

**REGULAR MEETING  
February 8, 2011**

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, February 8, 2011. Mayor Pro Tempe Arceneaux-Mathis presided at the meeting, which was opened with prayer by Pastor Doug Broome.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
<b>Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis</b> Alderman, Ward 1	<b>John ‘Jake’ Middleton</b> Mayor	Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Coretta L. Logan, Deputy Clerk Everett Sanders, City Attorney David Atkins, Public Works Robert Nix, Planning Mike Mullins, Police Chief Oliver Stewart, Fire Chief Natchez Democrat
<b>J. “Ricky” Gray, Jr.</b> Alderman, Ward 2	<b>Bob Pollard</b> Alderman, Ward 3	
<b>Ernest “Tony” Fields</b> Alderman, Ward 4		
<b>Mark Fortenbery</b> Alderman, Ward 5		
<b>Daniel Dillard</b> Alderman, Ward 6		

**MINUTES APPROVED**

Minutes from the Regular & Finance meeting of January 31, 2011 have been postponed for approval until the next Regular Board meeting set for February 22, 2011.

**VISITORS WELCOMED**

Mayor Pro Tempe Arceneaux-Mathis asked the board to allow Mr. Gene Battieste to speak to the board regarding his Wall Street property.

**Alderman Gray made a motion to allow Mr. Gene Battieste to speak to the board regarding his Wall Street property. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried with Alderman Fortenbery opposing.**

Mr. Gene Battieste of 709 North Wall Street stated that he couldn’t get out of his yard this morning because of all the machinery that is blocking his property. He added that he would like for the company to clean up at the end of their work day.

Mr. Atkins stated that he will go by the property after the meeting today.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Alderman Fields stated that he wants to thank the media for their coverage on the Brumfield Apartments matter and bringing it to everyone's attention. He added that he doesn't want the public to believe that city leaders sat back and did nothing. He further added that he has gone to Brumfield Apartments at all hours of the night responding to calls and the needs of the residents.

Alderman Fields thanked Mrs. Marvel and Mr. Gaddis for being soldiers, having to live through those types of conditions at Brumfield Apartments. He added that we have to do things the right way, even though sometimes the right way may not be the quickest way. He further added that his first priority is the residents.

**Alderman Fields made a motion to set up a meeting with Attorney Brown and Attorney Sanders to discuss the liabilities and legalities of the LUMP properties - Brumfield, Carpenter, and Oak Towers. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Alderman Dillard made a motion to determine the need for an Executive Session after the Regular Board meeting regarding contract information and legal issues on the Roth Hill Road Development. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Alderman Dillard made a motion to go into Executive Session after the Regular Board meeting regarding contract information and legal issues on the Roth Hill Road Development. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

### **PUBLIC WORKS, David Atkins**

Mr. Atkins stated that he needs a motion to allow the advertisement of surplus properties for Public Works' backhoe, track hoe, and dozer, which are all obsolete. He added that the funds will go toward purchasing a used piece of equipment.

**Alderman Fortenbery made a motion to allow the Public Works Department to advertise the backhoe, track hoe, and dozer, which are all obsolete as surplus properties for sale. Seconded by Alderman Dillard. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Atkins asked the all of the aldermen to select dumpsites from their ward and submit them to him so that he can prioritize a list for DEQ. He added that the DEQ grant is a 100% grant.

## **CITY OFFICIALS' REPORT**

### **ALDERMAN DILLARD – WARD 6**

Alderman Dillard stated that he will use his time for the Executive Session to report on the Roth Hill findings.

### **ALDERMAN GRAY, Ward 2**

Alderman Gray read the Police Department Report for the month of January.

<b>2011</b>	<b>January</b>
Calls For Service	1,209
Cases assigned to Investigators	87
Vehicle Crashes	53
Traffic Stops	904
Citations Issued	291
Arrests	184

Alderman Gray stated that the Natchez Business & Civic League banquet and the Natchez Convention Center on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Alderman Gray stated that Marvin Sapp will be at the Pilgrim Baptist Church Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Atkins for an update on the drainage & water issues on East Steirs Lane.

Mr. Atkins stated that the material came in and the work is scheduled to begin this month.

**Alderman Gray made a motion to allow the Aldermen and the City Clerk to travel to Jackson for a PERS meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Seconded by Alderman Fields. The motion carried unanimously.**

Alderman Gray stated the Mr. Swoops made a very important statement at a luncheon at the Carriage House, which was about changing lives and changing minds, and in order to do this, it is going to take a lot of teamwork and the right attitude.

Alderman Gray stated that his sympathy goes out to the Knight family and his classmate that lost her mother. He added that he is getting a proclamation done for Mrs. Bacon as well.

### **ALDERMAN POLLARD – WARD 3**

Absent

### **ALDERMAN FIELDS – WARD 4**

Alderman Fields stated that the library is inviting everyone out for the Cat on a Hot Tin Roof performance at the Natchez Little Theatre on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Proceeds from the showing will benefit the Armstrong Library. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased through the Natchez Little Theater.

### **ALDERMAN FORTENBERY – WARD 5**

Alderman Fortenbery stated that the pothole patching machine is now out on the streets and the workers are still learning how to use the truck. He added that he appreciates everyone's patience with the potholes getting filled.

Alderman Fortenbery asked for an update from Mr. Nix regarding the City Auditorium restrooms.

Mr. Nix stated that he does not have any further details at this time regarding the restrooms. He added that he will give him an update once a memo is sent out.

### **CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DONNIE HOLLOWAY**

Mr. Holloway asked the board to approve dockets #3130 – 3386 and #2623 – 3117.

**Alderman Fortenbery made a motion to approve dockets #3130 – 3386 and #2623 – 3117. Seconded by Alderman Dillard.**

Alderman Gray discussed the need for the Capitol Improvement fund accounts to be separated from the Trails Phase I.

Mr. Holloway stated that they are running the construction money through the capitol improvements fund.

Alderman Gray stated that it needs to be separated until it is time for Phase II.

Alderman Gray asked about vendor #356917. He added that the amount was not what the city budgeted for. He further added that the board should look into finding someone local to give the tax dollars to instead of sending tax dollars to Louisiana.

Mr. Holloway stated that Mr. Angelethy quit after the budget was approved and that was the lowest bid that they could get.

Mr. Dillard asked about the received funds relating to cemetery plots.

Mr. Holloway stated that he will check into it and get back with him.

Alderman Gray stated that the City Attorney is not responsible for repaying funds, it is the Aldermen.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Holloway asked the board the approve personnel report February 2011.

**Alderman Fields made a motion to approve personnel report February 2011. Seconded by Alderman Gray. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, Everett Sanders**

No Report

### **MAYOR PRO TEMPE'S REPORT**

Mayor Pro Tempe Arceneaux-Mathis asked Mr. Atkins to check into the large pothole area on Beverly Hills. She added that she would also need an estimate on Gloucester Court; it has a gravel road with no turnaround ability for trash pickup and there are problems with the mail carrier as well. She further added to that she will get with Mr. Atkins to discuss possible grant monies for the area.

Mayor Pro Tempe Arceneaux-Mathis stated that the board needs to get with the county to seek assistance on the Rankin Street problem. She added that the City of Natchez is in Adams County.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Gray stated that his name will be on the ballot for candidate for House Seat 94.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Alderman Fortenbery, seconded by Alderman Fields to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2011. The motion carried unanimously.**

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**JAKE MIDDLETON  
MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**DONNIE HOLLOWAY  
CITY CLERK**