REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council Vice-President Tyrone Johnson.

Present: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.

Absent: F. Johnson.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Lovell Mosley of St. John Missionary Baptist Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following amendments: Move: C-4, Consent Agenda item to Routine Agenda as R-1a (Order authorizing letter of intent to request surplus McDonnell-Douglas RF-4C Phantom II aircraft from General Service Administration) Lift from table and Add: R-12 (Order authorizing payment of leave time to Kelvin McGruder.) Add: CC-2, Citizen Comment (Reuben Little, Sandwedge Golfers Assn., Inc.) Add: (Request for executive session concerning potential litigation.) Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following additional amendment. Add: (Executive Session potential litigation.) Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated August 07, 2018. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #16597 ORDER DECLARING VEHICLES SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID SURPLUS VEHICLES

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.
Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16598 ORDER DETERMINING THAT CERTAIN POLICE VEHICLES ARE USED FOR CRIME DETECTION AND UNDERCOVER WORK AND SHOULD NOT BE MARKED SO AS TO BE IDENTIFIABLE AS CITY VEHICLES

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16599 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF LETTER OF INTENT TO THE GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION/MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY (MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS RF-4C PHANTOM II PLANE)

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16600 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL FOR STATE FARM ARSON DOG ACQUISITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16601  ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM 2018-2019 MARKETING GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY OF MERIDIAN’S EARTH’S BOUNTY

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16602  ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM 2018-2019 MARKETING GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY OF MERIDIAN’S JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16603  ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF LAUDERDALT COUNTY TOURISM 2018-2019 MARKETING GRANT AWARDED TO THE CITY OF MERIDIAN’S MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16604 ORDER ACCEPTING HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FROM DALE PARKER FOR GRADE & COVER WITH RAP EMERGENCY VEHICLE TURN AROUND ON PROPERTY AT 4708 HICKORY HILLS CIRCLE, MERIDIAN MISSISSIPPI

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16605 ORDER ACCEPTING HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FROM CONNIE THOMAS FOR STORM DRAIN CLEANING ON PROPERTY AT 2436 41ST AVENUE, MERIDIAN, MS

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16606 ORDER WAIVING ELECTRICAL SERVICE PERMIT FEES FOR CONVERSION FROM OVERHEAD TO UNDERGROUND UTILITIES FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS (PUBLIC WORKS)

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16607  ORDER WAIVING ELECTRICAL SERVICE PERMIT FEES FOR THE REMOTE READ WATER METER PROJECT (PUBLIC WORKS)

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDI. #4499  ORDINANCE CLOSING, VACATING AND ABANDONING IN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, FOR A PORTION OF 2128 ANDERSON ROAD

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

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

ORDER #6196  RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEEDS TO CONVEY THE CLOSED, VACATED AND ABANDONED PORTION OF 2128 ANDERSON ROAD

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.
Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:

RESO. #6197  RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE
AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30,
2018, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN
REFERENCE THERETO

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

Yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: F. Johnson.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman T. Johnson the issue was open for a vote. By vote of the Council on the claims docket dated August 16, 2018 in the amount of $1,740,988.38, the issue failed. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson. Voting nay: Houston, Lindemann. Absent: F. Johnson.

Motion was made by Councilman Lindemann to open discussion of R-12 (Order authorizing payment of leave time to Kelvin McGruder.) motion was duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston. After discussion a vote was called for on the issue. Voting yea: Lindemann. Voting nay: Thomas. Abstaining: T. Johnson, Houston. R-12 Failed. There was no majority.

Vice-President T. Johnson called for the Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Bland said thank you all for coming out to the Council Meeting tonight. I want to thank Councilman Johnson of Ward 2 and Councilwoman Johnson of Ward 3, for their back to school events partnership with the Meridian Public Schools District it was good. We also want to ask everyone to come out to support Meridian High football games. We know some of the games are on TV now, but please come out to support the Meridian High Wildcats. Councilman Thomas said; remember the volleyball and softball teams too. Mayor Bland said yes, we want to support all our hard working young students. Mayor Bland then called up Hugh Smith, Public Works Dir. and David Sloan, David was called up to receive a retirement plaque from the Mayor and Mr. Smith. David said “I’ve always worked in the private sector making toothpaste, toilet paper and things like that. But working for the public sector was a pleasure. A pleasure to be of public service to the citizens of Meridian, thank you.”
Vice-President T. Johnson called for citizen comments:

a) Allen Shute – spoke

b) Reuben Little, Sandwedge Golfers Assn., Inc. – spoke

Vice-President T. Johnson called for Council comments:

Various comments were made.

An executive session was requested regarding potential litigation. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas 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 Councilman T. Johnson and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss potential litigation. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Thomas and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session. No action was taken.

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