

REGULAR MEETING
July 28, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Natchez, Mississippi, was held in the City Council Chamber at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, June 28, 2009. Mayor Jake Middleton presided at the meeting, which was opened with prayer by Reverend Samuel Malone.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
John ‘Jake’ Middleton Mayor		Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Coretta L. Logan, Deputy Clerk Darlene Jones, Community Development Sabrena Bartley, Senior Center Paul Dawes, Building Official Connie Taunton, Tourism Director David Gardner, Engineering Mike Mullins, Police Chief Oliver Stewart, Fire Chief Natchez Democrat
Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis Alderman, Ward 1		
J. ‘Ricky’ Gray, Jr. Alderman, Ward 2		
Bob Pollard Alderman, Ward 3		
Ernest ‘Tony’ Fields Alderman, Ward 4		
Mark Fortenbery Alderman, Ward 5		
Daniel Dillard Alderman, Ward 6		

MINUTES APPROVED

A motion was made by Alderman Fields to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 7, 2009 & Special Call Meeting of July 9, 2009. The motion was seconded by Alderman Fortenbery. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS WELCOMED

Mayor Middleton welcomed visitors to the meeting. He reminded everyone of the policy that allows all visitors to speak for three (3) minutes before the board.

Duncan McFarland – Habitat for Humanities

Alderman made a motion to allow Mr. Duncan McFarland from Habitat for Humanities to speak before the board. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McFarland stated they have had verbal discussions with the owner of 1024 Martin Luther King trying to buy the property. He stated that the owner was asking 10 times the price that Habitat for Humanities was offering.

Mr. McFarland added that on the Secretary of State's website, they list about 90 pieces of property that they own in Adams County. He added that he has gone through the list to determine which ones are vacant lots. He stated that there are about 10 lots that Habitat for Humanities may be interested in. He said that most of them do not qualify under the present zoning codes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis asked Mr. Dawes for a for an update on the state owned property list and checking with the state to see what properties the state would be willing to convey to the city.

Mr. Dawes stated that he was unaware of a list of state owned properties.

Alderman Gray stated that Mr. Dawes was not present at the meeting when Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made that motion.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that by the end of August or the middle of September Mr. Dawes and the Planning department should get together and see if there has been a list that is in a file from the previous planners. She added that we then can figure out the process of going through the City Attorney to try to get the State to convey the properties.

Alderman Dillard stated that there are two pieces of properties that he is still interested in. He said that they are 10 Beachwood and 903 Westwood. He said that he knew that 10 Beachwood had an emergency grass cutting and Public Works went out to cut the property. He added that the Mayor is also aware of this situation as well.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to adopt the corrected deed to convey to Citizens' Choice Credit Union the additional property located at on Brenham Avenue. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

GRANTS COORDINATOR, Brett Brinegar

Ms. Brinegar stated that she prepared for the City Clerk's Office the application for the DIP Funds for the \$500,000 Forks of the Road Project. She added that a resolution needs to be approved to authorize the City to file for the funds. She added that there are no matching funds necessary for this project.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City to file for the \$500,000 for the Forks of the Road Project. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gray asked for an update on the Daisy Street Project.

Ms. Brinegar stated that it is still being processed at MDA.

Alderman Gray asked if we have applied for any DEQ funds this year.

Ms. Brinegar stated that she will be calling Denise Wilson to talk to her about when the upcoming funding round starts. She added that it usually starts in August.

INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, Paul Dawes

Mr. Dawes submitted the grass cutting list to the board.

Mr. Dawes stated that 13 North Circle has been cleaned up and shall be removed from the list. He added that all of the other properties on the list are in the need of cutting and/or cleaning up.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to approve the entire list as submitted by Mr. Dawes with the exception of parcel number 47-2-10 at 13 North Circle Drive. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dawes stated that he would like to request permission to proceed with securing bids and demolition for 1024 Martin Luther King and 11 Winston Hill.

Alderman Gray made a motion to allow Mr. Dawes to proceed with securing bids and demolition for 1024 Martin Luther King pending the city attorney's investigation and hearing to determine what properties are available for demolition. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Fields made a motion to allow Mr. Dawes to proceed with securing bids and demolition for 11 Winston Hill pending the city attorney's investigation and hearing to determine what properties are available for take demolition. Seconded by Alderman Dillard. The motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEERING, David Gardner

Mr. Gardner stated that on the Union Street overlay project he hopes to get the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates to MDOT within the next few weeks. He added that the deadline is September 30. He stated that they need to use outside Engineering on the project because the grant pays for it up to 80%.

Mr. Gardner stated that they had an office review with the Stimulus Overlay Project. He added that MDOT will be providing the Construction and Engineering for the project.

Mr. Gardner stated that the North Natchez Drainage Project will probably be a little later than September. He added that they still have not obtained all of the parcels. He added that they are currently working with the attorneys and the right of way agents.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that she met Marsha with MDA and learned that the City could have directly applied to MDA for financing without going through the Legislature.

Mr. Gardner stated they are about 80% complete on the Commerce Street retaining wall. He added that NRCS has approved five other sites (102 North Street, 1 & 2 Oak Hill Drive, 10 North Blue Bird, & 1234 MLK) and have a 180 day deadline to get the properties surveyed, designed, and under construction.

Mr. Gardner stated that the deadline for The Natchez Trails project is September 30th and they are in the right of way acquisition stage currently. He added that four parcels are going to be donated. He added that one is dealing with the Railroad Company. The other one is with the Callon family. The other one is with the Isle of Capri

Mr. Gardner added that he needs authorization for the mayor to sign the Callon easement document contingent upon the City Attorney's review & approval. .

Mr. Gardner stated that he would like for the Mayor to accept the donation of Isle of Capri although the easement document does not require the mayor's signature. He added that he thinks that it would be appurtenant for us to authorize the Mayor to accept the donation of the property to the city.

Mr. Gardner stated that we have a quitclaim deed and some other documents such as a donation of property by the Canadian National Railroad.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to allow the Mayor to sign and accept the Callon property easement document contingent upon the City Attorney's approval. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderwoman-Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to sign and accept the Isle of Capri property. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to sign and accept the Canadian International Railroad Company properties. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gardener stated that he really appreciated Isle of Capri, The Callon Family, and the Canadian National Railroad for donating the parcels to the City.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORT

ALDERMAN POLLARD - WARD 3

No Report

ALDERMAN FIELDS - WARD 4

Alderman Fields thanked everyone who helped put together the Minorville Jubilee including Mr. Bridgewater, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Carolyn Smith, and the Minorville Dreamers. He stated that he would also like to thank Waste Management, Natchez Fire Department, Natchez Police Department, The City of Natchez, and the Press for doing a great job in reporting the event. He added that he looks forward to an even better jubilee next year.

Alderman Fields stated that he has been coordinating with Mr. Eric Smith about some drainage concerns on the corner of East Oak Street and Martin Luther King, North Concord and Martin Luther King, & Lumber Street.

He added that he believes that this is a matter that we can definitely take care of in house.

Alderman Fields stated that he would like to set up a meeting with whomever the new person is at Entergy concerning the service that the City is getting. He stated that vines and kudzu are all over the power lines and transformers. He added that he would also like to discuss power outages.

Alderman Fields congratulated Mr. Cleveland Moore, and Mrs. Vera Dunmore on their new positions at the Natchez High School and Frazier Elementary School. He added that he is looking forward to working with Mrs. Dunmore and a great school year.

Alderman Fields stated that school starts on August 5th. He added that he will be giving away school supplies Saturday at Cedar Hurst Apartments, Broomfield Apartments, and some of the other neighborhoods in Ward 4.

ALDERMAN FORTENBERY - WARD 5

Alderman Fortenbery stated that he and Mr. Eric Smith have been discussing ways to correct the problems with the ditches and the drainage issues. He added that 90% of the time after the ditches are cleaned, people throw trash back into them.

Alderman Fortenbery commended Public Works for their hard work despite being shorthanded.

ALDERMAN DILLARD - WARD 6

Alderman Dillard stated that they are still working with the overgrown properties, 10 Beachwood and 903 Westwood. He added that it is on the judge's desk and on the list and he will continue to push it. He stated that there is a water hole on Magnolia and on Park Place, and that the bank on Winchester Road needs to be clipped because it is growing over into the street.

Alderman Dillard stated that they are looking at three budgets, last year's budget, the current year's budget, and preparing for the upcoming budget. He added that he thinks that this board is prepared to take the necessary actions and there will be change coming.

ALDERWOMAN ARCENEUX-MATHIS – WARD 1

Alderwoman Arceneux-Mathis recognized Isle of Capri for their Smile Cup Award. She added it was presented on the July 9th.

Alderwoman Arceneux-Mathis asked Rick Freeman to check the light at the corner of Union Street and Franklin Street. She added that Mr. Eric Smith needs to check on the crack and drop off on Elm Street and Union Street.

Mr. Rick Freeman stated that they have checked the light several times and it is working properly like it should.

Alderwoman Arceneux-Mathis stated that the light will not trigger from the Union Street side and they need to check it again.

ALDERMAN GRAY, Ward 2

Alderman Gray made a motion to adopt the Interlocal agreement between the City of Natchez and the Board of Supervisors and the 6th Judicial Circuit Adult Drug Court. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gray stated that he enjoyed the time he was at the Minorville Jubilee. He added that it was a great event and it was like a family reunion. He thanked Public Works for a job well done.

Alderman Gray stated that they are going to change the time of the West Steirs Lane Neighborhood Watch Meeting because they are held at 5:30 and that is in the middle of the officers changing shifts, and they would like an officer to come over.

Alderman Gray stated that there is a sink in the street in the West Steirs Lane area. He added that he told them that Public Works was aware of it.

Alderman Gray made a motion to allow the Mayor to contact the owner and Manager of Holiday Apartments so that they can come and speak to the board to let us know what the plans are for Holiday Apartments. Seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gray stated that there is a problem on Horseshoe Lane. He added that it is a serious problem with tall grass and at the end of the street is becoming the City dump. He added that a fence needs to be placed once the area is cleaned up.

Alderman Gray stated that Commander White needs to get with Mr. Dawes and the code enforcement officers at the next Police Committee meeting to get on the same page when it comes to abandoned vehicles on and off the street.

Alderman Gray stated that he has a light out in the Ram Circle area and a light out at 903 Martin Luther King.

Alderman Gray stated that he picked up the American Recovery Reinvested Act of 2009 brochure from the MML Conference for Ms. Brinegar.

Alderman Gray stated that on East Steirs Lane there is no way possible the children are going to be able to walk through all the water to get to the school bus and it is an emergency. He added that the problem can be alleviated in house.

Alderman Gray stated that there is stimulus funding available for Fire Departments. He added that this is something the city needs to look into.

Alderman Gray stated that he will give Mr. Holloway a copy of the personnel management for municipalities pamphlet that he picked up. He stated that he will give Mr. Gardner the delinquent accounts water program brochure for individuals not paying their bill on time.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Eric Smith to check on Mr. Smoot's property to see if he can assist him in anyway possible.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DONNIE HOLLOWAY

Mr. Holloway stated that Chief Stuart has provided all of the information to Ms. Brinegar on the Fire Department stimulus funds and they are in the process on finding out more information on it.

Mr. Holloway thanked David Atkins, Public Works, Francis Ransom, Ricky Evans, John Butler, Michael Matthews, and Mike Jackson for saving the City approximately \$8,000 by placing the net culvert on Woodhaven Drive.

Mr. Holloway requested the board to allow him to advertise for a \$500,000 tax anticipation loan.

Alderman Fields made a motion to allow the City Clerk to advertise for tax anticipation loan in the amount of \$500,000. Motion failed due to the lack of a Second.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, EVERETT SANDERS

No Report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Middleton stated that he attended the Minorville Jubilee Saturday morning and he was at the church for the gospel hour. He added that it was very good.

Mayor Middleton stated that the City Championship was held this weekend at the Duncan Park Golf Course. He added that the weather was great and the City received several compliments on the golf course. He stated that Greg and his staff have done a great job under the direction of Ralph and his crew as well.

Mayor Middleton stated that he would like to recognize Jennifer Minor for being named the gospel DJ of the year for the state of Mississippi.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderwoman-Arceneaux-Mathis stated that there is a possibility of hiring someone to track the stimulus monies, track where it is going, and getting it. She added that the only way they would get paid is if they bring a project back. She added that on the next meeting or work session the board can discuss getting some information from Madison and other cities.

Mayor Middleton stated that they are currently working on an Energy grant.

She added that someone is going to have to go back up to D.C. to find out what is going on with the stimulus monies.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Fields, seconded by Alderman Pollard to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of July 28, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

**JAKE MIDDLETON
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**DONNIE HOLLOWAY
CITY CLERK**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NUISANCE ABATEMENT**

**TO THE OWNER/MANGER/CARETAKER OF THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES AND PARCELS LOCATED IN
THE CITY OF NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI**

FOR PUBLISHING July 12, 2009

**Newman Floyd
Parcel # 29-1-1
1 Aldrich Street**

**Donnan Maurice
Parcel # 92-1-65
01 Brookview Drive**

**Stokes Odessa Lucky
Parcel # 17-2-19
One Spruce Street**

**Herbert Edgar N
Parcel # 84-1-24
2 Cottage Farm Raod**

**State of MS
Parcel # 25-14-16
2 Lynn Ln L# 127 BremhanAve**

**Green Michael A & Charlotte A
Parcel # 27-1-1
3 Henderson Street**

**Geraldine C & Julia C Isaac
Parcel # 14-7-9
8 Grant Street**

**Brandy N & Bradford Henderson
Parcel # 57-1-9
13 Dunileth Street**

**Brown Derrick Keith
Parcel # 13-8-19
13 Garden Street**

**House Doris C
Parcel # 47-2-10
13 N Circle Drive**

**Oscar Brown
Parcel # 64-7-5
14 Irving Street**

**Howard Greg
Parcel # 13-8-18A
15 Garden Street**

**Donald Benjamin A
Parcel # 13-8-18 & 18B
15.5 Garden Street**

**Adair Holdings LLC
Parcel # 15-9-15
15 Parker Street**

**Johnson Kyleta &
Tamika Wiley
Parcel # 11-1-6
15 Reynolds Street**

Mason Charles Lee
Parcel # 47-3-21
16 N Circle Drive

Rebecca Clark
Parcel # 27-4-11
17 East Oak Street

Martin Thomizene
Parcel # 13-8-17
17 Garden Street

Alice Fleming
Parcel # 89-2-7F
20 York Lane

Butler Joseph & Winnie
Parcel # 44-108A-8
20 October Street

Calvit Patricia Ann & D'Andrea
Parcel # 27-7-3 &3X
20 & 22 Williams St

Kingberry Gray
Parcel #33-3-12
21 Buckners Ave

Mcaleb Jessie
Parcel # 13-8-42
24 Beaumont Street

Taylor Joseph H & Archie Mack
Parcel # 14-2-23
25 Grant Street

Fells Annie Ruth
Parcel # 14-2-24
27 Grant Street

John & Heartha Harden
Parcel # 13-11-22
28 Buckners Alley

Raven Beverly Ray
Parcel # 13-10-16
29 Buckners Ave

Bacon Sadie
Parcel # 13-10-27
33 Elm Street

Myles Jerome
Parcel # 13-10-28
35 elm street

Wright Carlyon
Parcel #26-5-48
48 Brenham Avenue

Harris Hayes
Parcel # 25-8-23
47 Minor Street

Watson Minerva Taylor etal
C/O Bertha Leffall

**Prcel # 27-7-16
52 East Oak Street**

**Richard Luberta & L Henry
Parcel # 27-4-42
57 East Oak Street**

**Emma B Thomsa etal
Parcel # 28-2-10
58 East Oak Street**

**Adair Holdings LLC
Parcel # 45-103A-62
80 Marin Ave**

**Destiny 98 Wachovia
Parcel # 65-1-27
93 Marin Avenue**

**Fleming Peggy Lee
Parcel # 92-1-64
99 Marblestone Road**

**Hinson Bobby C
Parcel # 47-3-3
105 Melrose Ave**

**Rogers Sharonda L
Parcel # 79B-1-42
105 Rollingwood Dr**

**Stewart Willie Mae
Parcel # 62-3-9
106 Bluff Street**

**Cage Estelle
Parcel # 30-4-14
106 St Catherine Street**

**Templeton Shirley C etal
Parcel 27-2-9
108 Jackson Street**

**Pittmon Cynthia etal
Parcel # 33-2-1
165 Fletcher Street**

**Davis Susie
Parcel # 30-2-7
188 St Catherine Street**

**Darsey Marvin A c/o Alison Darsey
Parcel # 45-113A-20.2
253 Lower Woodville Rd**

**Tucker Leroy c/o Lee Tucker
Parcel # 33-1-7
307 Johnson Street**

**Hawkins Richard
Parcel # 89-1-13
458 West Stires Lane**

**Nelson Bessie
Parcel # 17-2-6A
489 West Steirs Lane**

Mock Eddie Estelle
Parcel # 17-1-39
577 inez street

Paige Robert Louis Sr
Parcel # 17-6-8
583 West Stiers Lane

Reynolds Dwight Jr
Parcel # 59-18-11
602 South Wall Street

Jackson Robert A & Myrdis Jones
Parcel # 12-3-19
605 West Oak Street

Fells Albert & Alvia
Parcel # 10-8-1
634 N Wall Street

Robb Matt & Virginia
Parcel # 14-2-37
716 Smith Lane

Davis Katherine G
Parcel # 89-2-61
747 Davis Lane

John Edward & Judy Young
Parcel # 12-2-9
810 N Rankin Street

Rollins Delores West
Parcel # 13-9-19
819 N Union Street

Catina Moffett
Parcel # 13-7-45
834 M L King Street

Dunbar Janie Lee
Parcel # 20-3-10
1162 Martin L King Blvd

Bradley Mamie
Parcel # 17-1-56
1228 Daisy Street

Hall Melvenia D etal
Parcel # 17-1-59
1234 Daisy Street

Frye Leroy
Parcel # 17-1-69
1254 Daisy Street

Thomas Vaughan
Parcel # 51-1-43
1320 John A Quitman Blvd

As allowed by Mississippi Statute 21-19-11. The City of Natchez is notifying you by this legal notice that a hearing will be held before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen & Alderwoman at 6:15 Pm. Tuesday July 28, 2009 to determine if your property, herein described, is in such a state of uncleanliness; as to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community. You may attend the hearing to offer evidence or testimony to assist the Mayor and Board of Aldermen & Alderwoman in making a fair determination on this matter.

If at this hearing the Mayor and Board of Aldermen & Alderwoman determines this property to be a menace to the public health and safety of the community, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen & Alderwoman may order the property cleaned and adjudicate the actual cost of cleaning the property with a 25% penalty as a lien and civil debt on the property.

**ANITA SMITH
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST**