

REGULAR MEETING

July 13, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Natchez, Mississippi, was held in the City Council Chamber at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2010. Mayor Jake Middleton presided at the meeting, which was opened with prayer by Mrs. Sabrena Bartley.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
John ‘Jake’ Middleton Mayor	Bob Pollard Alderman, Ward 3	Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Coretta L. Logan, Deputy Clerk Chester Ray Jones, Acting City Attorney Sabrena Bartley, Senior Center Ralph Tedder, Recreation Dept. Director David Gardner, City Engineer Connie Taunton, Tourism Director Mike Mullins, Police Chief Oliver Stewart, Fire Chief Natchez Democrat
Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis Alderwoman, Ward 1	Mark Fortenbery Alderman, Ward 5	
J. “Ricky” Gray, Jr. Alderman, Ward 2		
Ernest “Tony” Fields Alderman, Ward 4		
Daniel Dillard Alderman, Ward 6		

MINUTES APPROVED

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2010 and approve with the necessary editing corrections made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gray made a motion to go out of order for a Public Hearing on 809-811 MLK Street to rezone from R-3 to B-1. Seconded by Alderman Dillard. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nix stated that on March 29, 2010, an application was received by the Planning Department to rezone the location from Mixed Density Residential to B-1, Neighborhood Business. The landowner consented to the application which was made by another party.

Mr. Nix further stated that the application was assigned Planning Commission file number PC-10-07, which was heard at a properly noticed Planning Commission public hearing on Thursday, May 20, 2010. The Planning Commission unanimously passed a motion to approve the requested rezoning.

Mr. Nix stated that the property has been used for business purposes for many years. There is an existing small strip commercial building on the property.

Alderman Fields stated that his concern is that if it is changed to B1, then it opens it up for more usage, specifically restaurants/bars. He added that his recommendation is to leave it zoned as it is until they can receive more information.

Alderman Fields made a motion to go back into Regular order of business. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Fields made a motion that the 809-811 property continues to stay zoned as R-3 and continues to operate as a nonconforming business. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Mayor Middleton presented Wilson-Holder Drug Co. as business of the month.

VISITORS WELCOMED

Brumfield Apartments - Dolores Marvel

Mrs. Marvel stated that she lives at 100 St. Catherine Street, Brumfield School Apartments. She stated that she is here to ask for help from the board. She stated that there are rats, roaches, wood rats, and mildew all over the complex. She stated that her door was kicked in one night when she was at her computer in her bedroom. She further stated that people are using tape on the windows to keep the panes from falling out, the fence has been walked down, and the doors at the complex stay open and cannot lock. She said that it is not safe there.

Mayor Middleton stated that he and Alderman Fields have gone inside of the complex and it is in disrepair. He added that he will get with the City Attorney to proceed in taking action.

Brumfield Apartments – Dan Gaddis

Dan Gaddis stated that there is drug dealing, prostitution, gang activity, as well as vandalism that is going on in Brumfield Apartments. He added that the conditions are worse than what people think they are. He said that he fainted in his apartment due to the broken air conditioning unit in his apartment, that was never fixed correctly.

Mr. Gaddis stated that he contacted Mr. Walker from the Mississippi Health Department regarding the terrible living conditions at Brumfield Apartments. He stated that Mr. Walker informed him that Mississippi Health Department works with groups and not on an individual basis. He added that Mr. Walker suggested that he bring the matter to the City Officials.

Mayor Middleton stated that he is going to get with the City Attorney and set up another meeting with the management company.

Alderman Fields stated that he has tried to be a champion for the residents as well as help to preserve the Brumfield building. He asked Mr. Willie B. Jones to explain the status of Brumfield Apartments and his recommendations.

Mr. Willie B. Jones stated that the management company continues to lie and break their promises. He added that we should begin fining the management companies for their noncompliance. He further stated that the code book states that there can be a fine up to \$1,000 per day for each violation.

Attorney Jones stated that he would like to review the code book that Mr. Willie B. Jones has before taking any action.

Alderman Gray stated that there are other Apartment complexes with similar problems.

Alderman Gray made a motion to allow the City Attorney to review the International Maintenance Code Book of 2003 and evaluate other cities and their policies, and after his evaluation, give the city's code enforcement officers the authority to fine the facilities that are in noncompliance. Seconded by Alderman Fields.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked what is the process when issuing a fine.

Mr. Willie B. Jones stated that when he spots the violation, he comes back and gets a letter out by certified mail to the facility owner, the facility owner has so many days to respond, if the problems are not corrected, then it goes to municipal court and is seen by Judge Blough.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that the board needs to have a special meeting with Judge Blough because there have been some other situations where we have not been backed up in court.

Mr. Willie B. Jones stated that we should have our own Environmental Court.

Alderman Gray stated that he brought the idea back from MML and the judge said that we didn't need that. He added that Judge Blough needs to start attending the board meetings because there are too many questions that need to be answered and he is not present to answer the questions.

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Gray urged parents to be aware of incense that are being sold in stores called, Spice, K2, and Urban Incense. He added that it is sold in our local stores and it is a danger to your health.

Alderman Gray made a motion to allow the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to prohibit the sale of the incense products, Urban Incense, K2, K3, and Spice Gold within the city limits. Seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis.

Chief Mullins suggested that the City Attorney looks at South Haven's ordinance and use the same ordinance for Natchez.

The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion that the City of Natchez and Adams County jointly assess the Marblestone situation and designed a plan of action together to provide assistance to the citizens living in that area to include: Brown's Sub-Division, Old Smith Lane, Brookview and Marblestone. Further that the City Engineer-David Gardner, City Planner-Robert Nix and Public Works Director-David Atkins along with Public Works Supervisor, Mr. Dollar work with the Mayor and the Alderman representing this Ward to formulate the committee with the county through contacting Supervisor Darryl Grinnell.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that she spoke with Mrs. Bettye Oliver at the MML Convention and she stated that all information had been forwarded to Trina N. George, State Director, USDA Rural Development, (601) 965-4316. She added that the address is the same as Mrs. Oliver's suite 831. The secretary to Ms. George is Rhonda Cobbins.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT, Chief Mullins

Chief Mullins stated that they are still trying to raise monies to purchase a K-9 Dog. He added that Callon Petroleum and Southwest Distributors donated \$100 each. He stated that he needs the board's permission to accept the donation.

Alderman Gray made a motion to accept the \$100 donation from Callon Petroleum and Southwest Distributors each for the purchase of a K-9 dog. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mullins stated that over the past year NPD has been soliciting donations for a new K-9 dog. They have received donations totaling \$7,947.00. He stated that he wants to thank each of the nine donors that contributed money towards the purchase of the dog. Donations were from, Margaret R. King of Vidalia, La, Sally Young of Natchez, MS, Mrs. Richard A. Campbell of Natchez, MS, CCA, Fred's, Wal-Mart, Dr. Dulan, Callon Petroleum, and Southwest Distributors.

RECREATION, Ralph Tedder

Mr. Tedder submitted the following report to be placed apart of the minutes.

Recreation Director's Report

Mayor and Board of Aldermen Meeting
July 13, 2010

Recent Donations to the Natchez Recreation Department Report

Donation Amount or Donation Service Value	Donator	Purpose
\$ 3,865	Parker Yelverton	Continue the Norman Puckett Youth Golf Programs and Tournaments
\$ 600	Peggy McCall and the Ladies Golf Association in Memory of Francis Trosclair	To plant in January 2011, a Francis Trosclair Memorial Garden of Azalea Bushes around Golf Hole # 6 along John R. Junkin Drive
\$ 500	Bubba Bruce of Wilson Supply	For Golf Course Needs
\$ 1,200	M.A. Salaam of Salaam Painting	Painted the North Natchez Park Basketball Back Boards, Post, and Basketball Court Lines.
\$ 6,165	TOTAL June & July 2010 - Donation Value	

ENGINEERING, David Gardner

Mr. Gardner submitted the following project updates.

ARRA Overlay (Contract Amount \$574,802.55): Still closing out final Documentation with MDOT and JK&S, therefore NO CHANGE

Union Street Overlay (Contract Amount \$599,902): Contractor has stated they are scheduled to be back on the job site the second week in August. The contract should be complete by August 23rd, according to our records. We have a dialog ongoing with the contractor to encourage the work to resume much sooner. Should know more about this at next meeting date.

Bluff Riverfront - Downtown Walking Trails (Contract Amount \$1,609,694.75): The Contractor has not mobilized on the site. We are having a kickoff meeting on Thursday July 15th...to wrap up the material approvals and discuss the scope and time line of the project. The projected Completion date is June 22, 2011

North Natchez Drainage - Phase II-A: The Contract has been signed with Dirt Works and bonds are in place....we anticipate issuing the notice to proceed very soon. We will be having a Pre-Construction meeting on Wednesday July 14th. There will be some inconvenience to residence and local traffic, but we will be discussing traffic control plan with the Contractor so any inconveniences are minimized. Utility relocations are ongoing and very near completion.

North Natchez Drainage - Phase II-B: Amendment No. 1 to the PCA has now been fully executed by the USACE... This means that all required Federal Dollars are in place to complete the project. Still working on securing funds for local cost share.

St. Catherine Street - Forks of the Road Trails Project: The request to activate the project has been submitted to MDOT.... once activated we will receive a project number from MDOT and proceed with the MOU and completing step 2 of the activation process. We are also continuing on the plans and specifications for this project.

Regional Transit Facility: We have received the project number for this project and the Federal Transit Administration is finalizing the budget. Once the budget is in place, we will submit the Consultant Selection Concurrence Package to MDOT Transit Division...once they concur; we can't get a consultant on board and start with the Design / Land Acquisitions and Relocations.

NRCS Sites- Bluebird, Oakhill, North Street & MLK: Contracts have been executed and Notice to Proceed has been issued effective July 12th. The contractor is expected to start work later this week. The projected completion date is September 9th, 2010.

Roof Replacements - Municipal Buildings - [Natchez Police Department, Fire Station No. 2, Senior Citizens Center and the NAPAAC Building] - (Administered by SWMPDD): nts between the State, the City of Natchez and Salmon Architect for the Design, Construction Inspection and Project Close out for the Roof Replacement Project, this approval will be contingent on review and approval by the City Engineering Department and City Attorneys Office. (Note that this project is 100% money \$552,885)

Mr. Gardner stated that he needs authorization for the Mayor to sign the contract with Salmon Architect for the design; construction, inspection, and project close out for the roof replacement project, contingent upon approval by City Engineer and City Attorney.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Salmon Architect for the design, construction, inspection, and project close out for the roof replacement project, contingent upon approval by City Engineer and City Attorney. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Trash Dump Sites - DEQ Grant Application (39 Marblestone and dead end of South Bluebird) : The dump site clean up is underway... the Marblestone site is 95% complete.... and work should begin this week on the South Bluebird Site. (The Grant is for \$15,000 and is at 100%)

Daisy Street Grant Application - Continuing to wait on results of the Grant Application....we are hoping to know something within the next month or two.

FAU Funds 2010 - Misc. Streets: MDOT reported in a press release, that all of the necessary paperwork was submitted for this project and that everything was in order to continue the project activation process. We have not received an official letter from MDOT at this time. Once we receive notification from MDOT, along with a Project Number, we will proceed with the MOU and step 2 of the Activation Process.

RECREATION COMPLEX - MEETINGS/STATUS

Our next step is to have 37 acres, more or less, turned over to the State, so we can in turn acquire the property from them. We are in the process of writing the legal description for the 37 Acres, in order for the State to place it in the deeds. If additional areas are needed for walking trails etc.We can possibly go through the permitting process with the National Park Service/Natchez Trace.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL (ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION). We are continuing to wait on the results of the Grant Application.

ENGINEERING EMPLOYEE TIME ON CITY MATTERS - Time report has been submitted for the Month of June, 2010 as per the engineering agreement. This document was sent as an excel spreadsheet to the Mayor at mayor@natchez.ms.us and to the City Clerk at dholloway2@natchez.ms.us for city review and further distribution.

MDOT INTERCHANGE (AT OLD SCALES) - 6/22/2010 The pre-construction meeting will take place on June 28th for this project. The meeting will be held at the MDOT District Office in McComb. Water Works will have a representative at the meeting. I am just bringing this up to make you aware that there will be construction underway within the next month or so. This will be another handsome intersection that will improve the traffic flow for our City. **7/13/2010: No Change...**

REQUEST TO MDOT (ADDING ANOTHER FAU ROUTE) The request for adding Sherwood, a portion of Eastwood Drive, Eastwood Drive Extension and part of Melrose Montebello Parkway has been submitted to the MDOT District 7 Engineer, and has been forwarded on to the District LPA Coordinator for submission to the Federal Highway Administration. We should know something within the next month or so.

MDOT TRAFFIC SIGNAL INTERSECTION MAINTENANCE We have received a payment from MDOT in the Amount of \$21,000 for the Traffic Signal Maintenance; this is for the Period between July 09 to June 10. You will all receive a copy.

POTHOLE REPAIR - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - There were several potholes that were caused from Natchez Water Works repairs and line maintenance. These potholes have all been repaired. If you get reports of other utility patches, rather it be Natchez Water Works or any Utility Company... let me know and we will address it. Continue to notify Public Works with any "regular maintenance" type potholes.

OTHER MISC ITEMS

FORD STREET TRUSS - GRANT APPLICATION- Natchez Water Works would like to apply again this year for an emergency CDBG funds due in August 2010 to replace the falling in wooden sewer truss at Ford Street. This is the same funding source Water Works has used to re-do the Silver Street Lift station, replace old trusses at Elms Court, trusses at John R Junkin, trusses at Natchez Trace/Beanfield and to repair erosion in and around the city such as behind Suzie B West Apartments. Application to use these funds (up to \$100,000) does not go against the city for future CDBG or ongoing applications such as Daisy Street. This is a separate state funds source that is applicable for sewer lines on an emergency basis. Natchez Water Works has to go through the city to make application. We do this every year. Last year, we used \$70,000 to redo the Silver Street Lift Station. The funds have to help a low-mod area. This year, the plan it to replace the Ford Street Sewer Truss. Will be bringing up to BOA next meeting.

POTENTIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: At the request of Natchez Inc., will continue to work on a confidential project into July. For sake of confidentiality, written description of this work is limited in this report. Work involves engineering cost estimates and maps.

FORKS OF THE ROAD STUDY- Mangi was hired by the City of Natchez to do an environmental assessment of the Forks of the Road site for inclusion into the National Park Inventory. The draft FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) has been completed. NPS is reviewing the draft document. Once Ok'd, the document will become final and official. Engineering is working with NPS and Mangi Environmental Group to close out this project that was originally handled by Brett Brinegar and has been pending for some time now.

BUDGETS - We are working on budgets for the Capital Improvement, NRCS Special, Traffic, & Engineering Department. Assisting Public Works & Planning with their budgets.

MAJOR ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT RE-CAP: See information below.

MAJOR ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT PROJECT CURRENT OR WITHIN NEXT YEAR

Date: June 2010

No.	Name	Program Amount	Source	ARRA
1	Union Street Overlay - FAU	\$ 600,000.00	MDOT	no

2	ARRA Overlay	\$	575,000.00	MDOT	yes
3	SRF "Green" Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	\$	5,080,000.00	MDEQ	*yes
4	Sludge Bio-Solid Landfarm	\$	428,000.00	Water Works	no
5	Downtown Trails Project	\$	2,000,000.00	MDOT	no
6	St. Catherine Trails - Phase 2 of Trails Project	\$	850,000.00	Earmarks (congress)	no
7	North Natchez Drainage Phase 2a	\$	3,200,000.00	USACE	no
8	North Natchez Drainage Phase 2b	\$	4,400,000.00	USACE	no
9	Regional Transit Facility at Old A&B Motor	\$	2,900,000.00	MDOT & FTA	yes
10	NRCS Sites	\$	150,000.00	NRCS	no
11	DEQ Illegal Dump Site	\$	15,000.00	MDEQ	no
12	Municipal Roof Replacement	\$	562,885.00	MDA	no
13	Reinstated Federal Aid Urban FAU Project	\$	400,000.00	MDOT	no
		\$	21,160,885.00		
	*Qualified as a "Green" Project				
	ARRA Funded Projects				

If you have any questions, please advise.

David M. Gardner, PE
 Superintendent Water Works
 City Engineer
 150 N. Shields Lane
 Natchez, MS 39120
 601-445-7520
dgardner@natchezwaterworks.com

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORT

ALDERMAN FIELDS, WARD 4

Alderman Fields stated that he would like to congratulate Ms. Helen Brooks and everyone at the Alcorn State University Extension Program for the Grand Reopening of the Farmer's Market on St. Catherine Street. He added that it is a really great facility.

Alderman Fields stated that the Credit Union on St. Catherine Street will be held on Friday, July 16, 2010. He added that they have done a marvelous job with the building's landscaping and wishes them much success.

Alderman Fields stated that Minorville Jubilee will be held on July 31st. He asked that Public Works be sure to get the area manicured for the event.

Alderman stated that East Oak Street has vines and kudzu coming out into the street. He requested that Public Works shaves it back. He added that the vines are on the power lines where there should be a retaining wall.

Alderman Fields thanked Public Works for a great job done on North Concord.

Alderman Fields asked for an assessment on Orange Avenue.

Alderman Fields stated that we are now enrolled in the Prescription Discount Drug program. He added that all residents can take advantage of the program.

Alderman Fields made a motion to allow the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to attend the Mississippi Policy Conference and Summer Conference of the League of cities that are running concurrently in Memphis, Tennessee August 11 – 15th. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Fields thanked the Traffic Department for placing stripes on Aldridge Street.

Alderman Fields wished himself a Happy Birthday, July 13, 1976. He added that he would like to thank his mom for doing what she done on this day.

ALDERMAN FORTENBERY – WARD 5

ABSENT

ALDERMAN DILLARD – WARD 6

Alderman Dillard reported on the Recreation Department:

ALDERMAN DAN DILLARD’S COMMITTEE REPORT

Summer Recreation Programs and Events Report

Tennis at Duncan Park

		<u>Participants</u>
<u>NJTL Youth 6 Week Tennis Program</u>	June - July, 2010	87 Youth 25 Special Olympics
Kids		
<u>NJTL After School Junior Tennis League</u>	June, July Aug, 2010	20 Youth

Golf at Duncan Park

		<u>Participants</u>
<u>Norman Puckett Junior (4) Golf Clinics</u>	June, 2010	40 Youth
<u>Norman Puckett City Junior Golf Championship Tournament</u> (for all levels of play- local event)	July 5, 2010	30 Youth
<u>Norman Puckett City Memorial Junior (MGA) Golf Tournament</u> Youth (for Skilled Youth Competition - Region wide)	July 19, 2010	20 -25
expected	<i>\$ 40 Entry Fee</i>	

<u>Bill McKinney Memorial City Golf Championship Tournament</u>	July 24, 25, 2010	85 adults expected
<u>Natchez Seniors & Ladies City Golf Championship Tournament</u>	Aug 9.10, 2010	20 expected
<u>Swim Lessons at Senior Citizen Center</u>		

Participants

Swim Lesson Classes	June 14 - 17 & June 21 - 24, 2010	81 Youth
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Locally Hosted Baseball Tournaments

Duncan Park

<u>Dixie Youth League</u> - Sub District All Star Baseball Tournaments	June 17 -19, 2010 June 22 - 27, 2010 June 28 - July 5,
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2010

Frazier School Ball Park

<u>T.M Jennings League</u> Sub District All Star Baseball Tournament	July 9-11, 2010
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Alderman Dillard stated that the city is going to have to maintain the potholes. He added that it is better when we can catch the potholes early.

Alderman Dillard stated that he received a letter from an individual and he will forward the letter to the Compliance Officer. He added that he will be meeting with some residents so that they can let him know what their concerns are as the city addresses these concerns.

Alderman Dillard stated that next week the vendor of the accounting software package will be coming to the city to begin the process of educating the staff.

Alderman Dillard stated that our gaming revenues have increased.

Alderman Dillard stated that bids were received on surplus properties. He added that one parcel at a time; the city can begin to put investments back into the city. He further added that he would like the proceeds to be designated for the repair and upkeep of the immediate street.

ALDERWOMAN ARCENEUX-MATHIS – WARD 1

Alderman Arceneux-Mathis gave a report from MML:

Session I: Legislative Changes to Cleaning Private Property

Presenters: Alan Hart-Ridgeland; Troy Johnston-

HB 1281-

Purpose of 21-19-11: To clean property that is declared to be a menace to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community, allow for due process and collect fees associated with

cleaning costs. Declare public menace; provide reasonable notice of a hearing. H13 12 81 & 1412 becomes effective July 1, 2010.

HB 1281 rewrites 21-19-11

- Authority to set hearings
- Simplified notice requirements
- Eliminated acknowledgement form
- Board should conduct hearings
- Required to give two (2) weeks notice
- Mail notice to actual property address
- Mail notice to address registered at Tax Collector's Office
- Post notice on property
- Post notice at City Hall and/or Post Office
- Re-entry: 12 times within 24 month period to cut property
- Post 7 days notice on property and City Hall
- Eliminated Personal Notice
- Clarifies lien: - civil law suit or lien
- Clarifies tax assessment and collection provision

Demonstration of Process

(1) Cleaning Process-Recommended Optional Steps

- Identify the violation and determine and document (photographic, video graphic, and/or written narrative) whether property or parcel of land is in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to public health, safety
- Make an attempt to resolve the violation by serving notice

Process: Required Steps

- Verify that violation still exist and determine whether property or parcel of land is in such a state of unseemliness as to be a menace to public health, safety, welfare of the community
- In situations that warrant charity assistance, connect the violation with area church groups, Boy Scout Troops, and/or other civic volunteer/mission groups.
- Notice: U.. S. mail to address of property 2 weeks before date of hearing and to the address where the address where the ad valerian tax notice for said property is sent
- Post notice on property
- Re-inspect property day of hearing to determine and document whether property is still a menace.
- After the appeal period of ten (10) days has elapsed: Wait 10 days-do not count holidays
- If sending to contractors - recommends obtaining 3 bids; send notice on or about time to clean that city will be there to clean property
- Highly recommend: code enforcer take pictures before and after; take pictures of anything touched by Public Works
- Impose starting penalty 1,500 or 15% clean-up cost; \$ 20,000 or fair market value limit
- On Re-Entry: be consistent with 1st order (initial adjudication hearing)
- Adjudication Cost: Civil procedure (civil debt); assessment procedure
- Sit down with Tax Collector to determine how to handle assessment; liens must be clarified before being transferred to state; can't get lien money from state owned property but if you have plan for use in some instances state will donate to city.
- Can use inmates to clean these properties.

Session II: "Economic Development is More than Industrial Development"

Joy Foy-MDA; Mayor Eddie Fulton-Quitman; Mayor Arthur Evans, Crystal Springs; Mayor Jimmy Clyde-Magee; Mayor Chip Johnson-Hernando
Asset Mapping:

First Impressions

Mayor Jimmy Clyde-Magee: Harris, Jernigan & Geno; Mayor Chip Johnson-Hernando
Looking at your city through outside eyes; small things make your community memorable; development of a commerce park; utilized Walt Grayson to produce an 8 minute video on Magee.

Session III: “Innovative Planning and Budget Cuts”

Presenters: Mississippi Chapter of American Planning Association

Donovan Scruggs/Scruggs Planning-Ocean Springs

Good planning helps create communities that offer better choices for community as whole.

People-Environment-Economy (balance and inter-relationship)

- Residential and Commercial Building Permits are down
- Construction of new Subdivisions is down
- Short range planning and administration (rezoning, variances, etc.) is down.
- With down turn in economy - get into long range planning; identify neighborhood and city projects
- Go look at innovative projects in nearby areas
- Host charrette (intensive planning meeting)-2 day to week long planning exercise; focus on citizens input; very hands on; can bring in new ideas) or Neighborhood Planning
- Public works may have ideas on bad streets/citizens see other areas

Bennie Hopkins-Jackson: Deputy Director of Planning (past Planner for Collierville, TN)-just slides of new projects and renovations in Jackson.

- Tell a story. Tell what the request. Use power point presentation whenever possible for Planning Commission meetings; show what the applicant is asking for. Site photos - use for zoning issues; streamlines meeting and allows board to actually see what they are voting on.
- Do something to cultivate what you already have during these lean times.

Steve Russell, North Central Planning Division

Planning and Development Districts

- Try to work closely with your PDD
- Main things they do: EDA, Block Grants,
- Try to match grants with other grants so that city does not have to put in matching funds
- Streets, sewage, [projects which threaten health and safety of community]
- Can assist with Re-districting plans
- Hazard mitigation plans-county currently working on these-need input from city
- Can get assistance with computer problems and computer improvements (software/hardware needs)
- Grants: state, small municipality,-have good relationship with PDD's

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that there was a report of gun shots fired in the Woodlawn area on two (2) occasions in the last 2 weeks.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that she drove in Ward 1 - Monday, July 12, 2010: October Street - 1 house (grass growing over house); Pogo Street lots still overgrown - grass up over car parked on street. Address is Irving Street - the spraying on Irving Street working however should have used same approach on back of property on Pogo Street. Bluff Street - one house with over grown front yard. Maple and Linton - Grass up to window on house.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis asked why there is an Orange/White barrel on Marblestone in curve where wash-out. She further asked has there been more erosion.

Mr. Atkins stated that that is A DEQ site.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that she received calls concerning the building on corner of MLK and Franklin. Many citizens concerned that this area has not been cleaned up and that it was left in its current condition during the July 4th holiday when we had so many visitors returning home for reunions and family visits.

Mr. Holloway stated that a letter will be sent to the owner giving him until the 23rd to finish cleaning the site or the city will have to bid it out for demolition.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that the grand opening for Citizens Choice Federal Credit Union will be Friday, July 16th at 5:30 pm at 101 St. Catherine Street.

ALDERMAN GRAY, WARD – 2

Alderman Gray stated that he would like to end the meeting with a moment of silence for Mrs. Ruth Washington, Mrs. Mary Ivory, and for Attorney Sanders to get well. He added that he has a proclamation for Mrs. Ruth Washington and Mrs. Mary Ivory that he needs to get approved.

Alderman Gray made a motion that the City of Natchez and Adams County jointly assess the West Steirs Lane area's situation and design a plan of action together to provide assistance to the citizens living in that area, further that the City Engineer-David Gardner, City Planner-Robert Nix and Public Works Director-David Atkins along with Public Works Supervisor, Mr. Dollar work with the Mayor and the Alderperson representing this Ward to formulate the committee with the county through contacting Supervisor Darryl Grinnell.

Alderman Gray stated that he will be giving each Alderman a copy of the handout that he received from MML. He added that there were some great presenters.

Alderman Gray stated that on September 30, 2010 any elected Public Official can attend the Mississippi Academy from 8:00 am to 3:30pm.

Alderman Gray stated that he takes part of the blame for the area of the North part of town not being up to speed like it should have been. He added that there were over 500 Sadie V. Thompson reunion people that were in town. He further added that the grass situation was not where it should have been during that time.

Alderman Gray stated that there were also gunshots on Lincoln and the police were contacted.

Alderman Gray congratulated Mrs. Jones for her acceptance of a new place of employment.

Alderman Gray stated that there was a Daisy Street Reunion and many people from out of town came back to participate in the event. He added that this reunion will become an annual event.

Alderman Gray congratulated Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis for moving up to first Vice President of MBC-Leo.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Willie B. Jones to check on Mrs. Hooker on 210 Alabama Street to make sure the issue is resolved.

Alderman Gray stated that we need a serious Work Session on the hiring and firing process.

Alderman Gray stated that the Board of Aldermen is responsible for the hiring and firing. He asked who terminated Angela from the Police Department.

Mr. Holloway stated that Mayor Middleton was the person that terminated her.

Alderman Gray stated that it is the board's job to hire and fire employees, not the Mayor.

Alderman Gray congratulated Kendall Logan for being a superb student athlete.

Alderman Gray stated that he agrees that we should shop locally but the local business owners should consider giving a donation across the border and not just on one side of the town.

Alderman Gray stated that the American Red Cross event was poorly attended. He added that the community as a whole reaps the benefits from United Way and American Red Cross. He further added that a committee should be formed to work on our race relationships.

Alderman thanked the donors that contributed to the purchase toward a new K-9 dog. He added that it is definitely needed in this community.

ALDERMAN POLLARD – WARD 3

ABSENT

CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DONNIE HOLLOWAY

Mr. Holloway asked that the board approve docket number 6830 -7128 and docket number 6377- 6818.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion to approve docket number 6830 -7128 and docket number 6377- 6818. Seconded by Alderman Fields.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis stated that she is voting against #356157 until a contract is received.

Alderman Gray is voting against #356157 & #356959.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Holloway stated that they have only received one RFP back. He added that the board can vote on it at the next meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, CHESTER RAY JONES

No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Middleton read a resolution concerning the City of Natchez enrolling in the Drug Prescription plan.

Alderman Fields made a motion to adopt the resolution and enter into the Drug Prescription Plan. Seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis made a motion that the board receives contracts before the next board meeting on Contract Vendors #355714 and #356157. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESSED

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis seconded by Alderman Fields to recess the meeting until 5:00 pm July 20, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

**JAKE MIDDLETON
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**DONNIE HOLLOWAY
CITY CLERK**