REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President Houston.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Minister Sonia Frye, 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 amendment to add (R-30 Resolution executing written notification to the Dept. of Revenue effective date of 2% food/beverage tax.).

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the minutes dated September 06, 2016.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Markham and unanimously passed by the Council to approve the following proclamation to be issued by the Mayor:

September 17-23, 2016 – “Constitution Week”

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

ORDER #16170 ORDER AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS AT 30\textsuperscript{TH} AVENUE WEST TO 36\textsuperscript{TH} AVENUE & 3\textsuperscript{RD} STREET SOUTH TO INTERCHANGE ROAD

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 Order:

ORDER #16171 ORDER AUTHORIZING CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $25,000.00 TO THE BAIRD CHARITABLE TRUST
And, Councilwoman Henson seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

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

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

ORDER #16172 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF RONALD D. HOPSON TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

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 #16173 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF TIM MARTIN TO THE ELECTRICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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 #16174 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ROBERT R. (BUSTER) GRISSETT TO THE ELECTRICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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 #16175 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JAMES R. CALDWELL TO THE HOUSING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

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 #16176 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JOE B. PARKER TO THE HOUSING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

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 #16177 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF RICKY SPELLS TO THE HOUSING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

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 #16178 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF LEE LITRELL TO THE BUILDING CODE
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

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 #16179 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF HARRY F. (TREY) COOPER TO THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

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 #16180 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JIM MCRAE TO THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

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 #16181 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF MARKEY JOINER TO THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

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

ORDER #16182 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DARRELL WAYNE RALEY TO THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

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 #16183 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF MARY RUTH SHARP TO THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS

And, Councilman 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 #16184 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DAVID WILLIAMS TO THE MECHANICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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.
ORDER #16185 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF GREG HEBLON TO THE MECHANICAL EXAMINING BOARD

And, Councilman 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 #16186 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ED MOSLEY TO THE MECHANICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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 #16187 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ZANE CHAPMAN TO THE MECHANICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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 #16188 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF MICHAEL D. TEW TO THE MECHANICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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 #16189 ORDER ACCEPTING HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FROM
KILEY DEARMAN FOR TREE REMOVAL FROM NATURAL
DRAINAGE CHANNEL LOCATED ON PROPERTY AT 3900
36TH AVENUE, MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

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 #16190 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF LOCATION USE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND VANILLA
PALM FILMS FOR FILMING AT UNION STATION

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 #16191 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM
OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN
AND MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO PROVIDE
TESTING FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

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 Order:

ORDER #16192   IN THE MATTER OF: ACCEPTING THE BID OF CONSTRUCTION PLUS, LLC, MERIDIAN, MS, FOR DEMOLITION & ASBESTOS ABATEMENT OF THIRTY (30) STRUCTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF $96,300.00

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 Resolution:

RESO. #6077   AMENDED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF BLIGHTED REAL PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MISS. CODE ANN. § 21-17-1; APPROVING AMENDED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING; AND, AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO EXECUTE AMENDED MEMORANDUM OR UNDERSTANDING AND QUITCLAIM DEED

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 #16193   ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN WASTE PRO OF MISSISSIPPI, INC., AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

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 Resolution:

RESO. #6078 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, 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 Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #6079 RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE THERETO

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

ORDI. #4476 ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE A REVENUE AND LEVY A TAX FOR THE MERIDIAN SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

And, Councilwoman Henson 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.
Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Ordinance:

ORDI. #4477  ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE A REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

And, Councilman Markham 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.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Henson duly seconded by Councilman Markham and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated September 16, 2016 in the amount of $2,151,496.10. Voting yea: Markham, Henson, Houston. Voting nay: Thomas, Hammon.

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


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.

President Houston called on Mayor Bland for his report. Mayor Bland expressed condolences to the family and friends of Officer Ken Winborn. Officer Winborn passed away last night. The arrangements for his funeral are unknown at the moment. Mayor Bland also cautioned the kids and parents about some activities during homecoming. He warned that some vandalism
has been done to property, egging vehicles, etc. This is not teenage pranks, but serious offences of breaking the law. So, parents talk to your kids to stress that some activities are not allowed and have legal consequences. Mayor Bland stressed the issue of a job program to teach the kids how to work and acquire the ability to deal with handling the responsibility of a job. He said the Public Works Director, Hugh Smith will be doing a program to train people to use equipment. That they will go out next month to recruit people. The Council asked about the Street Scape Project and was told the project was on schedule if not ahead of schedule. And hopefully the downtown project will soon be done and inspected.

President Houston called for citizens comments. The citizens listed below spoke.

a) Loretta Bennett  
b) Allen Shute

President Houston called for Council comments. Councilman Hammon said that he has heard some ugly things in the last few weeks. Councilman Hammon said I didn’t ask what the job paid when I took this job as Councilman. I am just thankful I work with four level-headed people. I am amazed that we are always talking about more programs when we have an 8-9 million dollar police department. But we have a community development department with a budget of around 2 million dollars that is doing a tremendous job for this community. Councilwoman Henson said she would truly like to thank everyone for all of the calls, letters, and prayers received, with expressions of concern for her son during his illness. Councilman Markham said he was glad to see all the police come out to the Council meeting to hear for themselves how the salary increase and breakdown for the officers was proposed by the administration and implemented by the Council. He commended Meridian High School football team on their four straight wins. He has nothing but praise for the girls’ softball team on their 11-3 season, while maintaining a 3.3 cumulative GPA. Councilman Markham congratulated the Council on the handling of the budget, by being thoughtful and farsighted with the finances of Meridian. He congratulated Kim Houston for her leadership as City Council President. Councilman Markham thanked everyone for coming out and taking part. Councilman Thomas said it takes all the Councilmembers making decisions, trying to take the positive approach, and being diligent to make the process work. It is not done out of fear, but out of hard work, that decisions are made in the best interest of the city. Councilman Thomas said Meridian is producing good people. Two kids he is thinking of right now, graduated from high school in Meridian, one went to New Mexico and one went to Rutgers University, both are doing just fine. This is because of good teachers, good administrators and good parents. Councilman Thomas said if anyone has tried to call him and the phone just rings and rings, it’s because the phone is not working. He has tried to get Comcast to fix the problem for more than five days now. And hopefully they will have it repaired soon. President Houston announced that Thursday, 6:00 p.m. at the Boys & Girls Club there will be a community gathering; it will be an ‘open mic’ meeting, so citizens can speak. President Houston encouraged all to come out. Councilwoman Houston thanked everyone for coming to the council meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned. Sine die.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Clark, Clerk of Council