REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 6, 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 Pastor Gary Morris of Life Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to: remove R-5; remove R-6; remove R-11; add as R-15 addition of building inspector billet to community development personnel allotment; add as R-16 amendment to clean community ordinance; add as R-14 discussion of a CDBG grant for a multi-purpose building at Velma Young; add as P-7 first amendment to lease agreement with the Montgomery Institute (Meridian Freedom Project) add an executive session regarding personnel performance evaluation after the mayor’s report.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated April 15, 2014.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the following proclamation to be issued by the Mayor:
   May 18-24, 2014 – “National Public Works Week”

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

ORDER #15629    ORDER DECLARING 2005 VOLVO VNL TRUCK TRACTOR,
SERIAL NO. 4V4NC9GH75N394690, CONTROL NO. 153-302
SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZED 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 #15630    ORDER CONFIRMING THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR
OF QUINN CARLISLE TO THE MERIDIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

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. #5896 RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEPUTY COURT CLERKS OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

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

ORDER #15631 ORDER DIRECTING THAT THE DITCH LOCATED NEXT TO 4524 36TH AVENUE BE FIXED AT A COST NO MORE THAN $2,000.00

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 #15632 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF FIRST AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MONTGOMERY INSTITUTE AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (MERIDIAN FREEDOM PROJECT)

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.
At this time Bunky Partridge and Doug Stephens with the Training Facility appeared with Mayor Bland to recognize the following police officers and firefighters who assisted the City of Louisville, MS after a tornado went through there: Firefighters - Captain Tim Stuart, Captain Daniel Mabry, Captain Glen Stephens, Captain Chip Cherepanya, Captain Kenny Robinson, Captain Bryan McAllister, Sr. firefighter Andrew Cooley, Sr. firefighter Russell McClure, and Sr. firefighter Dexter Wood; and Police Officers - Corporal Erik Shirley, Sergeant Dustin Colson, and Sr. Patrolman Tommy Coker.

At this time Paul Breazeale with Breazeale, Saunders & O’Neil, LTD appeared and presented the FY 2013 Audit. After the presentation, Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15633 ORDER ACCEPTING FISCAL YEAR 2013 AUDIT AS PREPARED BY BREAZEALE, SAUNDERS & O’NEIL, LTD.

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 #15634 ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ALEXIA A. RUSHING TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

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 #15635 ORDER AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF A DUMP TRUCK FROM WATERS INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, INC., MERIDIAN, MS IN THE AMOUNT OF $92,893.39

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 Ordinance:

ORDIN. #4435  ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, CHAPTER 9 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ARTICLE III, (KNOWN AS THE “OPEN BURNING ORDINANCE”)

And, Councilwoman Houston seconded the motion, whereupon said Ordinance 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 #15636  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN MAGNOLIA GREEN AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (CITY HALL EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS)

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.
Nay: Hammon.

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

ORDER #15637  ORDER AMENDING THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN QUALITY DEVELOPERS, INC. AND 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.

Councilman Markham offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:
ORDER #15638  ORDER ACCEPTING INTERSECTION UPGRADES MADE BY PILOT FLYING J TO TOMMY WEBB DRIVE AT THE INTERSECTION OF 49TH AVENUE

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 #15639  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THOMPSON ENGINEERING, INC. AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (HIGHWAY 39 SIGNALIZATION PROJECT)

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.

Motion was made by Councilman Hammon duly seconded by Councilman Markham to authorize the execution of a Preventative Maintenance Agreement with The Service Company. Councilwoman Houston asked if this was bid out. She said there are several local companies in Meridian who would like this business. Motion was made by Councilman Hammon duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to table this matter.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Markham to approve the claims docket dated May 01, 2014 in the amount of $1,976,633.69. President Thomas advised that the Council was requested to amend the claims docket to add a payment to Mrs. Constance Slaughter-Harvey. Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed to amend the claims docket to add Purchase Order No. 403987 in the amount of $8,850.00. President Thomas advised that the Council was also requested to amend the claims docket to add a payment to Precious Martin, Sr. and Associates for legal services. There was no motion or second made to add this item. President Thomas called for a vote on the claims docket as amended. Said motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Council.

At this time discussion was held regarding a proposed CDBG grant the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors wanted to apply for to help build a multi-purpose building at Magnolia Park/ Velma Young. Councilman Markham said the grant is for $600,000 and requires a 100% match. The proposed resolution presented to the City Council for adoption contained a commitment of $1,000,000 from the City. Councilman
Markham stated the City would have to fund at least $600,000 and he would support that amount. He stated that this project is needed in this area. CAO Mike McGrevey stated that this was a very important project for the administration. Ricky Hood, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club, appeared and stated that they support this project. Ron Turner, Director of the Meridian Housing Authority, appeared and stated they also support this project. This project will help with their efforts to obtain a large grant they have applied for. Parks & Recreation Director Kelvin McGruder appeared and stated that he supported this project. CAO McGrevey stated that they will find the dollars to support this project. The County plans to put in $600,000 and in-kind of $250,000. President Thomas asked if there was a plan. After further discussion, it was decided that the Council would recess this meeting until Friday morning to discuss this further and possible have members of the Board of Supervisors there to answer questions.

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

ORDER #15640 ORDER APPROVING ADDITION OF ONE (1) BUILDING INSPECTOR BILLET IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ALLOTMENT

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 Ordinance:

ORDIN. #4436 ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, CHAPTER 12 HEALTH AND SANITATION, ARTICLE III COMPREHENSIVE CLEAN COMMUNITY ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO AMEND SECTION 12-64(B) AND (C) AND SECTION 12-68(1) AND (2)

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

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

President Thomas advised of the notification of legal advertisement for roof replacement of public works administrative building.

President Thomas called on Mayor Bland for his report. He expressed the need for more work sessions. He said he feels the media needs to market the city better and report the stories correctly. He thanks the Council for considering the project at Magnolia Park/Velma Young.
An executive session was requested regarding personnel performance evaluation. Motion was made by Councilman Markham duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an executive session. Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Hammon and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss personnel performance evaluation. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session.

President Thomas called the regular meeting back to order. He stated that no action will be taken regarding the executive session.

President Thomas called for citizen comments. Those who signed up to speak were: 1) Loretta Allen; 2) Randle Jennings (did not show).

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was recessed until Friday, May 09, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam McInnis, Clerk of Council