Meeting called to order by Council President Hammon.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Gary Houston 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 with an amendment to add an amendment to the claims docket.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated February 16, 2016.

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

ORDER #16038 ORDER DECLARING EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE DISCARDED

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

ORDER #16039 ORDER ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATION FROM STRUCTURAL STEEL FOR THE MERIDIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT (DARE PROGRAM)

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

ORDER #16040  ORDER ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATION FROM A & B ELECTRIC FOR THE MERIDIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT (DARE PROGRAM)

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

ORDER #16041  ORDER ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATION FROM NORTHEAST MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR SUPPORT OF GROUNDS WORK ASSOCIATED WITH PLANET PLAYGROUND

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.

Appearing before the Council at this time was Demery Grubbs regarding the bids for the $7,500,000 GO bond issue. The bids received were as follows: Hancock Bank – 1.706005%; Citizens National Bank – 1.49%; First Tennessee Financial Capital Market – 1.598540%; Raymond James – 1.569%; Duncan-Williams, Inc. – 1.726462%; Crews & Associates – 1.740635%; Cantor Fitzgerald – 1.498776%; and Regions Bank – 1.834%. Mr. Grubs requested that the Council accept the bid of Citizens National Bank for 1.49% (subject to verification). Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #6037  RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SALE AND AWARD OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2016, OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, TO BE DATED THE DATE OF DELIVERY THEREOF, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($7,500,000)

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

ORDER #16042 ORDER DECLARING WEAPON SURPLUS AND TO BE SOLD TO RETIRED POLICE SERGEANT JAMES C. LEWIS AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW 45-9-131

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 #16043 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN BONITA LAKES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, BY CBL & ASSOCIATES MANAGEMENT, INC., MANAGING AGENT, 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.

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

ORDER #16044 ORDER EXTENDING CONTRACT FOR HERBICIDE TREATMENT OF SOWASHEE CREEK WITH PROGRESSIVE SOLUTIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $7,250.40

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. #6038   RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE THERETO

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

ORDER #16045   ORDER RESCINDING ORDER NO. 16011 ENTITLED “IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE BID FOR 5TH STREET AND 25TH AVENUE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT FROM GREGORY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC., COLUMBUS, MS IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,365,069.30 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK

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 #16046   ORDER ACCEPTING THE BID FOR 5TH STREET AND 25TH AVENUE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT FROM GREGORY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC., COLUMBUS, MS IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,414,864.30 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK

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 #16047
ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF BURK-KLEINPETER, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE INVESTIGATION OF FAILURES OF THE PUMPS AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

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.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman Henson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated February 25, 2016 in the amount of $2,147,136.44 with an amendment to add Purchase Order No. 601640 in the amount of $13,120.00. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston, Hammon. Voting nay: Thomas.

President Hammon called on Mayor Bland for his report. He requested a work session to go over the solid waste contract and budget amendments. He stated he will not raise water & sewer rates until the citizens know why. He said that they don’t want to have to come to the city council for all the budget amendments. He thanked Councilwoman Henson and Councilwoman Houston for what they were trying to do for a homeless shelter. He thanked private donators for providing matching funds.

President Hammon 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