REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President Markham.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Labaron Hedgemon of Freed Rock Christian Fellowship Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to: move P-1 to P-2; add as P-1 a presentation by Melba Clark.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated October 07, 2014.

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

ORDER #15756 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

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

ORDER #15757 ORDER DECLARING ITEMS SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID SURPLUS ITEMS TO BE DESTROYED

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

ORDIN. #4449  ORDINANCE CLOSING, VACATING AND ABANDONING IN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, THAT CERTAIN PORTION OF IMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 10th AVENUE FROM “D” STREET SOUTHEAST TO ITS END AND ANY PORTION OF “F” STREET THAT REMAINS UN-VACATED AS RECORDED IN THE RAGSDALE SURVEY OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

And, Councilman Hammon 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 Henson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #5934  RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEEDS TO CONVEY THE CLOSED, VACATED AND ABANDONED PORTION OF 10th AVENUE FROM “D” STREET TO ITS SOUTH END AND ANY INTERSECTING PORTION OF “F” STREET REMAINING UN-VACATED

And, Councilman Thomas 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 Ordinance:

ORDIN. #4450  ORDINANCE CLOSING, VACATING AND ABANDONING IN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI THAT CERTAIN PORTION OF THE UNOPENED RIGHT-OF-WAY OF 31st
STREET LOCATED BETWEEN 32ND AVENUE AND MYRTLEWOOD DRIVE AS RECORDED IN THE MYRTLEWOOD SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

And, Councilman Thomas 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 Resolution:

RESO. #5935  RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEEDS TO CONVEY THE CLOSED, VACATED AND ABANDONED PORTION OF 31ST STREET FROM 32ND AVENUE TO MYRTLEWOOD DRIVE

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.

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

ORDER #15758  ORDER CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF RAYMOND BRADFORD, JR. 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15759  ORDER APPROVING AND ADOPTING TIRE CENTERS OF MERIDIAN, A COMMERCIAL SUBDIVISION OF 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 Resolution:

RESO. #5936 RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE INTENTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN TO CALL A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE NO. 3966 ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON JANUARY 11, 1994, SO AS TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN LANDS IN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FROM DISTRICT R-1 TO DISTRICT R-3 (DECEMBER 16, 2914 @ 5:30 P.M.)

And, Councilman Thomas 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15760 ORDER RE-NAMING THE SEGMENT OF VIRGINIA DRIVE WHICH RUNS FROM IH-20/59 NORTH TO ITS END AT BONITA DRIVE TO 1ST AVENUE EAST

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 #15761 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF FY 2015 ENFORCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY, DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PLANNING (ALCOHOL COUNTERMEASURES/DUI ENFORCEMENT)

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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

ORDER #15762 ORDER APPROVING MARKETING PLAN FOR THE MERIDIAN PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING FACILITY AS SUBMITTED BY LEADING EDGES

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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:**

ORDER #15763 ORDER APPROVING IMAGE CAMPAIGN FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AS SUBMITTED BY LEADING EDGES

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

ORDER #15764 ORDER ALLOCATING FY 2015 BUDGET SUBSIDIES, GRANTS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS EXPENDITURES FOR MUSTARD TREE FOUNDATION

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

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

Next on the agenda was an allocation for the Youth Excitement Team. Councilwoman Houston recused herself from this discussion and vote as she had a conflict of interest. Motion was made by Councilman Hammon duly seconded by Councilman Markham to authorize an allocation of $2,000 from the FY 2015 budget subsidies, grants and public relations expenditures for the Youth Excitement Team. Said motion failed due to the lack of a majority. Voting yea:
Markham, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas, Henson.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated October 16, 2014 in the amount of $1,813,029.08. Voting yea: Markham, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas, Henson.

At this time Mrs. Melba Clark-Payne along with Dr. Gray Moore and Arthur Jernigan appeared regarding Weschler school. Mrs. Clark-Payne advised they are trying to raise funds to restore this building. She asked the city to help in this effort.

President Markham called on Mayor Bland for his report. He said the first Kids Zone held this past Saturday at the Temple Theater was a success. On November 8th, the Lion King will be shown. He advised jet service will return to the Meridian Airport on November 6th with American Airlines providing this service. The MSU-Kress building is about to start opening its doors for Kinesiology classes. The safe routes to schools project is an on-going project. There will be a meeting at Velma Young held soon regarding the new community center to be built there. EMCC board member Jimmy Moore appeared to give an update on their educational and athletic programs. Mayor Bland asked any cancer survivors in the auditorium to stand and be recognized.

President Markham called for citizen comments. Signed up to speak were: 1) Christie Rainer (did not show); 2) Lucinda Johnson; 3) Deborah Keller.

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

An executive session was requested regarding litigation, pending litigation and potential litigation. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to close the meeting to make a closed determination on whether to declare an executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss litigation, pending litigation and potential litigation. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session. President Markham called the regular meeting back to order. No action was taken regarding the executive session.

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