Meeting called to order by Council President, Houston.

Present: Thomas, Davis, (F. Johnson via phone), Houston, Lindemann.  
Absent: None.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Dr. Rhett Payne, First Presbyterian Church, followed by the pledge to the flag.

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 changes: Remove R-2 (Order confirming the Mayor’s appointment of Tyler Norman to the Meridian Airport Authority Board.) Add R-9 (Order confirming members to the Tourism Commission: Dr. Otis Gowdy, Jr., Neil Henry, Steve Mann.) Add R-10 (Resolution authorizing submittal of grant application for the Lakewood Dam Repair.) Add Executive Session: pending litigation, potential litigation and property purchase. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

After Executive Session Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to confirm the agenda with the following changes: Add R-11 (Order authorizing deed of property back to JOJ Properties, LLC.) Add R-12 (Order amending Order No, 16849 to remove Section 4.4 from the Comcast Franchise Agreement.) Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None. Absent: F. Johnson.

Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve the minutes dated December 01, 2020. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.

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

ORDER #17051   IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF ROBERT H. JEFFARES TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

And, Councilman Lindemann seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:
Yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.

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

ORDER #17052 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF LINDA SELTZER TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

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

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

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

ORDER #17053 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF CRAIG WILKES TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

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

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

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

ORDER #17054 IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DUFFEE WILLIAMS TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
ORDER #17055  IN THE MATTER OF: THE CONFIRMATION OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DONIA EVANS TO THE MERIDIAN TREE COMMISSION

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

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

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

ORDER #17056  ORDER DONATING 1993 E-ONE FIRE TRUCK THAT WAS DECLARED SURPLUS VIA ORDER #17025 TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY MISSISSIPPI FIRE SERVICE

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

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

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

ORDER #17057  ORDER ACCEPTING HOLD HARLESS AGREEMENT FROM VELDORE YOUNG-GRAHAM FOR DITCH CLEANING ON PROPERTY AT 425 26TH AVENUE, MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

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

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

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

ORDER #17058  ORDER ACCEPTING HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS FROM CHARLES L. YOUNG, ARTHUR S. YOUNG, AND VELDORE YOUNG-GRAHAM FOR DITCH CLEANING ON PROPERTY AT 425 26TH AVENUE, MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

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

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

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

ORDER #17059 ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN TRANSMAP CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (PAVEMENT CONDITION INDEX PROJECT)

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

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

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

ORDER #17060 ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT BETWEEN HEMPHILL CONSTRUCTION AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN (HIGHWAY 80 TRUNK LINE EMERGENCY REPAIR)

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

Yea: Davis, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: Thomas, F. Johnson.

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

ORDI. #4542 ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 3966 SO AS TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN LANDS IN THE CITY OF MERIDIAN FROM INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT INCLUDING AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MERIDIAN

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

Yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann.
Nay: None.
Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and passed by a majority vote of the Council to approve Section (1) Payroll of the claims docket in the amount of $1,200,345.92. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston. Voting nay: Lindemann.

Motion was made by Councilwoman F. Johnson duly seconded by Councilman Lindemann and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council to approve Section (2) Mandatory & Operational Items of the claims docket in the amount of $1,773,627.09 plus ACH Payment #210546 in the amount of $81,474.25 bringing the amount to $1,855,101.34. Voting yea: Thomas, Davis, F. Johnson, Houston, Lindemann. Voting nay: None.


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

**ORDER #17061** IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPOINTMENT BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF DR. OTIS GOWDY, JR., TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION

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

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

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

**ORDER #17062** IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPOINTMENT BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEIL A. HENRY, TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION

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

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

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

**ORDER #17063** IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPOINTMENT BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF STEVE E. MANN, TO THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION
And, Councilman Thomas seconded the motion, whereupon said Order was discussed, passed and adopted by the Council by a vote as follows:

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

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

RESO. #6304  RESOLUTION REQUESTING REHABILITATION OF HIGH HAZARD POTENTIAL DAMS GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS AND AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDING

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

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

The City Council reviews the routine financial reports of the city; claims dockets and monthly reports of payroll, revenue, expenditure and combined FY' 2021 budget.

President Houston called for presentations:

1. Notification of legal advertisement:
   a. Request for Proposals for FY' 2020 & 2021 Audits
3. Derron Radcliff – United Way – rescheduled

President Houston called for the Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Bland – Activity is being done on the Progressive Pipeline building renovation for a corporate headquarters on front street. We have 21 building permits issued for new and renovation of buildings around the city. The police department is stepping up the police presence in all the shopping areas. Public Works has increased calls about potholes because of rainy weather. The Sela Ward Parkway Project is on schedule and Dr. Dobbs is scheduled for a video conference with the Public Safety Training Facility.

There were no citizen comments.

President Houston called for Council comments:

Various comments were made by the Council Members.
An executive session was requested regarding pending litigation, existing litigation and property purchase. Motion was made by Councilman Lindemann duly seconded by Councilman Thomas and unanimously passed by the Council to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an executive session. Councilwoman F. Johnson had already signed off from the meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Lindemann duly seconded by Councilman Davis and unanimously passed by the Council to declare an executive session in order to discuss pending litigation, existing litigation and property purchase. The Council then went into executive session. Motion was made by Councilman Thomas duly seconded by Councilman Davis and unanimously passed by the Council to go out of executive session with the following action:

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

ORDER #17064 ORDER GRANTING OUTCLAIM DEED TO JOJ PROPERTIES, LLC

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

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

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

ORDER #17065 ORDER AMENDING ORDER NO. 16849 “ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COMCAST OF MERIDIAN, INC., AND THE CITY OF MERIDIAN” TO DELETE SECTION NO. 4.4 OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

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

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

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