REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 07, 2019 AT 9:00 A.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 Brother 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 F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following amendments: Add R-9 (Resolution of support for Multi-County Historic Stevenson Building Rehabilitation.) Add R-10 (Lift from table investigation of Chief Administrative Officer.) Add (Executive Session-potential litigation, response to ethics complaint) Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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 April 16, 2019. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #16741 ORDER DECLARING ITEMS SURPLUS AND NO LONGER NEEDED BY THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND AUTHORIZING SAID SURPLUS ITEMS TO BE DESTROYED

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 #16742 ORDER DESIGNATING PARKSON CORPORATION AS THE SOLE SOURCE PROVIDERS OF REPLACEMENT PARTS TO REBUILD THE FINE SCREEN UNIT AND PROVIDE START-UP AND OPERATOR TRAINING FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

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 Resolution:

RESO. #6218 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE OF TAX INCREMENT LIMITED OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2019 (MERIDIAN CROSSROADS PROJECT), (THE “BONDS”) OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI (THE “CITY’), IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,950,000) PLUS PREMIUM, IF APPLICABLE, TO RAISE MONEY, TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN TRANSFERRED FUNDS, AS HEREINAFTER DEFINED, AND AS APPLICABLE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR (I) THE REFUNDING OF ALL OF THE CITY’S OUTSTANDING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING BONDS, SERIES 2009 (MERIDIAN CROSSROADS PROJECT), DATED DECEMBER 17, 2009, ISSUED IN THE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF $4,000,000; (II) PAYING COSTS OF ISSUANCE FOR THE BONDS AND APPOINTING BOND COUNSEL; (III) APPROVING THE EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONALS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

And, Councilman T. 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.

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

RESO. #6219 RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI (THE “CITY’), AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY TO EXECUTE THE BOND PURCHASE AGREEMENT OR PRIVATE PLACEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OR PLACEMENT OR THE TAX INCREMENT LIMITED OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2019 (MERIDIAN CROSSROADS PROJECT) (THE “BONDS”) OF THE CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION NINE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,950,000), PLUS PREMIUM IF APPLICABLE; APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE NEGOTIATION FOR THE SALE OR PLACEMENT OF THE BONDS TO RAYMOND

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

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

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

ORDER #16743 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF LEASE AGREEMENT EXTENSION BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION “AMTRAK” (SPACE AT UNION STATION)

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 #16744 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WASTE PRO AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (MERIDIAN HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY, MAY 18, 2019)

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

ORDER #16745 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERT SERVICES BETWEEN ALLEN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (DRAINAGE STRUCTURE FAILURE)

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

ORDER #16746 ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 BETWEEN HEMPHILL CONSTRUCTION AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (NORTH WATER TREATMENT PLANT FILTER REMOVAL REPLACEMENT AND BASIN REPAIR $118,212.45)

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 #16747 ORDER ACCEPTING LOW BIDS FOR SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 20, 2019 THRU APRIL 19, 2020 FOR CONCRETE MIX FROM MMC MATERIALS, MERIDIAN, MS

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.

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...


Total amount approved/passed $1,824,360.41 claims docket dated, May 02, 2019.

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

RESO. #6220 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REHABILITATION OF THE HISTORIC FORMER STEVENSON SCHOOL BUILDING

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

Motion was made by Councilman Lindemann duly seconded by Councilman T. Johnson and passed by a majority vote of the Council to lift from the table and discuss R-10 (Order authorizing an investigation of the Chief Administrative Officer.) After discussion the issue died with no votes taken.

President T. Johnson advised of the notification of legal advertisement for the following:

a) Request for Qualifications – Engineering Services in relation to EPA Decree

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

I want to let the citizens know Ms. Brandye Latimer has received certification as a graduate of the Mississippi Municipal Clerks Program. And on behalf of Mississippi State University Extension Center for Government and Community Development and the Mississippi Municipal Clerks and Collectors Association, congratulations to Brandye Latimer. She is the Chief Financial Officer for The City of Meridian. Congratulations again Brandye!

I also want to agree with Councilman Johnson, it is time for us to move forward and focus on the things that need to be done in this city. We all have done a lot of great things in this city and there are a lot of things yet to do. So, if there is anything that I have said or done to make any Councilmember lose confidence in me as the Mayor of this city, I am sorry. It is time for all of us to work together for the betterment of this city.

President T. Johnson called for citizen comments:
a) Patrick Kirby – spoke  
b) James Houston – spoke  
c) Melinda Vinson Northam – did not appear

President T. Johnson called for Council comments:

Various comments were made.

An executive session was requested regarding potential litigation. Motion was made by Councilwoman Houston duly seconded by Councilman T. Johnson 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 Councilwoman F. 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 Councilwoman F. Johnson and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session.

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