REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2013 AT 9:00 A.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President Thomas.

Present: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. John Branning of Central United Methodist Church and followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to remove C-3.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated June 18, 2013.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15451 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE DISCARDED

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:


And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:
Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15453 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, PERCY BLAND, TO SIGN CHECKS, TO EXECUTE ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN WHICH HAVE HERETOFORE BEEN AUTHORIZED FOR CHERI M. BARRY THE FORMER MAYOR

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilman Hammon offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15454 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI AND LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI (2013 BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT [JAG] PROGRAM AWARD)

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15455 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF 2013 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM: LOCAL APPLICATION

And, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.
Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15456 ORDER CORRECTING TERM EXPIRATION DATE FOR DR. JUDITH MILLER WITH THE MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 37-7-203, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972 ANNOTATED

And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15457 ORDER CORRECTING TERM EXPIRATION DATE FOR MARVIS A. KILLINGSWORTH WITH THE MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 37-7-203, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972 ANNOTATED

And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

At this time Mayor Percy Bland presented his appointments. Motion was made by Councilman Hammon to table these appointments until the 2nd meeting. Councilwoman Henson stated she was not in favor of tabling these appointments. Councilman Markham stated that they need more information. There was no second to Councilman Hammon’s motion, therefore, the motion failed. Prior to each appointment brought forth by Mayor Bland there were comments and questions from the Council members. Councilman Hammon mentioned salaries as the discussions were held.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15458 ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF L. E. SKIPPER AS CITY CLERK/DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & RECORDS FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and
adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:
Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15459  ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ANTHONY J. CLAYTON AS FIRE CHIEF FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15460  ORDER CONFIRMING THE TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT BY THE MAYOR OF HUGH SMITH AS ACTING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

At this time Mayor Bland presented his appointment of Curt Goldacker as CAO. Councilman Hammon asked Mr. Goldacker if he was going to leave his present employment. Mr. Goldacker stated that right now he has an agreement with Mr. Bland for him to be interim CAO for 90 days while he goes and discusses this with his current employer. He said he just turned over the company that is in charge of all the training at NAS Meridian and it wouldn’t be fair to that company to leave right away. As interim for 90 days he could get on board and understand what it is to be CAO of the city. Councilman Markham asked if it would be more effective to appoint him as temporary CAO like Mr. Smith was appointed and then confirm him after the 90 days instead of confirming him now. Mayor Bland stated that Mr. Smith was a current employee and that is why the temporary appointment will not affect him. He said it won’t hurt Mr. Goldacker to be temporary but he will be CAO of the city. Councilman Thomas advised Mr. Goldacker that when he is ready to make a full-time commitment to this city that he will support him. He said he thinks Mr. Goldacker is qualified but can’t support him while he has another full-time job. Councilman Hammon asked about the pay he will receive during this 90-day interim assignment.
He said he should not receive full pay. Councilman Markham stated the Council should not take any action. Councilwoman Henson stated she agreed. Councilwoman Houston asked further questions of Mr. Goldacker. There was no action taken to confirm the appointment of Curt Goldacker as CAO.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15461   ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JAMES E. LEE AS POLICE CHIEF FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea:  Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston.
Nay:  Hammon.

Mayor Bland once again asked the City Council to consider the appointment of Curt Goldacker as CAO again. The consensus of the Council was not to vote until he can devote full-time to the city.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15462   ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JOHN MCCLURE AS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea:  Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay:  None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15463   ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF H. C. “BUNKY” PARTRIDGE AS HOMELAND SECURITY DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:
Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15464 ORDER RATIFYING THE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND MICHAEL D. GOGGANS TO SERVE AS CITY ATTORNEY

And, Councilman Hammon seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilman Hammon offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15465 ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT D. JONES AS MUNICIPAL JUDGE FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE TERM OF THE MAYOR OR UNTIL HIS SUCCESSOR IS SELECTED

And, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15466 ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DR. EVADNA LYONS TO THE MERIDIAN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEES

And, Councilman Hammon seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:
RESO. #5843  RESOLUTION APPOINTING MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE  
2013 VOTING DELEGATES FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councilman Markham seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed 
and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. 
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15467  ORDER APPOINTING GEORGE M THOMAS AS 
PRESIDENT OF THE MERIDIAN CITY COUNCIL

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed 
and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. 
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following 
Order:

ORDER #15468  ORDER APPOINTING K. DUSTIN MARKHAM AS 
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE MERIDIAN CITY COUNCIL

And, Councilman Hammon seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and 
adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. 
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15469  ORDER APPOINTING PAMELA MCINNIS AS CLERK OF COUNCIL

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed 
and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. 
Nay: None.
Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15470  ORDER APPOINTING RANDY HAMMON AS THE CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE E-911 COMMISSION

And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

Yea: Thomas, Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon.
Nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the claims docket dated June 27, 2013 in the amount of $2,223,766.19.

President Thomas advised of the notification of legal advertisement for pipes, valves & fittings – 12 month source of supply.

At this time Rev. Sam Thompson (5250 Davidson Road) with the Reconciliation Week Committee appeared before the Council. This is the 10th anniversary of the Lockheed tragedy in which lives were lost and others were wounded. Mrs. Jinnell Miller (2001 29th Avenue) also appeared and went over the events planned for the 6th annual Reconciliation Week Celebration. Mrs. Miller also asked for a donation to help with their activities.

Elliot Street (3103 38th Street) appeared on behalf of the Threefoot Preservation Society. He stated that there is a group who formed this society who are interested in stabilizing and preserving the Threefoot building.

President Thomas called on Mayor Bland for his report. He thanked the City Council for voting for department heads. He said he will continue to do what needs to be done to bring Curt Goldacker back for confirmation as CAO. He went over some of his plans. He plans to make a trip to Hattiesburg to check out their procedures for condemned properties. There is a swim initiative in the Magnolia area planned. They will be looking at personnel by performing an audit and market analysis by job title and salary range. He wants a $9.00 an hour minimum wage for all city employees and part-time employees. He wants to sell this city and market this city. They will be looking at ways to maintain the indoor facility at Highland Park the County plans to build. The roof on the new police station is leaking and needs to be fixed. He plans to review the contract and look at this further. Mark Naylor advised that the July 4th activities at Bonita Lakes
WILL BE: gates open at 3:30 p.m., concert from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and fireworks will be at 9:00 p.m. In case of rain, he asked that everyone listen to the radio and TV for announcements on the fireworks.

President Thomas called for council comments. Various comments were made.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned. Sine die.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam McInnis, Clerk of Council