

REGULAR THIRD TUESDAY JULY 2023, MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

BE IT REMEMBERED that Tuesday, July 18, 2023, being the third Tuesday of said month and the day fixed by Board order for holding the second 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:

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| 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 | Present |
| Interim Police Chief Richard Veazey | Present |
| Operations Manager Thomas J. Robinson, III | Present |
| Public Works Supervisor Reggie Griffin | Present |
| Town Chaplain Danny Smith | Absent |
| *Participated via teleconference. | |

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. Vice Mayor Pierce led in prayer.

The Board considered the minutes from the July 5 and July 11, 2023, meetings. 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.

REPORTS:

- Police Report: Mr. Veazey reported for the Police Department. Mr. Veazey advised that he has been following up on the new car periodically. It is still not ready. They are waiting on the new backseat. Mr. Veazey advised that Investigator Cheslock graduated from Command College earlier this month. Office Saffold has started work and had his patrol

since being rehired by the Town. Finally, Mr. Veazey discussed having this 2019 Chief's vehicle marked and put back into service as a regular patrol vehicle. After a discussion, Alderman Turner moved that Mr. Veazey recommendation be accepted and the 2019 Chief's car be marked and used as a patrol vehicle. 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. Mr. Veazey was thanked for his report.

- Public Works: Mr. Robinson updated the Board with regard to water and sewer operations. Mr. Robinson briefly discussed the number of active leaks, a visit from MDEQ concerning the lagoon, a change in the treatment process that is proposed for the lagoon, the work done to have the inventory ready for the auditor, and the work to get two quotes for the Walker Magee pump station. Mr. Griffin updated the Board with regard to Public Works. Mr. Griffin advised that the dump truck has been repaired and is back in service, the sod has been put down where drainage work was done in Mr. Johnson's yard, and that the "no parking" signs have been ordered for the park. Mayor Dulaney advised that item 8 on the agenda relates to the purchase of new trailer for the public works department. Mayor Dulaney advised that Mr. Griffin has received two quotes – one from Aerial Truck Equipment Company, Inc. for \$7,800 and one from The Co-op for \$7,250. Mr. Griffin discussed the need for the trailer in order to haul equipment to job sites. After a discussion, Alderman Pierce moved that the low proposal of The Co-op for \$7,250 be accepted and the trailer purchased. Alderman Hartsfield 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. Mr. Griffin and Mr. Robinson were thanked for their reports.

APPENDIX B: QUOTES FOR A NEW TRAILER

- Tunica Main Street: Ms. Withers was not able to attend today's meeting. Mayor Dulaney briefly updated the Board with regard to Main Street news. No action was taken. With regard to upcoming events, Ms. Withers is working to have signs placed at Veteran's Park or the Post Office and another in the lot near the mural.
- Code Enforcement: David Graves gave an update on code enforcement issues. Mr. Graves discussed his report and the ongoing actions for code enforcement. Mr. Graves was thanked for the information. The Beatline Road lots will be considered by the Board at the Board's August 1, 2023, meeting.

The Mayor discussed a fire hydrant maintenance program. Following the discussion, the matter will be reviewed further and included as part of the budget for next year.

The Mayor next presented the fire building drawings. This the building that is proposed just north of Town Hall. The real property has been acquired from Tunica Planters, Inc. (the Flowers Family). Neel-Schaffer, Inc. is the engineer for the building. Mayor Dulaney advised that he has provided a copy of the plans to Scott Goff, Tunica Fire Chief. Mr. Goff has approved the plans. After a discussion of the matter, Alderman Turner moved that the Board authorize and approve a notice to bidders being given as required by law in order for the Board to received bids for the construction of the new facility, and that Andrew Dulaney and Kate Scott Pennock, Mayor and Clerk respectively, acting together or separately, be authorized to coordinate a date for the bid opening and cause the notice to be given. 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 Mayor next discussed a possible DRA grant application. Mayor Dulaney discussed the drainage ditches that are located partially in Town but primarily out of Town that need to be cleared in order to improve the drainage for the Houston Cove and Beatline Road/Friendship areas. The Town has previously requested that the Board of Supervisors address the issue. Mayor Dulaney has been in ongoing discussion with Dr. Willis on this issue and has discussed the Town's concern with the Tunica Count Soil and Water Conservation District. There is a call tomorrow with the interested parties to discuss a possible grant application. Alderman Hartsfield moved that Mayor Dulaney be authorized to coordinate with Tunica County, North Delta Planning & Development District and the Tunica County Soil and Water Conservation District concerning the proposed project to have the drainage ditches cleaned and cleared. 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.

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

- Betty Ashe, Preservation Commission to attend the training session and be reimbursed travel expenses. Training is required for all members and must be completed by September 30, 2023.
 - Regional Training: Vicksburg, MS August 15, 2023.

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 Hartsfield 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 Hartsfield 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 specific individuals namely the Town Clerk and Operation Manager, as well as the acquisition of right of real property. (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 Fyfe 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, Town Attorney Ryals and all members of the Board of Aldermen.

The Board discussed the job performance, duties and responsibilities of Kate Scott Pennock and Thomas J. Robinson. Mayor Dulaney advised that, like last year, over the course of the last 12 months, the Town has continued to aggressively pursue and apply for various grants. The Town has been successful on several of these agreement applications. These grants continue to place additional job duties and responsibilities on Ms. Pennock and Mr. Robinson. Mayor Dulaney advised that both have worked extremely hard on each of grants. As the Town moves forward on administering these grants and having the work implemented, he recommended that Ms. Pennock and Mr. Robinson's salaries each be increased \$3,000 annually beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to recognize and compensate them for the additional job duties and responsibilities that they have and will continue to have while these grants are being administered and the projects constructed. Following the recommendation, Alderman Fyfe moved that the recommendation be accepted and that Mr. Robinson and Ms. Pennock's annual salaries each be increased \$3,000 beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to compensate them for the additional job duties and responsibilities associated with the various grants that the Town been awarded. Alderman Turner 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, adopted and approved.

The Board of Aldermen next discussed the acquisition of real property and/or right of way. Mayor Dulaney discussed the possible acquisition of real property and/or right of way along the old railroad from the Veteran's Park south to the tennis courts and then east to School

Street. Following the discussion, Alderman Turner moved that Mayor Dulaney be authorized to contract to have appraisals performed on the three tracts of real property which have been donated to the Town – two relating to the sidewalk project and one relating to the fire station project. Additionally, that Neel-Schaffer, Inc. be approved to perform surveying services relating to the acquisition of right of way for the sidewalk project including the possible exchange of property owned by the Town (and surveying of it). Alderman Pierce 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, adopted and approved.

Following the discussion, Alderman Fullilove moved to leave executive session. Alderman Turner 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 that were taken during executive session.

Mayor Dulaney brief discussed a pilot program that DRA has. The program is being implemented by the University of Memphis. No action was taken.

With no other business, Alderman Turner moved to adjourn the meeting. 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, and the meeting adjourned this 18th day of July 2023.

Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk

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APPENDIX B: QUOTES FOR A NEW TRAILER