

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

BE IT REMEMBERED that Tuesday, October 17, 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:

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
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. In Mr. Smith's absence, Ms. Fyfe led in prayer.

The Board considered the minutes from the October 3 and October 6, 2023, meetings. Alderman Turner 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 updated the Board on Police activities. Mr. Veazey advised the Board that he has interviewed a candidate to be a new police officer. Based on the interview and the pre-employment screening, Mr. Veazey recommended that Michael Scott be hired as a patrol at the rate of

\$18.00 per hour. After the discussion, Alderman Fyfe moved that the recommendation of Mr. Veazey be accepted, and that Mr. Scott be hired as a patrol officer at the rate of \$18.00 per hour. Alderman Turner 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 regarding water and sewer operations. Mr. Griffin reviewed the projects that public works is currently handling. Following their report, they were thanked for the information.
- Tunica Main Street: Ms. Withers updated the Board regarding Main Street issues. Ms. Withers reviewed the Small-Town Saturday event that was held October 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, Ms. Withers updated the Board relating to the upcoming shopping social to be held November 9, 2023. No action was taken, and Ms. Withers was thanked for her report.
- Code Enforcement: David Graves gave an update on code enforcement issues. Mr. Graves was thanked for the information.
- Andrew Dulaney on behalf of Danny Smith advised of the upcoming community event. The Veterans Day event will be held Monday, November 13, 2023.

Next, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen recognized an employee for having served the Town continuously for a period of over fifteen years. Mayor Dulaney recognized Billy J. Hollins and presented him with a certificate acknowledging his years of service. Following the presentation, the Board members thanked Mr. Hollis for his hard work and service to the Town.

The Mayor and Board of Alderman next considered and discussed updating and restating its ordinance to regulate golf carts and low-speed vehicles. A copy of the proposed ordinance was provided to the Board members at the October 3, 2023, meeting. No one having any questions relating to the proposed changes which will bring the ordinance into compliance with the changes that have been made to State law, Alderman Turner moved that the Board of Alderman adopt the ordinance in the form which is attached hereto. 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 B: ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS THE USE OF LOW-SPEED VEHICLES AND GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI.

The Mayor and Board of Alderman next discussed the purchase of a new leaf machine. The Board was advised that two bids had been timely received. The bid process used was a reverse auction as authorized by Section 31-7-13. The lowest and best bid was from Covington Sales & Service, Inc. for \$106,000. A lower bid was received from Bonnell for \$105,500. However, the lower bid provided that the machine will not be delivered for 15 months which means the Town will not have use of the machine for the next two years of “leaf” season. This is a substantial deviation

from the bid specifications which require the machine to be delivered within 90 days. Also, the Town's current leaf collection machine is older and in a state of disrepair. The estimated cost to have the current machine repaired is over \$3,500 based on last year's estimate. Obtaining parts is difficult and timely. Additionally, the machine has experienced numerous issues each of the last several years so that the Town can anticipate additional repair expenses and, more importantly, downtime which causes the public works crew to get behind. This can result in drain issues and other problems and costs for the Town. Based on the above, Alderman Fyfe moved that Covington Sales and Service, Inc. be deemed the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$106,000 for the leaf collection machine, and that the bid of Bonnell be rejected as it does not meet the specifications with regard to delivery time and waiting will result in the bid being higher due to repair cost, etc. Alderman Turner 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 filing a notice of intent to apply for a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The Board discussed that the Town could be eligible for a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The grant is a 50/50 matching grant. After a discussion, Alderman Turner moved that Andrew Dulaney, Kate Scott Pennock and Laura Withers be authorized, acting jointly or separately, to prepare and file a notice of intent to apply for a grant with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. It is estimated that the project will cost \$20,000 with the grant to cover \$10,000 of the cost. 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 was reminded that it previously authorized Andrew Dulaney and Kate Scott Pennock to coordinate and cause a notice to bidders to be given with regard to bids for a new fire facility. This was approved by the Board at the Board's July 18, 2023, meeting. The Board was advised that the notice to bidders has been given and bids will be received November 3, 2023. A copy of the notice to bidders was presented. After a discussion of the matter, Alderman Fyfe moved that the actions as previously approved and taken be approved and ratified, and that Andrew Dulaney and Kate Scott Pennock, working cooperatively with the engineers, be authorized to receive, accept and publicly open bids for the project as per the notice to bidders. The results of the bid opening will be reported at the Board's November 7, 2023, meeting. Alderman Turner 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 C: NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR THE FIRE ANNEX FACILITY

The Mayor and Board discussed the proposed dog park project which will be located on School Street on the lot owned by the Town. The lot currently has a large concrete slab located on it. This will have to be removed. Alderman Fyfe moved that the Town authorize and approve the issuing

of a purchase order to have the slab removed understanding the estimated cost of the same is \$4,000. Alderman Turner 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 the Town's website. The Town has received a proposal from Monsido, a subsidiary of CivicPlus, for the Town's website to be monitored and kept up to industry standards. Included in this will be additional reporting information. After a discussion of the proposal, Alderman Turner moved that the proposal be accepted and that Andrew Dulaney and Kate Scott Pennock, acting individually or jointly, be authorized to sign a contract for the professional services as proposed and discussed. 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: PROPOSAL FOR WEBSITE FROM MONSIDO

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

- Richard Veazey, MS Association of Chiefs of Police Winter Conference, Oxford, MS, December 12-15, 2023.
- Andrew Dulaney, MML Legislative Committee Meeting, Ridgeland, MS, November 30 – December 1, 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 Turner 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 discussed hiring a new employee for the public works department. The Board was advised that Mr. Griffin has reviewed applications and interviewed individuals for the position. Mr. Griffin recommended that Leroy Stokes be hired for the public works department at an hourly rate of \$10.00 per hour for the first 90 days, and thereafter his salary will increase to \$12.00 per hour. Alderman Turner moved that Mr. Stokes be hired for the public works department as a fulltime employee with his hourly rate to be \$10.00 per hour for the first 90 days and thereafter \$12.00 per hour. 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.

With no other business, Alderman Turner 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

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Andrew T. Dulaney, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk

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