2025, INCLUDING any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, and Alderman Cain voted “Aye”. Alderman Belle “Recused” from meeting at 6:00pm and returned at 6:01pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to TABLE the invoice submitted by M & M Underground Video Inspection Services, LLC, Ripley, MS in the amount of \$1,600.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay Parks & Parks Water Well Service Inc., Houston, MS in the amount of \$20,087.50 for the Prairie #5 Well Pump being paid from the Equipment Maintenance Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve and pay ESG, Tupelo, MS July monthly contract Invoice #2185 in the amount of \$5,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay ESG, Tupelo, MS August monthly contract Invoice #2218 in the amount of \$5,000.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to TABLE the Purchase Requisition Vendor Paul Smithey, Belden, MS in the amount of \$1,500.00 for a Jet/Vac Truck Clean Out Manhole. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to Adopt an **ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI ISSUING A MORATORIUM CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF VAPE/SMOKE SHOPS WITHIN THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI**. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

Vice-Mayor Report

Vice-Mayor Holliday invited Logistic Services, Inc. Port Manager Jason Colburn to the Board Meeting to share any updates on the Aberdeen Port. Mr. Colburn thanked LaMarcus Thompson and his team for doing a great job at the Port. Mr. Colburn stated the Electrical Component Project to load Barges will begin in the month of October.

Vice-Mayor Holliday asked Aberdeen Visitor’s Bureau Director Ms. Tina Robbins to share updates and events going on in the City of Aberdeen. Ms. Robbins came prepared to show the Board the Promotional Video that showcase the outdoor recreation in the city and other activities.

Vice-Mayor Holliday shared with everyone that the Board has decided to Propose a Settlement beginning at \$15,000.00 and not exceed \$30,000.00 for the Withers vs. City of Aberdeen Litigation.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 2, 2025

Page 4

Aldermen/Alderwoman Input

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday served in the capacity as Vice-Mayor.

Alderwoman Moore: Alderwoman Moore reminded everyone to please remember the Calendar of Events “Fall Fun in Aberdeen” for the month of September. Alderwoman Moore asking everyone to participate in the 3K Run Walk Bike Fundraiser, Aberdeen, MS / Saturday, September 20, 2025. Alderwoman Moore shared with everyone that Men of Vision will be hosting their 5th Annual Feed the City on November 23, 2025, at Aberdeen Park & Recreation from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Alderman Ivory: Alderman Ivory stated several good things are going on in Ward Three. Alderman Ivory asks everyone to ride by and see the renovations that was done to the Historically American Legion Post Building (Black Library). Alderman Ivory is trying to get grant money to replace the playground equipment at Newberger Park. Alderman Ivory stated everyone is working hard and please be patient as the Board work hard in improving the City of Aberdeen.

Alderman Belle: Alderman Belle stated he received a call from a resident about the Lagoon, water leaks, and other issues on Pullen Lake Road. Alderman Belle stated that he will be working with Water Department Leadman Marcus Collins in trying to get some of the repairs done. Alderman Belle shared with everyone the Presbyterian Church donated \$1,000.00 to Aberdeen Loaves and Fish Food Pantry. Alderman Belle asking everyone to participate and/or donate to the 3K Run Walk Bike Fundraiser, Aberdeen, MS / Saturday, September 20, 2025 / 8:00 AM beginning at the First Baptist Church, Commerce Street, Aberdeen, MS / Registration: \$25.00 / T-shirt included, and all proceeds will benefit Aberdeen Loaves and Fish Food Pantry. Please contact Alderman Jeremy Belle at 662-295-2561 for more details. Mr. LaMarcus Thompson stated TVA will match the \$7,000.00 donation from the City of Aberdeen making it \$14,000.00. Alderman Belle stated that if any residents in Ward Four have ideas in making their neighborhood better, please share your ideas with him. Alderman Belle asked that the \$1,000.00 limit on Purchase Orders be amended.

Alderman Cain: Alderman Cain stated he has received calls regarding street light bulbs that need replacing in Ward Five. Alderman Cain stated that bulbs have been ordered and will be replaced once the order has arrived at the Electric Department. Alderman Cain stated there will be some changes made beginning October 1, 2025, with the City’s Budget, and a Moratorium Ordinance concerning Vape / Smoke Shops will be adopted this evening. Alderman Cain stated there are several issues in Ward Five, and the Board along with Public Works Street Department is working hard in addressing these issues.

Citizen Input (2 minutes)

Ms. Sharon Gardner inquired about her security light pole and bulb not working.

Mr. Patrick Lockett invited everyone to Night Out with the Superintendent on 9/9/2025 @ 5:00 PM at Aberdeen High School. Aberdeen School Board Meeting: 9/8/2025 @ 6:00 PM
Police Chief Shumpert has an issue to discuss in Executive Session.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 2, 2025

Page 5

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, second by Alderman Belle to enter in Closed Determination to ascertain whether 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 Belle to come out of Closed Determination. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues involving Aberdeen Police Department Police Officers and the results of the training at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy (MLEOTA). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

The Mayor and Board announced to the public that the Board was entering into an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues involving Aberdeen Police Department Police Officers and the results of the training at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy (MLEOTA).

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

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay Wade Incorporated, Columbus, MS in the amount of \$4,509.41 for the repairs of the Utility Tractor at the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve and pay Stuart C. Irby, Jackson, MS in the amount of \$2,459.00 for a Utility Crimping Kit with D3 Grooves for the Aberdeen Electric Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay Gresco, Dothan, AL in the amount of \$1,061.00 for miscellaneous supplies at 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 and pay O'Reilly's Auto Parts, Aberdeen, MS Invoice #1622-144981 in the amount of \$2,369.20 for multiple invoices of repairs for the City of Aberdeen. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to adjourn until the September 16, 2025, Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Attest:



Melissa Moore, Master Municipal Clerk


Johnny D. Stevens, Mayor