

**REGULAR THIRD TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 2021, MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

BE IT REMEMBERED that Tuesday, September 21, 2021, being the third Tuesday of said month and the day fixed by Board order for holding the third 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	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
Police Chief Kevin Hatton	Absent
Operations Manager Thomas J. Robinson, III	Absent
Town Chaplain Danny Smith	Absent
*Via telephone.	

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. Alderman Turner led in prayer.

The Board considered the minutes from the September 7 and 14, 2021, meetings. Alderman Pierce moved to approve the minutes as written and previously provided to the Board of Aldermen. 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.

REPORTS:

- Police Report: Investigator Cheslock reported for the Police Department. As part of his report, Investigator Cheslock introduced the Terrence Webb to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.**
- Public Works: Kelvin Cooke reported on public works and other operations.**
- Tunica Mainstreet: Laura Withers reported for Tunica Mainstreet. Ms. Withers updated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the successful Fall Shopping Event. Additionally, Ms. Withers reminded everyone of the fall festival to be held October 2, 2021, in Rivergate Park. This will be a combined event of Small Town Saturday and Touch-A-Truck. Finally, Ms. Wither updated everyone on the status of the mural project.**
- Code Report: David Graves reported on code enforcement. Following a review of Mr. Graves report, Mr. Graves was thanked for his efforts.**

Representatives from Mississippi Municipal Service Corporation will present an insurance quote to the board at a later time.

A copy of the adopted budget and tax levy for fiscal year 2022 are available for the public. Mayor Dulaney advised that a copy of the budget has been posted as required by law. A

copy of the tax levy will be posted as well and provided to the Mississippi Department of Revenue. A statement confirming the proper posting of the budget was received and directed to be included in the minutes as Appendix B. Alderman Pierce moved to receive proof of posting of the budget. Alderman Fullilove seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote and having received the unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Alderman, the Mayor declared the same carried, adopted, and approved.

APPENDIX B –STATEMENT CONFIRMING POSTING OF BUDGET

Under old business, the Mayor advised the Board that requests for application for the Chief of Police position have been emailed the Mississippi Chiefs of Police Association and Mississippi Municipal Clerks Association for distribution. The application was also emailed to Sheriff K. C. Hamp and Mississippi Department of Employment Security. The deadline for receiving applications is October 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

The Mayor and Board considered and discussed traffic control and safety issues with the alley between School Street and Edward Avenue between Hickory and Shady Lane. There have been a number of incidences of petty theft including cars being gone through, items stolen form the yard and carport area, etc. Earlier, an individual broke into the Allen’s house. The Mayor advised the Board that the Town could help correct these issues by restricting access to vehicle and pedestrian traffic. There are sidewalks and paved roads all around the area which are more than adequate to serve vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Additionally, due to work on the sewer line in the alley, the alley is not smooth and is not lit. This could create a dangerous condition for pedestrians. Alderman Pierce moved to approve restricting vehicle and pedestrian access to the alley between School Street and Edwards Avenue between Hickory and Shady Lane to help decrease traffic and safety issues. A fence will be constructed across the same in order to a prevent use of the alley. Alderman Turner seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote and having received the unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Alderman, the Mayor declared the same carried, adopted, and approved.

The Mayor and Board next discussed and considered purchasing pumpkins, mums, and other fall items for decorating the downtown area. Alderman Hartsfield moved to approve purchasing fall decorations, not to exceed \$1,000.00, for the downtown area. 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 Planning Commission held its meeting earlier this month. It is anticipated that by the Board’s second meeting in October, the Planning Commission will make a firm recommendation relating to various amendments to the Town of Tunica Zoning Regulations to address car sales/repairs, bail bondsmen and short term rentals.

The Mayor and Board next considered and discussed making various appointments as required by law. The following individuals were considered for the positions as indicated effective October 1, 2021:

<u>Position:</u>	<u>Name:</u>
Utility/Purchase Clerk	Mary Green
Street Supervisor	Kelvin Cooke
Water/Operations/Bldg Supervisor	Thomas J. Robinson

After a review of the various positions and proposed individuals to fill said positions, Alderman Pierce moved that the individuals named above be appointed to the positions as

indicated with said individuals to serve a one year term beginning October 1, 2021, or until their successors are appointed. 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 next discussed and considered the following official travel requests:

- North Mississippi Mayor's Association meeting in Tupelo on September 23, 2021. Due to a conflict with an MML, Mayor Dulaney has requested Vice Mayor Pierce attend for him.

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 Fullilove moved that the reference travel request be approved. And, to the extent requested, a travel advance shall be made as authorized by law. 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 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 personnel matters to include discussing each specific employee and his/her job duties, job performance and compensation, as well as the Chief of Police position (the "Executive Session Matter").

Based on this, Alderman Hartsfield moved that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen hold an executive session to discuss, consider and act on the Executive Session Matter. 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 and the Board entered executive session to consider the Executive Session Matters. Present during the executive session were the Mayor and all members of the Board of Aldermen.

During the executive session, the Executive Session Matter was discussed. Specifically, Mayor Dulaney provided each Aldermen with a list of the Town's employees. Mayor Dulaney briefly discussed and reviewed the job performance for each employee and made a recommendation for raises effective October 1, 2021. Following a discussion of the individual employees, Alderman Pierce moved that the recommendation be accepted and that effective October 1, 2021, the salaries for the employees to be set and approved as outlined in Appendix C. 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 approved.

Also, as part of the Executive Session Matter, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen discussed hiring Terrence Webb as a patrol officer at the rate of \$17.00 per hour as a fulltime employee. Following the discussion, Alderman Fullilove moved that Mr. Webb be hired as fulltime patrol officer for the Police Department at the rate of \$17.00 per hour. Alderman Turner 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 approved.

Following the discussion, Alderman Fyfe moved to leave executive session. Alderman Pierce 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 that no action was taken during executive session.

With no other business, Alderman Pierce moved to adjourn the meeting. 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, and the meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m. this 21st day of September, 2021.

Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk

APPENDIX A – ATTENDANCE SHEET

APPENDIX B – STATEMENT CONFIRMING POSTING OF BUDGET

APPENDIX C – EMPLOYEE SCHEDULE AND APPROVED SALARIES BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021