

FINANCE MEETING
September 9, 2014

The Finance Meeting of the City of Natchez met in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 9, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Larry L. "Butch" Brown	
Alderman Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis	Ward 1
Alderman Rickey 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
James Johnston, Planning Department
David Gardner, Engineering Department

James Johnston , Planning Department

Special Needs Assistance Program

In an effort to prepare for the expected January 2015 SNAP cycling, Mr. Johnston was again asking the BOA to waive the building and other related city fees for this program. The office would distribute and begin accepting SNAP applications in October which would be reviewed for eligibility on a first come, first received basis. Of note, since the City began working with Concordia Bank & Trust and Home Bank (formerly Britton & Koontz Bank, NA) 50 homes have been renovated representing a \$244,799.00 investment in the residents of our community. Mr. Johnston thanked the Inspection Department for making this program a success. The Inspection Department performed the pre-inspection report, scope of work and in-house estimate.

Alderman Fields advised that the owner of the lot next to Concord Park would like to sell at below market rate. Mr. Carby said that the city, prior to the BOA deciding whether to purchase or not, would have to determine that the value was supportable. It was decided that Engineering would provide the cost of improvements and how many parking places would be provided.

David Gardner, Engineering Department

Mr. Gardner reported that the T.L. Wallace Microseal project was complete and he'd ask for permission to close out the project. He clarified that there were performance and payment bonds in place so the city would be protected. The overlay project should begin around September 22nd.

9 easements need to be obtained for the NRCS project. Mr. Gardner would be asking for the mayor to execute the agreement with Ridgepoint Realty to acquire those easements.

Regarding pre-event debris monitoring, advertising had been completed and bids would be received October 14th. He would be asking for an ad hoc committee to be formed made up of James Johnston, Donnie Holloway, David Gardner and Justin Dollar to review the bids. Mr. Carby reminded the BOA that FEMA would reimburse the cost of the monitoring.

The Colonnade Project bid came in high. The city will re-advertise.

Mr. Gardner said that he'd be asking for approval of Supplemental Agreement #2 with Jeffrey Ross to cut the small park by the scales. This will go through to the end of the existing grass cutting contract.

Mr. Carby will be asking the BOA to adopt a resolution regarding an alley abandonment in front of Cathedral School.

Mr. Gardner advised that it might be necessary to begin eminent domain proceedings regarding a property on the Highland sewer project. Mr. Gardner would continue negotiations with the owner and return to the issue at the next BOA meeting.

Ed Bowser, ITS Department

Mr. Bowser reported that the Chamber of Commerce would reimburse the city for its new website design through CivicPlus. Alderman Dillard said that he brought up the issue earlier of digitizing the minutes. Mr. Bowser said minutes could be placed on the new government website and he needed to look at the server and software—he felt that October 1st would be rushing the digitizing process.

A motion was made by Alderman Fields, with a second by Alderman Gray, to close the Finance meeting to make a determination that a valid reason existed to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

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 the performance of a Police Department employee and CVB Director.

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.

Alderman Gray made the motion to adjourn the Finance Meeting to go into the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Fields seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Larry L. "Butch" Brown
Mayor

Attest:

Donnie Holloway, City Clerk