

REGULAR FIRST TUESDAY JANUARY 2023, MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

BE IT REMEMBERED that Tuesday, January 3, 2023, being the first Tuesday of said month and the day fixed by Board order for holding the first monthly meeting, said meeting was held in the Boardroom in the Municipal Complex at 909 River Road in the Town of Tunica, Mississippi, beginning at 3:00 p.m. with the following present or absent as indicated below:

Mayor Andrew T. Dulaney	Present
Alderman Lee B. Turner	Present
Alderman Valerie Hartsfield	Absent
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	Present
Police Chief Kevin Hatton	Present
Operations Manager Thomas J. Robinson, III	Present
Public Works Supervisor Reggie Griffin	Present
Town Chaplain Danny Smith	Absent
*Via telephone – as indicated.	

Others in attendance are listed on the attendance sheet.

APPENDIX A – ATTENDANCE SHEET

Mayor Dulaney called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance. In Mr. Smith's absence, Alderman Pierce led in prayer.

The Board considered the minutes from the December 20, 2022, meeting. Alderman Pierce moved to approve the minutes as written and previously provided to the Board of Aldermen. 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.

The Board then considered the claims for December 2022. It was noted that a summary of the claims was previously provided to the Board. After a brief discussion of the claims and a review by Mayor Dulaney, Alderman Fyfe moved to approve the claims as presented. Alderman Fullilove 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.

APPENDIX B – DECEMBER CLAIMS

OLD BUSINESS: None.

REPORTS:

- Police Report: Police Chief Hatton reported on the most recent activity and discussed current issues. Following a review of the report, Chief Hatton was thanked for the information.
- Public Works: Mr. Robinson and Mr. Griffin gave the Board an overview of the recent activities for the water/sewer department and public works department. Mr. Griffin discussed issues at the post office as well as the farmers' market. Following the updates, each were thanked for the information.

The Board next discussed the engineering contract for the MDOT – TA project. The Board has previously approved the contract. It has been signed by Neel-Schaffer, Inc. The engineering contract was submitted to the Mississippi Transportation Commission for the Commission's concurrence. MTC has now concurred in the engineering contract and the Town is officially authorized to execute and deliver the same. Following a brief discussion, Alderman Pierce moved that the Board approve the engineering contract as previously approved, and authorize and direct Andrew Dulaney, Mayor, to execute and deliver the same. Alderman Fullilove seconded the motion. This action is in addition to the prior action previously taken by the Board. 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.

APPENDIX C – ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH NEEL-SCHAFFER, INC– MDOT-TAP GRANT

The Mayor and Board next discussed the DRA project. The Board was advised that the project is substantially complete. The Board has received a request for payment from the engineer (Fisher & Arnold) and contractor (Magnolia Underground). The engineering has approved the contractor's pay application. Following a discussion, Alderman Turner moved that the contractor's pay application and the engineer's invoice be approved and paid. Further, Mayor Dulaney was authorized to execute such documents as are deemed necessary, required or desirable in connection approving the pay application, the engineer's invoice and a request for reimbursement from DRA from the grant funds. 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.

APPENDIX D - MAGNOLIA UNDERGROUND PAY APPLICATION, FISHER & ARNOLD INVOICE, REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST TO DRA

The Mayor and Board discussed designating a committee to develop a list of senior citizens in order that various programs might be considered and organized. No action was taken.

The Mayor and Board discussed adopting a resolution commemorating the service of Trentiss Gordon. Alderman Fullilove moved that a resolution be adopted by the Mayor and Board commemorating the service of Mr. Gordon. Alderman Pierce 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.

APPENDIX E – RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE OF TRENTISS GORDON

The Mayor and Board next discussed and considered the following official travel requests:

- Reggie Griffin, Mississippi Vector and Mosquito Control Association, January 18-20, 2023, Pearl, Mississippi
- Mayor, Board, Clerk and Attorney, MML Mid-winter Conference, January 10-12, 2023, Jackson, MS

Following a discussion of the travel and a finding that the best interest of the Town will be served and benefited from the educational opportunities afforded to the those traveling, Alderman Fyfe moved that the reference travel request be approved. And, to the extent requested, a travel advance shall be made as authorized by law. Alderman Fullilove 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.

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 Pierce moved that a closed determination be held to discuss whether an executive session is needed to be held and is appropriate. Alderman Fyfe seconded the motion. Thereupon, the matter was put to a vote with the results as follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, absent; 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 employee issues relating to Davonta Robinson and Billy Hollins (the “Executive Session Matter”).

Based on this, Alderman Turner moved that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen hold an executive session to discuss, consider and act on the Executive Session Matter. Alderman Pierce seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result as follows: Alderman Turner, Yea; Alderman Hartsfield, absent; 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, Board attorney, Clerk and all members of the Board of Aldermen except Alderman Hartsfield.

During the executive session, the Executive Session Matter was discussed and acted on as follows:

Devanta Robinson: The Board of Aldermen next discussed the employment of Mr. Robinson. The Board has approved Mr. Robinson participating in the Mississippi Rural Water Association's apprenticeship program. In order for Mr. Robinson to participate, the Board will need to agree to providing specific raises as Mr. Robinson meets certain standards and progresses successfully. Alderman Turner moved that the Board commit to approving 5% raises for Mr. Robinson as he successfully meets the various goals. Alderman Pierce 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.

Billy Hollins: The Board discussed moving Mr. Hollins from public works to the shop. Mr. Griffin has recommended and requested that this be approved. After a discussion. Alderman Fyfe moved that the request be approved and Mr. Hollins moved to the shop. Alderman Fullilove 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.

Following the discussion, Alderman Turner moved to leave executive session. Alderman Fyfe seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result follows: Alderman Turner, yea; Alderman Hartsfield, absent; 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 no other business, Alderman Fullilove 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 3rd day of January 2023.

Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk

APPENDIX A – ATTENDANCE SHEET

APPENDIX B – DECEMBER CLAIMS

APPENDIX C – ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH NEEL-SCHAFFER, INC.– MDOT-TAP GRANT

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