

SPECIAL CALL MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2018

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs met in a Special Call Meeting at City Hall in the City of Ocean Springs at 5:30 p.m. on October 11, 2018. Mayor Dobson presiding, Aldermen Cox, Gill, Authement, Bellman, Papania, Blackman, and Impey were present. Also present was Interim City Clerk Patty Gaston and City Attorney Kevin Melchi.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

The Special Call Meeting is for the purpose of any and all matters pertaining to Approving Minutes for Special Call Meeting, September 7, 2018 (Exhibit a), Approving Minutes for Special Call Meeting September 14, 2018 (Exhibit b), Approving Minutes for Recess Meeting September 18, 2018 (Exhibit c), Approving Minutes for Special Call Meeting September 24, 2018 (Exhibit d), MDOT Government Street Improvement Project: Authorization to Negotiate Termination of Contract with D. O'Brian Construction, LLC , Discuss Request for Qualifications and Request for Proposals for City Services(Exhibit f), Adopt Resolution for Assistance from Jackson County with Highway 57 Sports Complex Improvements (Exhibit g), Status of Deputy City Clerk job posting and Executive Session for Court Fines and Court Personnel.

Motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Blackman and unanimously carried to table items (a), (b) and (d).

Motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Gill and unanimously carried to approve the minutes for the Recess Meeting of September 18, 2018 (Exhibit c).

Motion was made by Alderman Blackman, seconded by Alderman Cox and unanimously carried to authorize the negotiation of termination of contract with D. O'Brian Construction LLC.

The Building Official stated that he had finished drafting the Request for Qualifications related to the Stormwater Engineering services and had sent it to be reviewed by the City Attorney and the Mayor's Executive Assistant. The Building Official also stated that Allen Engineering's existing five year permit for stormwater would remain under the current obligation due to the City already having paid them.

The Mayor started a discussion as to whether or not to hire an in-house engineer. Alderman Bellman responded that the City should issue a Request for Qualifications for a firm regardless if the City hires an in-house engineer. Alderman Gill asked the Public Works Director how things were handled when the City had previously hired an in-house engineer. He responded that the engineer was overwhelmed with the workload and had

to outsource much of the work despite having an assistant and secretary. Alderman Gill said that at that time the City was paying excessively due to the cost of the City engineer and their staff as well as the outsourcing needs which was why he was in favor of having a firm rather than an in-house engineer. Alderman Blackman responded by saying that he had put together a list at the board members request of what an in-house engineer would bring to the City. He further stated that some of the benefits included but are not limited to: the engineer working exclusively for the City rather than for other cities, their salary would be cheaper as opposed to the expense of a firm, they would handle most of the City's needs outside of large projects, they would have great knowledge of the City's infrastructure, have the ability to handle problems quicker since they would be fully devoted to the City, and they would have a one year probation as opposed to a one year contract. Alderman Cox stated that the City would need to set aside the most accurate pay for an in-house engineer to determine how much of the cost of a firm would be offset. Alderman Impey stated that a firm was in the best interest of the City. Alderman Cox stated that since surveying was the highest expense of the City and was extra outside of the current contract, that it should be included in the new contract. Alderman Gill stated that his desire was for the board to delay its decision to go out for bid for an engineering firm and the Mayor decided to wait until the following Recess Meeting to finish the discussion.

Alderman Cox stated that the board should wait to issue the garbage bid and he asked that debris removal and street sweepers be added as alternates. He also suggested that the board should look into the City of Gulfport's contract for street sweeping and Alderman Blackman responded by saying that their Public Works Department had been privatized. Alderman Impey said that the City needs better comfort stations for its festivals and suggested that these be placed in the proposal. Alderman Blackman asked the Building Inspector about the possibility of having a restroom trailer instead of a comfort station. Alderman Cox responded by stating that the City would do well to add the comfort station into the proposal and choose later if it wanted to build its own comfort station. Further discussion was made on the proposal to include language concerning the sanitary needs of the comfort stations.

The Mayor tabled item (f) concerning Discussion for Request for Qualifications/Proposals until the board had a consensus on the direction that they want to pursue.

Alderman Cox stated that the Resolution for Assistance from Jackson County with Highway 57 Sports Complex Improvements was concerning placing limestone at the existing parking lot at the sports complex. Motion was made by Alderman Cox, seconded by Alderman Bellman and unanimously carried to adopt the resolution.

The Interim City Clerk stated that the job description for the Deputy City Clerk position had been updated to add more things that were necessary for that position. The Human Resources Director informed the board that the position had been advertised for a period of two weeks.

Motion was made by Alderman Gill, seconded by Alderman Authement and unanimously carried to go into closed session to determine the necessity of remaining in closed session.

Motion was made by Alderman Authement, seconded by Alderman Blackman and unanimously carried to stay in executive session for discussion of Court fines and personnel in the Court department.

Motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Gill and unanimously carried to leave executive session.

Motion was made by Alderman Impey, seconded by Alderman Bellman and unanimously carried to adjourn the Special Call meeting.

The meeting ended at 6:31 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor

**CITY OF OCEAN SPRINGS
COUNTY OF JACKSON
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

Call for a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

From: Mayor Dobson


To: Aldermen Cox, Gill, Authement, Bellman, Papania, Blackman, and Impey

You are hereby notified that a Special Call Meeting is called to meet at City Hall at **5:30 p.m., Thursday, October 11, 2018.**

THE OBJECT OF THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

Any and all matters pertaining to:

- a) Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting September 7, 2018
- b) Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting September 14, 2018
- c) Approve Minutes: Recess Meeting September 18, 2018
- d) Approve Minutes: Special Call Meeting September 24, 2018
- e) MDOT Government Street Improvement Project: Authorization to Negotiate Termination of Contract with D. O'Brian Construction, LLC
- f) Discuss Request for Qualifications and Request for Proposals for City Services
- g) Adopt resolution for assistance from Jackson County with Highway 57 Sports Complex improvements
- h) Status of Deputy City Clerk job posting
- i) Executive Session – Court fines and Court personnel



Shea Dobson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patty Gaston, Interim City Clerk