REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CITY HALL BOARD ROOM

December 16, 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: Alderman John Cain

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve the agenda in its original form and form only. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the Board Minutes dated December 2, 2025, with necessary corrections. 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 Tina Robbins to attend Chicago Golf Show, Chicago, Illinois / February 26-March 1, 2026 / No registration required. Hotel room at the Embassy Suites Rosemont at $119.00 nightly. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to TABLE Line Item #3d on the agenda until the next Work Session. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory allowing Mayor Johnny D. Stevens to execute the Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Contractor Contract. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle to TABLE to approve to pay PERMA Corp Pay Request #8 for 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements Well Site Improvements in the amount of $154,422.50 until the next Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve to pay Maguire Iron, Inc. Pay Request #9 for 2024 ARPA Water Supply Improvements Part 1: New Elevated Water Storage Tank in the amount of $58,322.05. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory authorizing Mayor Johnny D. Stevens to sign the MCWI Reimbursement Request Certification Form Request Number 10. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the Park & Recreation and High Street Community Center Rental Agreements. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to accept Mr. Richard Boone Retirement Letter with an effective date on January 30, 2026. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Cain to approve Employee Enhancement and pay all necessary charges according to state guidelines for Servina Baker to attend the Spring Certified Municipal Clerk Program, Oxford, MS / February 25-27, 2026 / Registration Fee: $300.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to terminate city employee Police Officer Dezmond Bailey, effective immediately. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Cain to appoint Mrs. Tawanda Johnson as School Board Member for the Aberdeen Separate School District to serve a five (5) year term. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to accept the Resignation Letter from city employee Martino Gates with an effective date December 11, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore approving for the Aberdeen Park & Recreation Gymnasium in being a Warming Station for the community. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivoy to opt-out HB1197 regarding the new Safe Solicitation Act (effective July 1, 2025). On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve for Shaquille Pargo application to be sent to TKO Staff Pros for hiring as Laborer in the Street Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to suspend city employee Matthew Straughter three days no pay beginning December 17, 2025, thru December 19, 2025. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and post to advertise the Public Hearing regarding the Flood Ordinance on January 12, 2026, at 5:00 PM. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stevens shared with the Board that Westlake PVC Department is closing February 14, 2026. Alderman Belle asked Mayor Stevens to also share that the Board had nothing to do with the plant closing.

Mayor Stevens asked Ms. Tina Robbins to share with the Board any updates and events going on in the City of Aberdeen. Ms. Robbins provided the Board with a Travel Request that needs their approval. Ms. Robbins shared with the Board that she received a certificate from the Excellence Tourism Leadership Program. Alderman Ivory mentioned to Ms. Robbins that a discrepancy occurred with the 2025 Christmas Parade that involved the misplacement of money. Ms. Robbins shared with the Board that all registration fees for the Christmas Parade were waived and apologized to the Board for anyone that was turned away rudely from entering the parade.

Mayor Stevens asked General Manager Richard Caradine to share with the Board about the Stand-On Mower and Power Brown he's needing for Public Works. The Board asked that Mr. Caradine bring the quotes to the next Board Meeting.

Mayor Stevens asked Mrs. Teresa Baker-Young to address the Board about the TVA Compliance Assessment Review Findings 7/2022-7/2025.

Mayor Stevens mentioned to the Board about the Municipal Water System Policies and Water System Emergency Response Plan sent to him from Communities Unlimited, Ms. Amy Ballard. The Board asked that the packet of information be emailed to Aberdeen Public Utilities General Manager Lamarcus Thompson to review and share information at next meeting.

Mayor Stevens asked Mrs. Kathy Seymour to share information with the Board regarding the Standard Form of Agreement between Owner (City of Aberdeen) and Contractor (Kline Mechanical Systems). Mrs. Seymour presented the Board with a check in the amount of $10,000.00 that was given as a donation by the Create Foundation, Inc., Tupelo, MS to help with the repairs needed for the M & O Depot.

Aldermen/Alderwoman Input

Alderman Holliday: Alderman Holliday stated he learned a lot from the Water Training Class he attended today and mentioned about employee cuts next year. Alderman Holliday stated Water, Electric and Public Works Departments are working throughout the city and addressing the complaints with water and sewer leaks. Alderman Holliday asks everyone to please keep an eye on the elderly and children in the city, and if there are concerns regarding any needs, please call the Mayor's Office and Aldermen.

Alderwoman Moore: Alderwoman Moore mentioned making Park & Recreation Gymnasium a Warming Station. Alderwoman Moore complimented how nice the Christmas Parade was, and reminded everyone about the Mardi Gra Parade next year. Alderwoman Moore wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alderman Ivory: Alderman Ivory shared with everyone that he attended the Water Training Class held in Pontotoc, MS today, and learned helpful information about water leaks, running water and when it should be reported. Alderman Ivory wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alderman Belle: Alderman Belle thanked General Manager of Public Works Richard Caradine and Water Department for the repairs done in Ward Four. Alderman Belle asks the community to show love and offer support to any bereaved families in the community. Alderman Belle wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alderman Cain: Alderman Cain shared with the Board opt-out HB1197 regarding the new Safe Solicitation Act. Alderman Cain stated General Manager of Public Works Richard Caradine would like for the Board to approve for Shaquille Parge application being sent to TKO Staff Pros. Alderman Cain motioned for Matthew Straughter to be suspended for three days without pay. Alderman Cain stated he had conversations with State Representative District 22 Justin Crosby regarding the needs in the city and will be reaching out to Representative Karl Gibbs and Senator Hob Bryan. Alderman Cain wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Citizen Input (2 minutes)

Ms. Tashanda White shared with the Board that the Mayor's Youth Council are accepting donations and support for the Care packages that will be handed out to the patients at the Aberdeen Care Center on Friday.

Mrs. Toni Rodgers thanked Mr. Caradine for the cleanup of leaves on Hickory Street.

Mrs. Joyce Vasser thanked everyone who donated and supported the St. Jude's Bowl-A-Thon.

Ms. Brenetta Campbell thanked Mr. Caradine for the cleanup on Franklin Street and High Street.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Belle to approve and pay Neel-Schaffer Professional Services from August 1-31, 2025, for the Aberdeen Elevated Tank Well Sites in the amount of $16,520.00. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the deposit refund made payable to Foster Fields in the amount of $200.00 for the rental of Aberdeen Park & Recreation Gymnasium. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the deposit refund made payable to the AHS Alumni Association in the amount of $200.00 for the rental of Aberdeen Park & Recreation Gymnasium. 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 December 16, 2025, EXCLUDING any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, Alderman Belle and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Holliday voted "Nay".

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 December 16, 2025, INCLUDING any expenses paid by Cadence Bank. On a roll call vote, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory, and Alderman Cain voted "Aye". Alderman Holliday voted "Nay". Alderman Belle "Recused" from meeting at 6:34pm and returned at 6:35pm.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the Purchase Requisition to Raborn Media, Madison, MS in the amount of $1,424.00 for City of Aberdeen Visitor Bureau. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the Purchase Requisition to Cadence Bank, Tupelo, MS in the amount of $1,169.64 for the monthly billing statement for the City of Aberdeen Visitor Bureau. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the Purchase Requisition to Lamar Advertising, Atlanta, GA in the amount of $3,091.25 for the City of Aberdeen Visitor Bureau. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the Purchase Requisition to Lamar Advertising, Atlanta, GA in the amount of $3,400.00 for the City of Aberdeen Visitor Bureau. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderwoman Moore to approve the Purchase Requisition to Cadence Bank, Tupelo, MS in the amount of $1,469.75 for the monthly billing statements for the City of Aberdeen Visitor Bureau. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the Purchase Requisition to MS-TN, Greenwood, MS in the amount of $4,191.00 for three 15KVA Pole Mounts for the City of 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 the Purchase Requisition Parks Automotive, Aberdeen, MS in the amount of $1,825.99 to replace a transmission in a 2012 Chevy Silverado for the City of 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 Purchase Requisition for UMS, New Iberia, LA 70563 in the amount of $11,865.00 to repair Transformer #2 for the City of 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 Purchase Requisition for Emerald Transformer, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433 in the amount of $12,145.00 to Recondition 3 Phase Pad KVA 750 for the City of 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 Purchase Requisition for Buckingham "Buck", Binghanton, NY 13902 in the amount of $1,859.41 for Titanium Pole Climbers with Pads for the City of 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 Purchase Requisition for Hanna Contracting Company, Aberdeen, MS in the amount of $6,932.60 for repairs on South Columbus Street for the City of Aberdeen Water Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the Purchase Requisition for Consolidated Pipe & Supply, Birmingham, AL 35287 in the amount of $4,880.00 for PVC Pipes GSKT 20' and other supplies for the City of Aberdeen Water Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted "Aye".

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the Purchase Requisition for Consolidated Pipe & Supply, Birmingham, AL 35287 in the amount of $17,000.00 for 10 AVT 100EZ VOL 1120 Insertion Valve for the City of Aberdeen Water Department and payable from the Equipment Maintenance Fund. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the Purchase Requisition for Tag Truck Center of Tupelo, Tupelo, MS 38804 in the amount of $2,331.33 for repairs to the T-12 (Knuckle Boom) for the City of Aberdeen Public Works Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Holliday to approve the Purchase Requisition for Atwell & Gent, Starkville, MS 39760 in the amount of $1,930.60 for Engineering Service Substation Maintenance for the City of 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 Purchase Requisition for Atwell & Gent, Starkville, MS 39760 in the amount of $8,173.40 for Engineering Service with Electric System Map Update for the City of 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 for Engineer Manager, William Sanford and/or Senior Client Manager, Stanley Spradling with Neel-Schaffer, Inc. to do Water Studies moreover for Sewer Water for companies Westlake Chemical, Aberdeen, MS and Sterling Specialty Chemicals, LLC, Aberdeen, MS. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, seconded by Alderman Ivory to approve the Purchase Requisition for Amory Marine Sales, Smithville, MS in the amount of $3,849.95 for the Ranger 1000 front and rear doors and wiper kit for the City of Aberdeen Police Department. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye”.

A motion was made by Alderman Cain, second by Alderwoman Moore 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 Holliday, 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 Ivory authorizing all contracts and money received at Aberdeen Park & Recreation go directly to the City Clerk's Office where the contracts and money is held for safekeeping and deposited. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Cain voted "Aye" and Alderwoman Moore and Alderman Belle voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Holliday, seconded by Alderman Belle that Board Minutes from October 21, 2025, Board Meeting stating that Alderman Cain shared with the Board and public that Aberdeen Public Utilities General Manager Lamarcus Thompson was offered a Bribe in the amount of $40,000.00 for his support of the Renewvia Solar LLC Project be striked from the Board Minutes and notated in the local newspaper. On a roll call vote, Alderman Holliday, Alderwoman Moore, Alderman Ivory and Alderman Belle voted "Aye" and Alderman Cain voted "Nay".

A motion was made by Alderman Belle, seconded by Alderman Cain to adjourn until the January 6, 2026, Board Meeting. On a roll call vote, all present voted “Aye’.

Johnny D. Stevens

Johnny Dwight Stevens, Mayor

Attest:

Melissa Moore

Melissa Moore, Master Municipal Clerk