

**RECESSED MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2006**

A Recessed Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Natchez, Mississippi, was held in the City Council Chamber at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2006. Mayor Phillip C. West presided at the meeting.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
Phillip C. West Mayor Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis Alderwoman, Ward 1 J. "Ricky" Gray, Jr. Alderman, Ward 2 Bob Pollard Alderman, Ward 3 Theodore West Alderman, Ward 4 David Massey Alderman, Ward 5 Jake Middleton Alderman, Ward 6		Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Everett Sanders, City Attorney Darlene D. Williams, Dep. City Clerk David Gardner, Water Superintendent Darlene F. Jones, Comm Dev. Director Ralph Tedder, Recreation Director Walter Tipton, Convention Center Natchez Democrat

Mayor West noted that the recessed meeting was called to discuss the proposals that were examined regarding the Riverfront Development. He said at this time he would entertain a motion to make a determination as to whether the board should go into executive session prior to making a formal presentation.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Gray to make a closed determination as to whether the board should go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor West said the board will go into Executive Session for further discussion.

Following a short while in Executive Session, Mayor West returned to the Council Chamber and

stated that there was no action taken in Executive Session although there was discussion regarding the issue. Mayor West said there was a lengthy discussion regarding the proposals from The Lane Company and Natchez Riverfront Development Group.

Mayor West said all discussions would take place during the course of a motion depending on the response to the motion. He noted that Alderwoman-Arceneaux-Mathis is the Alderwoman for Ward I and requested a motion from her prior to the consideration of another motion.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis to return to the regular order of business. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said at this time, as chair of the Public Properties Committee and Alderwoman of Ward 1, she was prepared to make a motion and would like to speak to the motion.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis to accept the proposal submitted by the Natchez Riverfront Development Group for the development of Roth Hill and the subsequent comprehensive development of the Natchez River Front. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gray.

Mayor West requested questions and discussion on the motion.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked to present her rationale for the motion.

Mayor West requested additional comments.

Mayor West requested a vote on the motion.

The motion was defeated with a vote of 2 - 4. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis, Alderman Gray voted in favor of the motion. Alderman Pollard, Alderman West, Alderman Massey, Alderman Middleton voted against the motion.

Mayor West requested an additional motion.

A motion was made by Alderman Pollard to award the Roth Hill Development proposal to The Lane Company. The motion was seconded by Alderman West. The motion carried with Alderman Pollard, Alderman West, Alderman Massey, Alderman Middleton voting in favor of the motion. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis voted against the motion, Alderman Gray abstained from the vote.

Mayor West said both proposals submitted were from quality organizations. He said the City of Natchez would be proud to work with both groups represented. He said the decision was a very difficult one for the board to make because it was recognized that there were two qualified groups wishing to partner with the Natchez community. Mayor West said voting for one group does not imply that the other was not qualified. He said he appreciate the interest shown and look forward to working with individuals on the

the current project and additional projects.

Alderman Pollard noted that during his campaign for Alderman of Ward 3 the statement was made that he wanted to be a part of a team that would bring Natchez back to prosperity. He said with the decision made he is proud to be a part of the team to move Natchez forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor West requested additional comments. There being no further comments Mayor West requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis to adjourn the Recessed meeting of December 18, 2006. The motion carried unanimously.

PHILLIP C. WEST, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DONNIE HOLLOWAY, CITY CLERK