REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 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. William Washington of El Bethel Baptist 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 R-8.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated February 06 and February 18, 2014.

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

ORDER #15598 ORDER DECLARING 2003 CHEVROLET 1500 PICKUP TRUCK, SERIAL NO. 1GCEC14V43Z245103, CONTROL NO. 125-06 SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, REMOVING FROM SERVICE AND AUTHORIZING SURPLUS VEHICLE TO BE TURNED OVER TO TRAVELERS INSURANCE COMPANY

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 #15599 ORDER DECLARING VEHICLES SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID VEHICLES TO BE SOLD

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 #15600 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VENUE USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND THE STATE GAMES OF MISSISSIPPI, INC.

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 Resolution:

RESO. #5889 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND FILING OF GRANT APPLICATION FOR 2014 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS, MISSISSIPPI RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS

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.

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

ORDER #15601 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT BETWEEN SPEC. RESCUE INTERNATIONAL AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (WATER RESCUE OPERATIONS & TECHNICIAN COURSE)

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 #15602  ORDER WAIVING COST OF WATER TAP FEES FOR GO GREEN
MERIDIAN AT 5201 HIGHWAY 493

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 #15603  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (HIGHWAY 39 SIGNALS @ WINDMILL DRIVE & OLD COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE)

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.

Next on the agenda was a proposed agreement with Adapts Electronic Monitoring. Michelle Joyner, Court Collections Specialist, appeared and stated this agreement with AEM will save the city about $17.00 per ankle bracelet. After discussion, Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15604  ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND ADAPTS ELECTRONIC MONITORING (AEM)

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 #15605  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ROAD IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND FOREST HOSPITALITY, LLC
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 Resolution:

RESO. #5890  RESOLUTION CLARIFYING AND CORRECTING CERTAIN FACTS REGARDING THE FEBRUARY 18, 2014 SALE OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI’S GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER AND SEWER BONDS, SERIES 2013 IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,200,000) (THE “BONDS”); AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

And, Councilwoman Henson 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.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the claims docket dated February 27, 2014 in the amount of $1,889,060.86.

President Thomas advised of the notification of legal advertisement for two (2) trailers.

President Thomas called for the Mayor’s report. He presented the following proclamations: Women’s History Month and Red Cross Month. He thanked the City Council for approving the contract in regard to ankle bracelets. At this time Chief Lee appeared to present a proclamation to Police Officer Patrick Gale for transporting a gunshot victim to the hospital in his patrol car. The child that he transported to the hospital was present at the meeting and he came forward to present Officer Gale with this proclamation and thanked him for saving his life. Chief Lee stated that even though Officer Gale did not follow operating procedures, he should be named officer of the year for doing this. The child’s mother also came up and thanked Officer Gale for saving her son’s life.

President Thomas asked about bids for the Threefoot building. Community Development Director John McClure stated they received two proposals last Friday. They are in the process of setting up meetings to go through them and chose one to submit to the City Council for approval. President Thomas asked about the Attorney General Opinion that was requested. City Attorney Goggans went over the process that is followed by the AG’s office when an opinion is requested. The city’s request has gone through the committee process and we are waiting for it to be typed up and returned. He said he expected it that day. President Thomas asked if the
Meridian Activity Center was open or closed. He was advised it was open. President Thomas said someone said they were told that no country music and dancing were allowed at the Meridian Activity Center. He was advised that this was not true. President Thomas called on Bunky Partridge for comments. He stated he and Richie McAlister were in Washington DC last week to meet with different departments regarding grants for the training facility. He introduced Dan Hourihan from Reno, Nevada. Mr. Hourihan is with the National Association of Search & Rescue. He complimented the city on the training facility. He said it was an excellent place to hold training sessions for instructors.

President Thomas called for citizen comments. Those who signed up to speak were: 1) Sabrina Wilson with the Tobacco Free Coalition of Lauderdale and Newton Counties; 2) Larry Nicks with MCCSA; 3) Dr. Ceatrice Kelly with NFUSIONX; and 4) Ruth H. K. Jones regarding Women in History Month.

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