REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council President, Tyrone Johnson.

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

Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Derrick Wilson, Faith Baptist Church and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following amendments: Add: R-10 (Order authorizing acceptance of anonymous donation of flower bulbs.) Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to amend the agenda with the following amendments: Separate R-8a and 8b to discuss and consider each as stand-alone agenda items: (FY' budget amendments.) Voting yea: T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: Thomas.

Motion made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated November 06, 2018. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #16652 ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF COMPUTER, SOFTWARE, EQUIPMENT, TELEVISION, ETC., FROM THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING, INC., TO BE USED FOR THE MERIDIAN ACTIVITY CENTER

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, T. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.

Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:
ORDER #16653  ORDER DECLARING VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID SURPLUS VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

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, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.

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

ORDER #16654  ORDER AMENDING ORDER NO. 16645 ENTITLED “ORDER DECLARING MALE BELGIAN MALINOIS K-9 DOG “DUSTY” SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF THIS DOG TO PHILLIP WALK”

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, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.

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

ORDER #16655  IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPOINTMENT BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF KENNETH R. (KEN) STORMS TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION

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

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

Point of order motion was made by Councilwoman F. Johnson duly seconded by Councilwoman Houston and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to present Christmas toys to WTOK TV’s Annual Toys for Christmas Campaign to kick off their yearly drive. Newspersons, Candace Barnette and Perry Robinson were here to accept the toys. The Meridian City Council, City Administration, and City Employees and friends, decided to buy toys for children instead of exchanging gifts among themselves.
Councilwoman Houston offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16656  ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM AWARD FROM THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (MOHS) (GRANT #18HS258)

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

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

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

ORDER #16657  ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF HOMELAND SECURITY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.  
Nay: None.

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

RESO. #6202  RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE AND EXECUTION OF DEEDS FOR TWO (2) LOTS UNDER THE NEIGHBORHOOD LOT PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO MISSISSIPPI CODE § 21-17-1(11)

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

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

Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:
ORDER #16658  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT FOR CONVERSION OF EXISTING OVERHEAD FACILITIES TO UNDERGROUND FACILITIES BETWEEN MISSISSIPPI POWER COMPANY AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

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

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

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

ORDER #16659  ORDER AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF BIDS FOR MUNICIPAL DEPOSITORIES

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

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

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

ORDER #16660  ORDER SETTLING CLAIM FOR DAMAGES BY C. B. PATEL AGAINST THE CITY OF MERIDIAN $1,600.00)

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, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to discuss R-8 (FY’2019 budget amendments a and b). Upon discussion a motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson to amend the agenda by separating a and b of the budget amendment for consideration. The motion was passed by a majority vote of the Council. Voting yea: T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: Thomas.
Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to discuss R-8a (FY’2019 budget amendment to move $250,000.00 from 102 Special Projects to 101 Legal Fees). Upon discussion a motion was made by Councilman Lindemann duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson to Table R-8a. The motion was passed by a majority vote of the Council. Voting yea: T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: Thomas.

Agenda item R-8b (FY’2019 budget amendment to move $1000.00 from 102 Special Projects to 127 Special Projects was passed by the following action:

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

RESO. #6203 RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019, AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK IN REFERENCE THERETO

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

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

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve the claims docket dated November 15, 2018 in the amount of $3,538,801.47. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston. Voting nay: Lindemann.

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

ORDER #16661 ORDER AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF FLOWER BULBS FROM AN ANONYMOUS BENEFACCTOR TO BE USED FOR THE BONITA LAKES PARK

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

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

President Johnson called for the Mayor’s Report:
Mayor Bland was not at the meeting, CAO, Richie McAlister gave the Mayor’s Report. Mr. McAlister said he would like to start by introducing Mr. Hunter Arnold, VP of Waggoner Engineering; Mr. Arnold is also the Water Works Assn. Director of the Alabama/Mississippi Section. Mr. Arnold said the Water Works Association selected Meridian last month to receive the outstanding performance in operations award. He said Meridian is given this award for recognition of outstanding performance in operations, training/safety programs, energy efficiency, record keeping, safety, maintenance, calibrations, etc. at the City of Meridian’s Freshwater Operations. And this being Thanksgiving week, I want to say thank you for clean drinking water. I congratulate your Public Works Director Hugh Smith and your Operator Jimmy Eckman; they have been very involved with the WWA and its works. The City has a lot to be proud of with the water you serve to your customers. I will remind everyone that three years ago Freshwater was also awarded the best tasting water in Mississippi. It is my honor to present this award today for Outstanding Performance in Operations to the City of Meridian and the Public Works Department.

Mr. McAlister said Rodney Street from Waste Pro is here to discuss our leaf season that lasts for three months which kicked off yesterday, and some of the things citizens can expect. Mr. Street said the things they are asking is to keep the stick, bricks, toys, etc. out of your leaf pile. Because this affects the way they are picked up. The vacuum truck sucks the leaves up, but if these other items are in the pile it can damage and clog the equipment, and this slows the process of pickups. With the holidays the only days we take off are Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. If either of those is your pickup day, we pick up the following day. Recycling is every other week. This week is not, next week is, starting the 25th of November.

Mr. McAlister called on Laura Carmichael, Community Development Director to tell about the upcoming events of which the Council and citizens need to be aware. Ms. Carmichael said the official tree lighting will be this Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. with special entertainment. December 01, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. and the Riley Center Peppermint Pops is coming up, the MAXX is hosting a lot of events, the Museum of Art is offering after school classes. Check the local events calendars and come out and enjoy Meridian.

President Johnson called for citizen comments:

a) Allen Shute
b) Melinda Vinson Northam

President Johnson called for Council comments:

Various comments were made.

The City Council urges everyone to shop with our local stores and businesses! There will be a Council Work Session on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

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