

## **REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2017**

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Regular meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 6:00 p.m. on January 3, 2017. The Mayor presiding, Aldermen Gill, McDonnell, Cody, Cox, Dalgo and Impey were present. Also present was City Clerk Shelly Ferguson and City Attorney Kevin Melchi. Alderman Denyer was absent.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Alderman Cody gave the invocation and the Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The discussion concerning the residential sprinkler ordinance was pulled from the agenda due to Alderman Denyer's absence.

### **ADDENDUM**

Motion was made by Alderman Gill, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to add the Addendum to the Agenda.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to adopt the Resolution of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi to Support the YMCA Request for BP Funding. (Exhibit A-1a)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Mayor stated she is getting a lot of complaints about A-frame signage and banners on Highway 90. The Mayor said she is concerned about the signs being too close to the highway creating a traffic hazard and becoming an eye sore. The Community Development and Planning Director said the code states that A-frame signs are limited to one per business to advertise daily specials and/or sales and placed outside the business during business hours only. The director of the Building Department stated part of the problem is the City closes at 5:00 p.m. and most businesses are open until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. therefore, the signs are left out overnight.

The Mayor has asked the Building Director to ask other cities how they handle A-frame signs, banners, and pennant flags.

The Building Official and Building Inspector will be going to the businesses to give them a letter regarding the sign ordinance.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vicki Rhodes, previous owner of Rhodes Flooring, expressed her concerns about the signage along Highway 90. She stated that Highway 90 is the gateway to our community and it's what the visitors see. She stated if we want visitors to stay here and spend tax dollars here we need to make it more presentable. Mrs. Rhodes stated the city needs to do something to enforce the sign ordinance. She said Highway 90 looks horrible and that business owners need to remove all torn, damaged, and faded signs and banners. Mrs. Rhodes said as a business owner she believes that if they have to follow the rules then all business owners should have to also.

Linda Cox, Pinehill Road, a retired Special Education teacher found a bunch of cats. She was planning to start trapping, neutering and releasing them. She feels the city needs to be more humane when it comes to trapping. She said a lot of citizens that pay a lot of taxes are wanting to give their own money to have the animals neutered and allow them to live out their lives.

Val Klish, 503 Heatherstone, stated Ms. Cox is right about the Jackson County Animal Shelter. She has personally paid to have 388 cats spayed/neutered, and shots. She has also found homes for all but 13 of them. Ms. Klish stated we have a young veterinarian that is going to spay and neuter for the price of \$60.00 for females and \$35.00 for males. If anyone would like to help her find these animals homes, or pay to have some of them spay and neutered contact her.

The Mayor told Ms. Cox and Ms. Klish to contact her office if they are interested in joining a group with includes some employees from the shelter to help review the current animal ordinances and possible revise them.

Alderman Cody said they are planning to meet with the Board of Supervisors about the Jackson County Animal Shelter to see how we can go about following what Harrison County does.

Don Abrams commended the city for the great job the city has done with the property on Magnolia Avenue, Kudzu Lot. He stated the neighbors are extraordinarily pleased with this job.

Dr. Bill Moore wanted to publically thank the Board for the work they do and also apologized to Alderman Dalgo and Alderman Impey for getting a little excited over the residential sprinkler ordinance issue at the Board Meeting a couple of weeks ago.

Rosemary Roosa, with the Walter Anderson Museum of Art, wished the board a Happy New Year. She also extended an invitation for everyone to come to the museum for a visit.

Alderman Dalgo talked about the water that is leaking through the block walls in the Ocean Springs Community Center. The walls are cracking and a white, powdery substance is coming out of the wall. He is really concerned about the murals on the walls.

## **CONSENT**

Motion made by Alderman Gill, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Mayor mentioned ongoing discussions about providing water service to Colonial Estates water system. This is the neighborhood north of CC Camp Road which is right outside the city limits. The City holds the certificate to this area and it's up to the City to supply the water. This project will cost approximately \$40,000.00.

James Foster made it clear that he does not know if Colonial Estates lines are adequate enough to tie into. Mr. Foster stated all the City is doing is providing water from our line on Carla Court down to a tie in point on their distribution system. It will remain Colonial Estates distribution system and they are responsible for maintaining it.

Motion made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Dalgo to authorize the mayor contact the county and DRM about funding the Colonial Estates project. (Exhibit 7-a)

The Planning Director updated the Board on the successful completion of the 2016 Occupant Protection Grant.

The Building Official notified the Board about damage to a live oak tree on Washington Avenue in front of Lovelace Drug Store. He had an arborist examine the tree and once he gets the report from the arborist he will come back to the Board with his recommendation.

## **ALDERMAN'S FORUM**

Alderman Gill discussed some drainage and flooding issues behind five houses on Princess Anne Drive in Fort Bayou Estates Subdivision. He stated there is a ditch that runs between

the homes and Ocean Springs Nursing Home. This ditch is full of debris and has created a dam which is causing the backyards to these five homes to flood. He wants to work with the Building Official and the nursing home to see what can be done to alleviate the drainage problem that is causing the flooding in these backyards.

Alderman McDonnell asked James Foster if Johnny Groue came up with a list of equipment that needs repairs and the cost associated with it. Mr. Foster stated he had and would send it to them.

Alderman Cody mentioned having an assessment of all the trees on Washington Avenue.

Motion made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor, City Clerk, and Building Official to find \$3100.00 in the budget to have an assessment done on the trees along Washington Avenue from Highway 90 to Calhoun Street.

Alderman Cox had the Deputy Clerk report on the cost of the list of supplies still needed for the Ryan Youth Center. The Deputy Clerk reported a cost of approximately \$4000.00 to purchase janitorial and cleaning supplies, ice machine, tables, and chairs. Alderman McDonnell asked to have an itemized list of these supplies emailed to all of the Alderman to review.

Alderman Dalgo discussed the mural at Bowen and Washington on the side of Classy Compliments needs to be restored. Alderman Dalgo will talk to Chris Stebly and see what it will take to repair and report back to the Board.

Motion made by Alderman Dalgo, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to spend \$600.00 from Ward 5 budget for colored lighting at the entrance of the Walter Anderson Museum of Art building.

Alderman Impey thanked the Building Official and McClain's Tree Service for the work they did in Parktown Subdivision.

Alderman Impey asked if the BP list of jobs has been firmed up and prioritized. The Mayor stated she and the Planning Director will put a list together and send to all of the Aldermen.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Gill and unanimously carried to go into closed session to determine the necessity of going into executive session.

The City Clerk returned to the meeting and announced a motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to remain in executive session to discuss personnel in the Public Works Department.

Motion made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to come out of executive session and into regular session.

Motion made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Cody and unanimously carried to appoint James Foster as interim Director of Public Works pending contract negotiations with Compton Engineering.

Motion was made by Alderman Cody, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to recess until 6:00 p.m. on January 17, 2017.

The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor

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Date

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Date

**AGENDA**  
**MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**January 3, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Discussion concerning the residential sprinkler ordinance – Alderman Greg Denyer

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Discussion on A-frame signage and banners on Highway 90 – Mayor Moran

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes. The Board will take all comments under advisement for potential action at a later date if warranted.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA\***

*\* Consent Agenda – All matters listed under Item 6, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.*

**Mayor:**

- a) Authorize to adopt a resolution of the City of Ocean Springs recognizing Municipal Government Week, January 15-21, 2017, and encouraging all citizens to support the celebration and corresponding activities. (Exhibit 6-a)
- b) Authorize to appoint Candice Hooks, Public Works Assistant Director, as City Liaison to the Perseverance Oak Program. (Exhibit 6-b)

**City Clerk:**

- c) Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting December 8, 2016 (Exhibit 6-c)
- d) Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting December 20, 2016 (Exhibit 6-d)
- e) Approve payment: Docket of Claims and spread summary upon the Minutes (Exhibit 6-e)
- f) Accept Action Report (Exhibit 6-f)
- g) Approve Run/Walk Permit Application for a benefit 5K walk/run for Ariana Farragut sponsored by Good Fight Foundation, Inc. to be held on Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. using the approved OS Bridge/Front Beach 5K route, pending costs incurred by City (Exhibit 6-g)

**Police Dept.:**

**Fire Dept.:**

- h) Authorize to remove Firefighter Joshua Jones from probationary status to full time status effective January 4, 2017. (Exhibit 6-h)
- i) Authorize the request to rescind the resignation of Firefighter Evan Powell and to remove from probationary status to full time status effective January 4, 2017. (Exhibit 6-i)
- j) Authorize to hire Jeffery Napier, Firefighter, \$10.42 hourly, effective January 4, 2017; one year probation; pending successful completion of all pre-employment testing, (Exhibit 6-j)
- k) Authorize to promote Lieutenant Tim Heath and Lieutenant Ray West to Battalion Chief, salaries pending HR Committee approval, six-month probationary period, effective January 14, 2017. (Exhibit 6-k)
- l) Authorize to promote Firefighter Michael Williams and Firefighter Simon Wagner to Fire Lieutenant, salaries pending HR Committee approval, six-month probationary period, effective January 14, 2017. (Exhibit 6-l)

**Risk Manager/HR:**

**City Engineer:**

**Public Works:**

- m) Authorize to hire David Williams, Street Department Laborer C, \$12.00 hourly, effective January 4, 2017, one year probation; pending successful completion of all pre-employment requirements. (Exhibit 6-m)

**Community Development & Planning:**

- n) Authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all loan documents associated with the MDA Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Project; approved loan amount of \$110,500.00. (Exhibit 6-n)

**Planning Commission:**

- o) Accept Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the Short Term Rental Permit for David K. Fussell/Trustee, Fussell Ocean Springs Trust – 305 Ward Avenue, PID# 61011071.000 (Exhibit 6-o)
- p) Accept Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the Short Term Rental Permit for Donald W. Abrams – 1708 Warren Drive, PID# 61125015.000. (Exhibit 6-p)
- q) Accept Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the Short Term Rental Permit for Kari White – 1307 Bowen Avenue, PID# 60137076.050 (Exhibit 6-q)

**Building Department:**

**Parks & Leisure Services:**

**City Attorney:**

**Peer Review Committee:**

**H.R. Committee:**

**Finance Committee:**

**7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Mayor:**

- a) Discussion on providing service to Colonial Estates water system (Exhibit 7-a)

**City Clerk:**

**Police Dept.:**

**Fire Dept.:**

**Risk Manager/HR:**

**City Engineer:**

**Public Works:**

**Community Development & Planning:**

- b) Update on the Occupant Protection grant OP-2016-OP-31-61. (Exhibit 7-b)

**Building Department:**

**Parks & Leisure Services:**

**City Attorney:**

**Peer Review Committee:**

**H.R. Committee:**

**Finance Committee:**

**8. ALDERMEN'S FORUM**

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RECESS UNTIL 6:00 P.M. on January 17, 2017**

**ADDENDUM TO AGENDA**  
**MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**January 3, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.**

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mayor:**

- a) Authorize to adopt the Resolution of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi to Support the YMCA Request for BP Funding. (Exhibit A-a1)