REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 07, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M.
Meeting held via telephone and live streamed due to Coronavirus Pandemic

Meeting called to order by Council President, Houston.

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

The meeting was opened with prayer by Council President Kim Houston, and followed by the pledge to the flag.

President Houston asked everyone to bear with us as we all try to work through this new way of handling a Council Meetings via electronic means.

Motion was made by Councilwoman F. Johnson duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following changes: Change the word Consent Agenda to Routine Agenda. Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #16933 IN THE MATTER OF: ACCEPTING THE BID #20-03 FROM J & P CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., TUSCALOOSA, AL, FOR THE B STREET WATER TREATMENT PLANT & NORTH WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR SAID WORK

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

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

RESO. #6262 RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN MUNICIPALLY OWNED REAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING SELL OF SAME AND EXECUTION OF DEED (PPIN #18975)

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

Yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Councillor F. Johnson offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Order:

ORDER #16934  ORDER DIRECTING MUNICIPAL CLERK TO KEEP ON FILE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW THE MISSISSIPPI POWER COMPANY, NON-EXCLUSIVE ELECTRIC FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

And, Councilman Thomas 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.

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

ORDER #16935  ORDER DESIGNATING MUELLER SYSTEMS AS THE SOLE SOURCE DISTRIBUTOR OF THE MUELLER SYSTEMS WATER METERS FOR THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

And, Councillor 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.

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

RESO. #6263  RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING TAX EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM TAXES TO NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIPS, INC., AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTIONS 27-31-1(D) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED

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

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

Councilman Thomas offered and moved the adoption and passage of the following Resolution:
RESO. #6264   RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM AD VALOREM
TAXES TO ANDERSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER AS AUTHORIZED
BY SECTION 27-31-1(F), OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS
AMENDED

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, F. Johnson, Houston.
Nay: Lindemann.

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

ORDER #16936   ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN AND ITS
GOVERNING AUTHORITIES AND THE MISSISSIPPI BAND OF
CHOCTAW INDIANS FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

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.
Nay: Lindemann.

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

RESO. #6265   RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF 2019
CONTRACT FOR THE USE OF THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY JAIL

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

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

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

ORDER #16937   ORDER DECLARING WEAPON SURPLUS AND TO BE SOLD TO
RETIRED POLICE OFFICER RONALD GODWIN 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.

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 $808,275.82. Voting yea: Thomas, T. Johnson, F. Johnson. Voting nay: Lindemann.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. Johnson and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve Section (2) Mandatory & Operational Items of the claims docket in the amount of $1,549,022.16. Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

Total amount approved/passed $2,357,297.98 claims docket dated, March 31, 2020.

President Houston called for the Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Bland made various comments.

President Houston called for Council comments:

Various comments were made by the Council Members.

An executive session was requested regarding potential purchase of property. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilwoman F. 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 Councilman Lindemann and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss potential purchase of property. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session. The Regular Meeting was reconvened with the following action:

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to amend the agenda with the following changes: Add R-10 (Resolution to set a public hearing for April 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., to amend and restate the City of Meridian’s Urban Renewal Plan.) Voting yea: Thomas, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

RESO. #6266 RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 21, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M., TO AMEND AND RESTATE THE CITY OF MERIDIAN’S URBAN RENEWAL PLAN
And, Councilman Lindemann seconded the motion, whereupon said Resolution was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

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

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