REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019 AT 5:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Council Vice-President, Kim Houston.

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

Absent: T. Johnson.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Mayor Percy Bland, and followed by the pledge to the flag.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda. Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None. Absent: T. Johnson.

Motion made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated July 02, 2019. Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None. Absent: T. Johnson.

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

ORDER #16783 ORDER DESIGNATING MISSISSIPPI POWER COMPANY AS THE SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER FOR SITE VIEW CUSTOMIZED SECURITY SYSTEM WITH CAMERAS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE MERIDIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

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

ORDER #16784 ORDER DECLARING WEAPON SURPLUS AND TO BE SOLD TO RETIRED POLICE OFFICER DEBORAH K. YOUNG AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW 45-9-131

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

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

ORDER #16785  ORDER DECLARING WEAPON SURPLUS AND TO BE SOLD TO RETIRED POLICE OFFICER TRAVIS RUFFIN AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW 45-9-131

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

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

ORDER #16786  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION TO LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST THE EARTH’S BOUNTY FARMERS MARKET ACTIVITIES 2020

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

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

ORDER #16787  ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST THE JUNETEENTH HERITAGE FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES 2020
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, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Absent: T. Johnson.

Councilwoman F. Johnson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16788 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION TO LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST THE MERIDIAN MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES 2020

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

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

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

ORDER #16789 ORDER DIRECTING MUNICIPAL CLERK TO KEEP ON FILE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW THE TELEPAK NETWORKS, INC., FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

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

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve Section (1) Payroll of the claims docket in the amount of $1,070,280.40. Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston. Voting nay: Lindemann. Absent: T. Johnson.

Motion was made Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve Section (2) Mandatory & Operational.

Total amount approved/passed $2,559,213.99  claims docket dated, July 12, 2019.

Vice-President Houston advised of the notification of legal advertisement for the following:

a) Request for Qualifications & Experience – CPA/Auditor.
   b) Construct sub grade for approximately .56 miles of city street (New Road).

Vice-President Houston called for the Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Bland said there was a home ownership meeting scheduled for this Thursday at the Tommy Dulaney Center, but it has been rescheduled for August and the exact date will be given at a later date.

This Thursday, July 18th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., on the third Thursday right now, the Arts Council is sponsoring a 1980’s Ladies Night at Dumont Plaza. We are asking everyone to come out and enjoy! We are thankful the Arts Council is trying to do more events downtown.

The MSU Riley Center has a new director and they are announcing their 2019 Fall Performing Arts Series new season lineup this Thursday the 18th at 5:00 p.m.

The Distinguished Young Women from across the state are representing their cities and counties of Mississippi this weekend July 18-20, 2019 to showcase their talents, leadership abilities and earn scholarships for college. Mayor Bland’s daughter, Demia Bland is one of the contestants this year. Congratulations Demia! The program kicks off Thursday at the Evangel Temple with the winner to be crowned on Saturday.

This weekend we have the USA Track and Field Event, each department played a role in making sure they had everything they needed for this event.

Also our ten year olds baseball team won the Regional Championship; they will be representing the City of Meridian in Phoenix City, AL for the World Series. When they make it to the World Series there are twelve to fifteen young people on each team, they have to stay with a host family. There is a family that keeps each one of these young men. This is really good experience for them and we are very proud of them. We had three teams make it to the State Championship and three went as far as the Regionals, but only the ten year olds made it to the World Series. We have a thirteen year olds team made it to the Regionals this week in Arkansas and they will be competing to go to the World Series in Massachusetts.

Vice-President Houston called for citizen comments:

a) Melinda Vinson Northam - spoke
   b) Adam Rittenhouse - spoke

Vice-President Houston 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,
Jo Ann Clark, Clerk of Council