REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015 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 Chuck Meadors with Poplar Springs United Methodist Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously approved by the Council to confirm the agenda for this meeting with an amendment to: amend R-7 by removing PO #502288 in the amount of $1,687.12; add an executive session regarding potential litigation and economic development.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated February 03, 2015.

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

ORDER #15810 ORDER AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS ALONG NORTH PARK DRIVE FROM 29TH AVENUE TO OLDE TOWN CLEANERS (4820 NORTH PARK DRIVE)

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 Order:

ORDER #15811 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN KIMBERLY HANCOCK D/B/A KREATIVE SWEETS AND KATERING AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (CAFÉ SPACE AT UNION STATION)

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 Order:

ORDER #15812 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT AND STANDARD CONTRACT ADDENDUM BETWEEN BERNARD A. FONTAINE AND 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 Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #5951 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED (POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES)

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.

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

ORDER #15813 ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID OF WEBSTER ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC., MERIDIAN, MS, FOR HIGHWAY 39 N SIGNALIZATION

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 #15814 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT BETWEEN JOE MCGEE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (TRUSS AND RAIL REPAIRS ON OLD HWY 80 W BRIDGE)
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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #15815 ORDER GRANTING PERMISSION TO TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK TO UTILIZE A PORTION OF CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY ON THE 6TH STREET SIDE AND 7TH STREET SIDE OF THEIR BUILDING LOCATED AT 700 23RD AVENUE, AND APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

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.

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 February 12, 2015 in the amount of $2,364,268.55 with an amendment to remove Purchase Order No. 502288 in the amount of $1,687.12. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.

At this time Antonia Altman (Meridian High School Band Director) and Jennifer Davis (Meridian High School Choral Activities Director) appeared before the City Council. The MHS band and chorus have an opportunity to perform at Disney in Orlando Florida on March 11-15. They asked for assistance to pay $24,750 to help with the cost for 45 students who are unable to pay the $550 cost per student to attend this trip.

Next on the agenda was the Mayor’s report. He commented on the Governor’s Job Fair held in Meridian last week. The Valentine Ball held at the Frank Cochran Center had a good turn-out. He asked the City Council to hold a work session prior to the next meeting.

President Markham called for citizen comments. Those who appeared were: 1) Olivia Randall; 2) Shon Willis.

President Markham called for Council comments. Various comments were made.
An executive session was requested regarding economic development and potential litigation. Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss economic development and potential litigation. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session.

President Markham called the regular meeting back to order.

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

RESOl. #5952 RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO GRANT AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION FOR PROJECT TENG

And, Councilwoman Houston 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.

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