

City of Natchez
Minutes
Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

11:00 AM

NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
& VIA TELECONFERENCE

Board Secretary, Sevetrius Dillon

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer by Father David O'Conner, St. Mary's & Assumption
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call by City Clerk:

Present:

- Mayor Dan Gibson
- Alderwoman Valencia Hall
- Alderman Billie Joe Frazier
- Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith
- Alderwoman Felicia Bridgewater-Irving
- Alderman Benjamin Davis (via conference call)
- Alderman Daniel Dillard

Also Present:

- Attorney, Bryan Callaway
- Sevetrius Dillon – Chief Deputy City Clerk
- Rebekah Turner- Deputy City Clerk

Recognition of Guest:

- Nita Thompson and Lynsey Smith – MS Head Start Association in partnership with the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services and, the Department of Health, over the years have put together this huge Statewide Early Childhood Association training. Pre-Pandemic we were here in 2019 and brought about 800 individuals from across the State. We would like to bring them back to Natchez, they love Natchez. The last two weeks of July we will bring the same 600 to 800 individuals back, but in small increments. Natchez has always received the best feedback of all the location of places that has hosted conferences.

American Cruise Lines

- **Charlie Robinson**, Chief Executive and **Paul Tacklin**, Vice President – American Cruise Lines – The have been a part of Natchez for the past 10 years and the community has been very generous. We are building new ships to come to Natchez, the docks will allow us to spend more time here.
- The signing of the Cruise Line Lease will be at 4:00 P.M. on May 11, 2021 at the Natchez Convention Center, but was instead held at the Bluff's Gazebo. Everyone is invited to attend. The CEO of Viking and Mr. Charlie Robinson, CEO of American Cruise Lines, will be present.
- The American Jazz will be docked Under the Hill. The Mayor has been invited to come out for the check presentation at 5:30 P.M. today.

#202:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to approve a resolution authorizing City to enter into a lease agreement to allow American Cruise Line to dock in the area of Little Mexico and to construct a docking facility. Terms are that they will start construction within two years and finish within three years. The City has two years to raise Silver Street. They will pay \$2.00 per person on the manifest for any vessel that docks at the facility when completed, to the City. They will contribute **\$250,000.00** towards the raising of Silver Street. The term is twenty (20) years, they have two options to extend it. The improvement will consist of docking facility and other matters they design will have to be approved as this Board knows and American Cruise Lines is aware, by the Preservation, Planning and the MS Department of Achieves and History. Alderman Frazier acknowledged and gave credit to Former Mayor Daryl Grennell, Former City Attorney Robert Latham and Former Ward 1 Alderwomen Joyce Mathis who was also involved in this project. **The vote carried unanimously.**

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderman Frazier to approve a resolution authorizing City to enter into a lease agreement to allow Viking Cruise Line to dock in the area of Little Mexico and to construct a docking facility. Mayor Gibson acknowledged and gave credit to former Mayor Daryl Grennell, former City Attorney Robert Latham and former Ward 1 Alderwomen Joyce Mathis and the former Board who was involved at the beginning of this project. **The vote carried unanimously.**

The Mayor announced that the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has saved our Bluff once again. On April 13, 2021, the City award a bid in the amount of \$115,622.00 to D Rayborn Contracting, this was through the assistance of JKS Hayden Kaiser. This was to address erosion that occurred last year. After two hurricanes and an ice storm there was even more erosion, the \$115,622.00 fee turned into a \$455,000.00 fee. We had several meeting last week and found out yesterday that Cemetery Road was in danger an emergency solution was required. On yesterday about 4:00 we reached out to every member of our congressional delegation including Senator Wicker, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith and Congressman Michael Guest. We reached out to our lobbyist Greg Harper and at Mr. Harper urging we reached out to our State Conservationist Kirk Readus. From 4:00 on yesterday to 8:00 this morning we received word that something historic had happened. We have received approval for 1.2 million in Federal funding, the money is being wired. I received a call from Senator Wicker office this morning with the good news. Never in history has an award this large been awarded in such a short time. The City portion is \$400,000. He will be asking the Board to approve the \$300,000 in money received from MEMA and the \$150,000 received from the IRS for correction to our 2017 for incorrect 941's. Equipment and other supplies should be on the ground as early as Thursday.

Alderman Frazier asked if this could be discussed in Executive Session before any decisions are made. He understood that the \$300,000 would be spent on project in each ward. He has a project on MLK that he thought the \$300,000 would be spent on.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to utilize the Federal Funds that we have been given on this emergency project and our match to save the Bluff and Cemetery Road. There came for consideration discussion:

- Alderwomen Irving asked if the 1.2 million dollars affect the 3.2 million dollars from the American Rescue Plan. The Mayor responded that it will not affect the 3.2 million dollars, this is coming straight from NRCS.
- Alderman Frazier stated that if we are voting on this today, he would like to use some of this money to go to the projects in his Ward. The Mayor responded that we do have the 3.2 million dollars coming. We are also working on FEMA money that may be reimbursable based on Covid-19.
- Alderwoman Smith stated that as discussed in the past, they talked about everyone getting their projects together in their Ward and prioritized them so we can come up with a plan. This is an extreme emergency, we all have projects in our Wards, let's go ahead and set that meeting up. The Mayor asked Alderwoman Smith to get with him and they will set that meeting up.
- Alderwoman Irving asked if we had a fund that states "Rainy Day Fund". The Mayor responded that when the MEMA money was received last year it was set aside for a rainy day fund. Alderwomen Irving inquired if the money could be used for this purpose.
- Alderman Frazier stated that the money was not labeled as a "Rainy Day Fund". We do need to set up a "Rainy Day Fund".

A roll call vote was administrated on the original motion, the results are as follow:

Alderwoman Hall: Aye
Alderman Frazier: Aye
Alderwoman Smith: Aye
Alderwoman Irving: Aye
Alderman Davis: Aye
Alderman Dillard: Aye

(Mr. Callaway, please review and include all necessary language for each Resolution)

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to adopt a Resolution for an Emergency Declaration for Cemetery Road. **The vote carried unanimously.**

The Mayor announced that Jarita Frazier King and Jessica Hawkins are working together planning a Juneteenth Celebration.

- On Friday, June 18, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. there will be a **Forks of the Road** ceremony. At the ceremony the City convey parcels of City owned property to the Federal Government to the **Parks Service** for the beginning of what will eventually become the Forks of the Road Historic Slave Market District. The only such site in the entire national parks system. There will also be a community tour that day at NAPAC. There was a Special Call Board Meeting scheduled for last Friday, there was a tour of the building, we meet with the Board of NAPAC and have scheduled various things that will be great improvements there. At 7:00 P.M. that evening there will be a BBQ Blues and Brews at Film Natchez.
- Saturday, Fitness on the Bluff, a Family Fest, a parade being hosted by the NAACP that evening; Soul Food Fusion Festival
- Sunday a brunch at Concord Quarters

The Mayor asked the Board to be a sponsor of this community event and to make a \$1,500 donation. Jarita Frazier King and Jessica Hawkins provided comments and gave an overview of the purpose and activities for this event.

#205:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to sponsor the **Juneteenth Celebration** in the amount of \$1,500. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes

#206:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve the **minutes** of the **Regular Board Meeting** held Tuesday, April 13, 2021. With editorial changes. **The vote carried unanimously.**

#207:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Frazier to approve the **minutes** of the **Special Call Board Meeting** held Wednesday, April 14, 2021. **The vote carried unanimously.**

#208:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to approve the minutes of the Special Call Board Meeting held April 19, 2021. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Welcome Visitors

Robert Pernell – Chair, Proud to Take a Stand Committee

Update on Proud to Take a Stand monument Improvements – The committee was asked to reconvene and recommend updates to the site. He gave an overview of the history and the current state of the monument. The committee recommends updates to the lighting for the site. He also commented on the maintenance around the site is terrible. The committee recommends that the same company that cut the Bluff should be allowed to maintain the site (it's only one block from the Bluff). He also commented that the stone needs to be wiped down on a regular basis. There will be four panels added, each one talking about a different aspect of that time (Mrs. Mimi Miller has done the research). The last thing is that "TimeLooper" technology be added to the site (it's the goggles you put on and see virtual images from that era). He also stated that they have collected eight names that will be added to the stone or the site at a cost of \$225.00. The names are:

- Eddie Williams
- Earnest Williams
- Rosetta Dixon
- William Robinson
- Irenda Sproulls
- Barbara Rose Carey
- Clarence Bridgewater
- Louis Eston

The Mayor stated that he did visit with the lighting expert over the weekend she said she would donate all her services for free to the City for this project. He stated that we did save a half million dollars on our insurance last fall and put \$5,000 aside for these improvements. He did visit the site and would like to see more lighting and better landscaping there.

Alderwoman Irving thanked Mr. Pernell and the Commissioner. All of the improvement you would like to make will be superb. Not only for the community but, also for the families, the names being added, for the local community as well as the tourist that will come through. The lighting will make the monument well lit. Thank you Mayor for setting the funds aside for this project.

Alderwoman Smith commented that for most monuments the honorees have passed away. This one different, the honorees are still living. I want to commend Mr. Pernell, he did the whole thing well.

Alderwoman Hall thanked Mr. Pernell and thanked Alderwoman Smith being on the Commission and we also had someone from the Preservation Commission on the commission as well.

Frances Ransom – He told Alderwoman Hall that it's not directed at her, she inherited it. Three year ago he saw trees that had fallen across some benches at Concord Park that had been there for over year. Two young boys were killed and now all of a sudden it needs to be fixed, when it has been that way for years.

Alderwoman Irving stated that she addressed it in her first administration that the hill needs to be cut. They need to get with our Planning Department to contact the railroad. She addressed these same issues two weeks ago. There are things that needs to be replaced, it need to be cleaned, there are tree limbs down, the water fountains need replacing, the restrooms, there is a leak in the roof, it's not fitted for anyone to use. Community has reached out to her about the three trees that are down, the mold, the rust, the need for benches. The park needs attention on the inside of the park and on the outside. She thanked Mr. Ransom for coming, parks are important and those things need to be addressed. The park is in honor of Theodore Bubba West, that's how it need to be addressed.

Alderwoman Hall commented that Mr. Mayor will address the cleanup in that area later in the agenda. I would like to address the bathrooms and other amenities in the park. We are getting ready to pass a recreation bond, all the city parks have been assessed for bathrooms, playground equipment, all of that will be taken care of, we have addressed that.

The Mayor explained that it will be addressed later in the agenda. He explained the cleanup process after the ice storm and the plans going forward. He also thanked Mr. Ransom for bringing it to his attention.

Alderman Frazier stated that the City does not have to get in touch with the railroad that property was given to the City years ago.

Unfinished Business: None

County Business: None

Department Director's Reports

Riccardo Giani –Community Development

#209:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the proposed amendment to the existing Tax Abatement Ordinance, contingent on final review by the City Attorney and publication of the revised ordinance in accordance with Mississippi State Law.

Tax Abatement Districts

- Section 17-21-5 of the Mississippi State Code allows any municipality to exempt a property undergoing renovations for a period of seven years maximum, of all local ad valorem taxes (excluding taxes for school districts), resulting from that improvement.
- Only the increased taxes resulting from a property improvement may be abated for up to seven (7) years.
- Tax abatement districts (pursuant to this MS Code Section) are allowed in designated Central Business Districts or Historic Districts (HD) or historic landmark sites.
- Tax abatements are available for current residents or new residents living within the designated areas (CBD, HD, or Landmark Sites)
- All tax abatement applications will be submitted to the City of Natchez, with supplemental materials such as cost estimates, invoices, etc. All will be reviewed and approved by the Mayor and Board of Alderman.

- Natchez has an underutilized existing tax abatement ordinance, adopted in 1999.
 - Current requirement is at least 25% of total project be spend on front façade.
 - All projects within the Historic District are reviewed by NPC, to ensure that renovations are appropriate.
 - This requirement could disqualify applicants if the façade is in good shape.
 - Current investment schedule is not conducive to all projects, requiring a high investment just to enter into the abatement program
 - Only two (2) of the seven (7) total historic districts are included in the current ordinance, Natchez is looking to expand this to all of the Historic Districts.
- To make the tax abatement more attractive, the City is proposing the following:
 - Elimination of the 25% front façade investment requirement, as all projects involving exterior additions/modifications will be reviewed by the Natchez Preservation Commission.
 - Expanding the tax abatement ordinance to include ALL Historic Districts and Landmark Sites.
 - Lowering the “barrier of entry” or investment schedule so that more current and future residents have access to this program.
 - New level of entry is \$5,000 improvement for 3 year abatement versus the existing ordinance which requires a \$20,000 investment minimum.
- For those NOT living in a Historic District, Landmark Site or Central Business District, help is on the way in the form of the designation of Residential Renewal Districts. This can offer owners up to a 10 year abatement. Stay tuned.

Chief Joseph Daughtry- Natchez Police Department

- Presented Life Saving Award to Clarence Hall, Jr. and Bryan Seyfarth for responding to a fire at Mrs. JoAnn Bennett’s house on April 27, 2021 at 4:00 a.m. They noticed smoke coming from her house (across from the filming of Crooked Letter) they went in and was able to get her to safety.
- Swearing-in of New Officers, the Mayor administered the oath.
- Presented Certificate of Commendation to each shift supervisor, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta for going above and beyond the call of duty during the ice storm (Each officer will receive their own certificate).
- Update on Cadet A. Wesley’s Graduation to be held on May 21, 2021 at the Jackson Training Academy. Mayor and Board of Aldermen are welcome to attend. They will need a head count.
- Presentation of New Badges (from Sergeant to Detective) Officer Taylor and Officer
- Discussion on the transferring of Municipal Court Services to Natchez Police Department Administration, taken under advisement

Justin Dollar - Public Works

The Mayor thanked Public Works for all their hard work during the ice storm. Public Works need to be reclassified as first responders.

#210:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the Public Works Director recommendation of Looks Great Services proposal for debris collection. **The vote carried unanimously.**

City Officials’ Reports

Alderwoman Hall

- It is our responsibility to repair a public alley on **N. Wall Street** (12 feet X 90 feet) alley right-of-way, requires 23 tons of asphalt which will cost **\$3,800**, the base cost of 20 tons is **\$550**, this will include the labor and materials. The total cost of repairing a public right-of-way, that occurred over ten years ago, is approximately **\$4,350** to repair. **The vote carried unanimously to take this item under advisement.** Property is being sold and bought, both sides would like to see this done.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve \$4,350 to repair the public alley on N. Wall Street. The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:

Alderwoman Hall: Aye
Alderman Frazier: Nay
Alderwoman Smith: Aye
Alderwoman Irving: Aye
Alderman Davis: Aye
Alderman Dillard: Aye

Alderman Frazier

- ✓ Piggy backed on Mr. Ransom comments regarding Concord Park, as stated earlier about the Natchez Youth Center. Would like to know when the basketball goals will be put back up.
- ✓ Thanked the Police Department, Chief. A kid was hurt, his head was busted and leg look like it had been in a meat grinder. It is important that these kids have a helmet on. He urge the parents to equip their kids with the proper gear when riding these motorcycle, four wheelers and things up and down public streets.

Alderwoman Smith

- Request that Mrs. Hawkins, she can work with Mr. Giani on this, since we are talking about cleanup lets go ahead and get setup with MDEQ a hazardous waste cleanup weekend, so we can bring batteries, paint, and all the things that need to be disposed of.

Alderwoman Irving

- The second dose of the vaccine at the Housing Authority will be issued tomorrow, May 12, 2021, from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Please bring a form of identification. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen partnered with the Natchez Housing Authority, the Adams County Emergency Management, Adams County Board of Supervisors, the St. Francis Apartments and the Jefferson Comprehensive Health Center to provide the vaccinations.
- I would like to ask Mr. Mayor, you said changes were coming from the State Legislators about specifics for the American Care Act Plan, could you be a little more specific about those changes.
- Mayor response, he received an email around 4:00 on yesterday from Manning McPhillips, just started going through a list that was passed down from Washington. It's still a little early to tell how we can spend that money. It is very limited on how we can spend this money. I think we should a meeting to discuss this, bring in our lobbyist, Mr. Moon from Waterworks and our attorney to be sure how we can spend this money.

Alderman Davis

- ✓ No Report

Alderman Dillard

- ✓ I have been reviewing the budget status reports and comparing them to the claims docket. I want to commend whoever is preparing these budget status reports I am seeing improvements and they are being very current. I do have some curious questions about them. We are halfway through our fiscal year, soon our budget season will be upon us. One of the thing the Clerk will have to do is reconcile the bank statements and present them to the auditor. One of the items I think we did in the past, but I'm going to reiterate is that at each Board meeting when the budget status report is being presented to the governing authority, that the Clerk's Office submit a schedule of all transfers and inter-fund loans. These become critical when you get toward the end of the year. What we're doing now want come under scrutiny until a year from now.

#212:05/21

A motion made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderwoman Irving that the City Clerk submit to the governing authority of the City of Natchez at the presentation of the budget status report a schedule of all transfers and inter-fund loans. **The vote carried unanimously.**

- ✓ One last thing - Public Properties, I notice Mr. Johnston is not here. A lot of the projects we have, the way it work with Federal Government is you spend the money, they verify it, they agree with you, depending how that the structure of the grant is set up, 10%, 20% or no percent, they send you back the difference. I looking at the 592 fund, which I know is a big project and a very successful project. Right now it's showing that it has an expenditure of \$645,000, but the only revenue generated is \$87,000. It kind of plays in Mr. Mayor into our, the City's, cash flow. If all of our money is tied up in a project and reimbursable from not showing back up, all of a sudden you are not able to be as nimble and move and respond to other crisis that happens before you. I would like to find out from the City Clerk, maybe she can get with Mr. Johnston and find out has those reimbursable came back in or when do they anticipate them coming in.

The Mayor announced that in preparation of our upcoming budget there will be a Special Call Board meeting at 4:30 P.M. prior to our next Board meeting.

Alderman Irving stated that several Department Heads have shared with her that they would like to come in and present their budget to the Board. The Mayor responded that certainly they can, but not at this meeting, maybe at a later date.

Alderman Dillard responded that he had one more thing to bring up that may need to be in the form of a motion. That when the Aldermen are reviewing these claims dockets there's a lot of things in there that we just really don't know that much about. I think that the City Clerk should provide to the Department Heads, those portion of the claims docket for which their department is responsible.

#213:05/21

A motion made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Irving that the City Clerk should provide to the Department Heads, those portion of the claims docket for which their department is responsible. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Sevetrius Dillon, Chief Deputy - City Clerk's Report

#214:05/21

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Hall to approve the **Claims Docket, removing Mr. Bruce's invoice for doing the minutes. The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderman Hall: Aye
Alderman Frazier: Aye
Alderman Smith: Aye
Alderman Irving: Abstain
Alderman Davis: Aye
Alderman Dillard: Aye

#215:05/21

A motion was made by Alderman Hall, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the **Mini Claims Docket. The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderman Hall: Aye
Alderman Frazier: Aye
Alderman Smith: Aye
Alderman Irving: Aye
Alderman Davis: Aye
Alderman Dillard: Aye

City Attorney's Report

- Discussion of possible settlement of claim against the City. Ms. Emelda Coach has continually complained of trees, limbs and debris falling on her property at 7 Beaumont Street, Natchez from property owned by the City at #9 Beaumont Street. This is an ongoing problem, and while the City has denied any liability, she is threatening litigation and has made claim with insurance company. I have discussed it with City employees including Mr. Dollar. He would like to talk to the Board in Executive Session we may be resolution.

Mayor's Report

- Approval of Leases with American Cruise Lines and Viking
- We are having more business permits requested. Also announced 100 jobs available with Jordan Trucking with sixty to seventy thousand dollars starting pay. When they fill these 100 jobs they will have another 250 available. Their goal is 1,000 jobs filled. Co-Lin has brought back the CDL program to Natchez. The deadline to apply is May 24, 2021.
- Update on Workforce Development, Airport, North Natchez Drainage, NAPAC and other issues:
 - Had a meeting in Batesville, along with other officials, they (Batesville) took an old mall and transformed it into a 15 million dollar workforce facility.
 - Waiting on a call from Eric Simmons, Mayor of Greenville for confirmation of a meeting with Boutique Air with the purpose of bringing passenger service to Natchez.
 - Had a visit from Neil McMillan, he represent Senator Roger Wicker, we looked as varies things including the Airport, Forks of the Road, the Port. We really enjoyed the

visit to Concord North Natchez Drainage Project. Very good news to report, new legislation has passed. Congressman Guest, Senator Wicker and Senator Smith have been very involved. It open up opportunities for smaller projects to be funded. Had a great meeting at NAPAC on Friday, Congressman Greg Harper was with us, along with Alderwoman Hall, Alderwoman Smith and Alderman Dillard. We are currently getting bids for Painting, helping with an interpretive signage project, which will begin at NAPAC an interactive experience going out into neighborhoods of Natchez. The great thing that came out of the meeting is that we will continue to support NAPAC in its current location.

- Update on Recreational Renewal and important needs | solutions – E.S. counter offer of \$105,000 sale of Margret Martin. By law we have to sale at the amount of two appraisals. One hundred five thousand dollars is enough to fund a full-time Director for Recreation and two assistance. We're looking at renovation for all our parks, to include: bathrooms, lighting, playground equipment, etc. We will need a 1.5 million dollar Bond for funding. Recommended that we hire a Recreation Director at a salary of \$55,000 annually to be paid for with the funds from the sale of Margaret Martin.
- Juneteenth Celebration Update – (discussed earlier)
- Discussion of status of erosion at Cemetery Road/Weymouth Hall (discussed earlier)
- Mayor announced that there will be a Special Called Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 4:30 P.M. for Budget Planning

#216:05/21

A motion was made by Alderman Frazier, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to take under consideration hiring a Recreation Director at a salary of \$55,000 annually to be paid for with the funds from the sale of Margaret Martin until the City get together with the County's Recreation Board. There came consideration for discussion: Alderwoman Irving stated that we already have a Director of Recreation, she not only has a bachelor's degree in Parks and Recreation, and she also has a master's.

The Mayor stated that she is welcome to apply. Alderwoman Irving asked why she would need to apply if she is already in the position. The Mayor stated that she is part-time and would need to apply to be considered for full-time. **The vote failed with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Nay
Alderman Frazier: Aye
Alderwoman Smith: Nay
Alderwoman Irving: Aye
Alderman Davis: Nay
Alderman Dillard: Nay

#217:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to advertise for a **full-time Parks and Recreation Director** for the City of Natchez. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Aye
Alderman Frazier: Nay
Alderwoman Smith: Aye
Alderwoman Irving: Nay
Alderman Davis: Aye
Alderman Dillard: Aye

#218:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to enter into Closed Determination for Litigation (possible settlement of the claim of Mrs. Coach Property at 7 Beaumont) claims that the City was negligent at their property located at 9 Beaumont, and the proposed sale of Margaret Martin because the average of the two appraisals came in higher, \$105,000.00, than the original \$75,000.00 offer to purchase and because we are negotiating the potential sale or lease of property and a litigation matter, it was determined that the matters warrant Executive Session for the possible Sale/Lease of property and a litigation matter.

#219:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to enter into Executive Session to discuss the three matters stated by the City Attorney during Close Determination. **The vote carried unanimously.**

#220:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to adjourn Executive Session and return to Open Meeting. **The vote carried unanimously.**

After Executive Session the Mayor announced that the Board supports the Personnel actions. The Board voted on the following items.

#221:05/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to resolve all claims Ms. Emelda Coach has, or may have, as a result of damage she claims was caused by trees, limbs and debris from property owned by the City by conveying the City owned property located at 9 Beaumont to Ms. Coach in exchange for her a full, final and complete Release of her claims. **The vote carried unanimously.**

#222:05/21

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to extend a counter offer to Dunleith Investors in the amount of \$105,000 for the sale of Margret Martin, with waiver of fees City is legally allowed to waive and any tax abatement the City is authorized to provide. **The vote carried unanimously.**

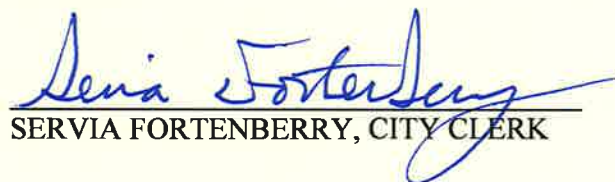
Adjourn

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of May 11, 2021.



DAN M. GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



SERVIA FORTENBERRY, CITY CLERK

