

Minute Book 32

July 26, 2022

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

OF THE

MAYOR

AND

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

OF THE

TOWN OF TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI

OFFICERS:

Mayor Andrew T. Dulaney

Alderman Lee B. Turner

Alderman Valerie Hartsfield

Alderman Rebecca P. Fyfe

Alderman Adam Fullilove

Alderman Daniel M. Pierce

Town Attorney Richard W. Ryals, II

Town Clerk Kate Scott Pennock

Chief of Police Kevin Hatton

Town Chaplain Danny Smith

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD
OF ALDERMEN HELD JULY 26, 2022

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Tunica, held a meeting on Tuesday, July 26, 2022. The meeting was held in the Boardroom in the Municipal Complex at 909 River Road in the Town of Tunica, Mississippi, beginning at 8:00 a.m. with the following present or absent as indicated below:

Mayor Andrew T. Dulaney	Present
Alderman Lee B. Turner	Present
Alderman Valerie Hartsfield	Present
Alderman Rebecca P. Fyfe	Present
Alderman Adam Fullilove	Present
Alderman Daniel M. Pierce	Present
Town Clerk Kate Scott Pennock	Present
Town Attorney Richard W. Ryals, II	Absent
*Via telephone.	

Others in attendance are listed on the attendance sheet - None. Chief Hatton and Officer Redmond were at the meeting.

A copy of the notice which was posted and given to each Alderman was received and directed to be attached hereto as Appendix A.

Mayor Dulaney called the meeting to order.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen next considered holding an Executive Session, as authorized pursuant to Section 25-41-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Alderman Turner moved that a closed determination be held to discuss whether an executive session is needed to be held and is appropriate. Alderman Pierce seconded the motion. Thereupon, the matter was put to a vote with the results as follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, yea; Alderman Fyfe, yea; Alderman Fullilove, yea; and Alderman Pierce, yea. The matter having received the majority affirmative vote of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Tunica, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the Mayor and Board held a closed determination on the issue of whether an executive session is necessary. Mayor Dulaney stated that the purpose for holding the executive session would be to discuss police personnel relating to Officer Redmond (the "Executive Session Matter").

Based on this, Alderman Pierce moved that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen hold an executive session to discuss, consider and act on the Executive Session Matter. Alderman

Fullilove seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result as follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, yea; Alderman Fyfe, yea; Alderman Fullilove, yea; and Alderman Pierce, yea. The matter having received the majority affirmative vote of the Board of Aldermen of Tunica, the Mayor declared the same carried and the Board entered executive session to consider the Executive Session Matters. Present during the executive session were the Mayor, all members of the Board of Aldermen, Town Clerk Pennock, Chief Hatton and Officer LaMelanie Redmond.

During the executive session, Chief Kevin Hatton reported that Officer LaMelanie Redmond failed to show up for work. In order to allow all of the officers to attend a one day training event being sponsored by Sheriff Hamp, Chief Hatton had stated that he would work the nightshift. Chief Hatton was informed shortly after lunch on the day of the training that the ended earlier than scheduled (shortly after 1:00 p.m. when it was scheduled to last until 5:00 p.m.) Chief Hatton requested Investigator Cheslock notify the two nightshift officers to report to duty at 12:00 a.m. Through some confusion, Officer Redmond did not come to work and failed to timely respond to the calls/text messages from Chief Hatton. Officer Redmond stated that she had understood that she was off that night and that Chief Hatton was covering the shift. Her understanding was that issues relating to the schedule was be handled by the Chief and not through Investigator Cheslock. Chief Hatton recommended a two day suspension without pay. Following the general discussion, Chief Hatton and Officer Redmond were excused. After a discussion of the incident, Alderman Turner moved to approve a 1-day suspension without pay, which has been served having been the Sunday night into Monday morning shift. Alderman Fullilove seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, yea; Alderman Fyfe, yea; Alderman Fullilove, yea; and Alderman Pierce, yea. Thereupon, the matter was put to a vote and the same having received the unanimous affirmative vote of all Alderman present, the Mayor declared the same carried and adopted.

Following the discussion, Alderman Turner moved to leave executive session. Alderman Fullilove seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, yea; Alderman Fyfe, yea; Alderman Fullilove, yea; and Alderman Pierce, yea. The matter having received the majority affirmative vote of the Board of Aldermen of Tunica, the Mayor declared the same carried and the Board ended the executive session and returned to open meeting. Mayor Dulaney announced the actions taken during executive session.

With there being no other business, Alderman Pierce moved to adjourn the meeting. Alderman Fyfe seconded the motion. Thereupon, the matter was put to a vote and the same having received the unanimous affirmative vote of all Aldermen present, the Mayor declared the same carried and adopted, and the meeting adjourned this 26th day of July 2022.

Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk

APPENDIX A – NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR & BOARD OF
ALDERMAN – TOWN OF TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI**

Notice is hereby given that Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor, has and does hereby call a special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Tunica to be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. in the Board Room located in Town Hall, 909 River Road, Tunica, Mississippi, at which date/time/place, the following items will be considered and acted upon:

1. Police Department Personnel;
2. Receive executed MOU Paving and authorize engineering selection;
3. Authorize engineering contract-MDOT-TAP;
4. Adjourn.



MAYOR

Dated: July 21, 2022, 2:03 p.m.

This notice shall be serviced on Lee B. Turner, Valerie Hartsfield, Rebecca P. Fyfe, Adam Fullilove, Daniel M. Pierce, and Richard “Wes” Ryals, II, who are hereby notified of the special meeting. Additionally, this notice is being posted at Town Hall. This notice is given as contemplated by Section 21-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

Notice of the foregoing call of Special Board Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Tunica, Mississippi was accepted electronically via email by each Member of the Board of Alderman as of the date/time indicated and the undersigned hereby join in the call for said meeting.

NAME:

DATE AND HOUR:

Lee B. Turner

7-21-2022 8:07pm

Valerie Hartsfield

7-22-2022 6:41pm

Rebecca P. Fyfe

7-21-2022

Adam Fullilove

7-21-2022 6:38pm

Daniel M. Pierce

7-21-2022