

**FINANCE MEETING**  
**February 4, 2014**

The Finance Meeting of the City of Natchez met in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at 4:45 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Larry L. "Butch" Brown	
Alderman Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis	Ward 1
Alderman Ricky Gray	Ward 2
Alderman Sarah Carter Smith	Ward 3
Alderman Tony Fields	Ward 4
Alderman Mark Fortenbery	Ward 5
Alderman Dan Dillard	Ward 6

ALSO PRESENT:

City Clerk Donnie Holloway  
City Attorney Hyde Carby  
Temple Hendricks, Board Secretary  
Frankie Legaux, City Planner  
James Johnston, Planning Department

*Frankie Legaux, Planning Department*

A public hearing would be held for a rezoning request for 44 Melrose from R-1 to B-2 by applicant New Orleans Hotel Consultants. The intended use would be an office for Monmouth. Access would be via a parking lot through the Monmouth property. The Planning Commission has approved previously.

*Larry Hooper*

Larry Hooper requested city assistance with bringing YouthBuild back asking what the city would be willing to commit towards the program regarding what they need for the grant. They will be building low income housing and will be rehabbing dilapidated properties. Mayor Brown said that Volley Davis is the applicant on planning on administering the grant. Joey Mitchell also appeared--he will serve as director. Mr. Hooper said the term is three years with reapplication every 12 months. Alderman Fortenbery asked for clarification that they're asking for the city to give them upstairs for three years. Hooper said they would meet upstairs for 8:00-12:00, with 40 students. Mayor Brown replied that there should be money in the budget for rent and utilities. Mr. Mitchell said the grant would be run consecutively with a grant for highway safety. Mr. Mitchell said that today they're seeking a letter of commitment from the city and the city will provide space. Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis said she preferred that the financial information be handled through the city as done before. Mayor Brown said that he doesn't think that Mr. Davis would be interested in the city handling the administration, payments, etc. Mayor Brown instructed Mr. Hooper to bring up in the regular meeting so the BOA could take action on his request.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis asked for recognition of Lucille Minor who appeared expressing her concern about a bridge at Susie B. West that she feels needs to be closed. She told the county that water is draining off 14 Old Providence Road and the bridge is caving in. Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis said the bridge is in the city and repairs were made to it 6 to 8 years ago. Justin Dollar said that he would look at the situation.

Mayor Brown said that the county receives a bridge and culvert fund and the city does not. Mrs. Minor has been to the county but they instructed her to go to the city. Mrs. Minor said that the bridge and street need to be blocked off and the two families on the street can go out the other way. Mayor Brown asked that the city reach out to the county to have them make the bridge safe. If the county will not, then the county could block the bridge.

*James Johnston, Planning Department*

**2013 TAP –Rehabilitation of Yazoo & MS Valley Railroad Depot**

The MDOT has concurred with the city's request to enter into a contract with SSR to provide professional services for the rehab of the old railroad depot. Permission is being requested to execute the contract with SSR and allow the mayor to sign the contract. After execution of the contract with SSR a Notice to Proceed letter will be prepared and issued to SSR with copy to the MDOT.

2014 Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) application

The city's application to provide additional enhancements to the depot, due 2.6.14, has been mailed to the MDOT for funding consideration.

2014 SNAP Program

TO date 17 of the city's 21 applications have been funded. Preconstruction conferences have been held and notice to proceeds issued. Contractors can begin work (weather permitting).

*Michael Walker, AT & T Uverse*

Mr. Carby ran through the highlights that under MS law, Uverse is not a cable company. Per the agreement, should there be a suit against the city; AT&T will pay the legal fees.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis aid that she'd like to see the contract although Mr. Carby had presented the highlights. She asked that on all contracts, the BOA be given a copy of the contract as well as the highlights.

**A motion was made by Alderman Fortenbery, with a second by Alderman Fields, to close the Finance meeting to make a determination that a valid reason existed to go into Executive Session. The motion carried with all voting aye except Alderman Dillard.**

Mr. Carby returned and advised that it had been determined that a valid reason existed to go into Executive Session which was the discussion of a personnel issue.

**After meeting in Executive Session, Alderman Dillard made the motion to go out of Executive Session and adjourn to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Gray seconded the motion which carried unanimously.**

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Larry L. "Butch" Brown  
Mayor

Attest:

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Donnie Holloway, City Clerk