

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

Tuesday, July 11, 2023,

11:00 AM

Council Chambers/Via Facebook

Board Secretary, Denise Bell

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer: Mayor
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call by City Clerk:

Present: Mayor Dan Gibson
Alderwoman Hall
Alderman Frazier
Alderwoman Smith
Alderwoman Irving
Alderman Davis
Alderman Moroney

Also Present: Attorney, Bryan Callaway
City Clerk: Megan McKenzie
Chief Deputy Clerk: Denise Bell

City Business

- Recognition of employees retiring/departing
 - Dustin Hinkle

Approval of Minutes

- Special Call Board Meeting – May 31, 2023

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the following board minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

City Business

Tuwanna Williams – Workforce Development

- Approval to attend two conferences.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to allow Tuwanna Williams to travel to Nashville, TN. to attend the ACT Workshop Summit, October 4th – 6th, 2023.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve to allow Tuwanna Williams to travel to Flowood MS to attend the MS Horizons – Excelerate MS. August 21st – 24th, 2023.

The motion carried unanimously.

Department Directors' Reports

James Johnston - Community Development

Natchez-AC Workforce Initiative: Strengthening Collaboration & Capacity 2023 Delta Workforce Program Delta Regional Authority

Staff is requesting a motion to accept the recently received grant award from the Delta Regional Authority, totaling \$443,653.00, to convene a county-wide, employer-led sectoral partnership that will develop and implement a workforce training system to align workforce development initiatives with current and future trends. Following its successful implementation during the proposed thirty-six (36) month project period, 250 dislocated workers, new entrants to the workforce, and incumbent workers residing in Natchez-Adams County and surrounding areas (125 participants per 12-month instructional cycle) will be upskilled or trained and placed in quality, in-demand jobs within the historically designated persistent poverty county of Adams, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney.

The period of performance is July 12, 2023, through July 11, 2026.

**A motion was made by Alderman Davis, second by Alderwoman Hall.
The motion carries unanimously.**

Duncan Park Golf Pro Shop Renovation Phase I

2022 Capital Improvements GOB (and 2021 Rec GOB)

Bids for the above-referenced project were received in the Clerk's Office by 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 6th. A summary of the bids received is as follows -

Contractor	Base Bid	Add Alt #1	Add Alt #2	Total
Hops Construction	\$ 1,253,900.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,398,900.00
Calendar Days			270	

Add Alt #1 – Installation of sprinkler System.

Add Alt #2 – Restore the N and S façade and roof slopes of the metal building.

Staff, in concert w/consulting engineer Belinda Stewart Architects are requesting a motion to reject the bid received because it exceeds 10% of funds available for this project.

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderman Davis.
The motion carried unanimously.**

North Natchez Park Youth Center

2022 Capital Improvements GOB

Staff is requesting a motion to approve Change Order #1, totaling \$1,649.00 and reducing Bid Package #2 contract from \$476,000.00 to \$473,351.00.

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderman Davis.
The motion carried unanimously.**

Natchez City Auditorium

Request for Quote Bids (Bid Package #1)

2022 Convention Center Complex Bond

Staff, in concert w/Waycaster & Associates, is requesting a motion to see quote bids for the following activity –

Remove existing tar and felt built-up roof at NE and NW corners of building (approx. 1,000 SF). Provide new single-ply roofing system (to include testing and removal of asbestos-containing materials).

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderwoman Smith.
The motion carried unanimously.**

Jody Rutter – Inspection Department

- Permission to advertise for bids to demo the adjudicated dangerous structures.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to grant permission to advertise for bids to demo the adjudicated dangerous structures, to get with Mrs. Legaux before the properties are demolished to check if they are in a historic district.

The motion carried unanimously.

Frankie Legaux – Planning & Zoning

- Discussion of new Noise Ordinance for City of Natchez.
- A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to schedule a Public Hearing, to discuss the new Noise Ordinance, on July 25th at 5 PM and to post on the City's website and with local media.

An amended motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to schedule a Public Hearing to discuss the noise ordinance on the August 22, 2023, at 5 PM, and to post in the Natchez Democrat, Bluff City Post and all media sources.
The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gibson recused himself at 11:43 AM

Alderwoman Smith recused herself at 11:43 AM

Alderwoman Hall presided the meeting.

- Frankie Legaux - Short-term Rental Agreement

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Moroney to suspend the meeting rules and allow public comments.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Devin Heath - Visit Natchez
 - Discussed previous knowledge of short – term rentals.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Frazier to hire a consultant for input on the short-term rental agreement.

An **amended** motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Moroney to have Mrs. Legaux to meet with other stakeholders in the community, communicate with the DNA Director, and Visit Natchez to discuss the short-term rental agreement and report back to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.
The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gibson returned at 12:12 PM

Alderwoman Smith returned at 12:12 PM

Chief Cal Green – Natchez Police Department

- Approval of Fleet vehicles for NPD

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Davis to approve the fleet vehicles for NPD.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Porter – Interim Recreation Director

- Update on Recreation

City Officials' Reports

Alderwoman Hall

- Recognized Chief Cal Green for all of their dedication to the city.
- Thanked Mr. Burke and Mrs. Legaux for their hard work on the recent ordinances.
- Attended the Annual MML Summer Conference. A lot of legal and ethical information was shared.

Alderman Frazier

- Attended the MML Conference. It was a highly informative conference.

Alderwoman Smith

- Would love to see the Recreation Department partner with various recreation businesses in the community.

Alderwoman Irving

- MML was a great conference and received information on adjudicated properties.
- We are approaching budget season and would like to know where we are with that process.
- I would like us to consider purchasing a limb truck and a loader for this upcoming budget.
- Asked for permission to attend the MS Policy Conference in August.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Frazier to allow Alderwoman Irving to attend the policy conference in August.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Minorville Jubilee will be held July 29, 2023

Alderman Davis

- NO REPORT

Alderwoman Moroney

- There are a lot of tree trimming going on in the community.
- Trucks will be on the roads.

City Clerk's Report

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the AmFirst Insurance renewal, with no changes.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the 1st

July 2023 Claims Docket

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye (Abstained from voting on Fire Department's Budget)

Alderman Davis: Aye

Alderwoman Moroney: Aye

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to approve the 1st July 2023 Mini Claims Docket.

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye (Abstained from voting on Fire Department's Budget)

Alderman Davis: Aye

Alderwoman Moroney: Aye

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the June 2023 Hire/Fire report.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the Tax Abatement Application for the property located at 404 Main Street.
The motion carried unanimously.

No action requested – Budget Status Report for October 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023

Mayor's Report

- Welcome Lee Hash back to the Board Meetings
- Update, 2023 MS Municipal League Summer Conference
 - Three members graduated to the Next Level:
 - Alderwoman Smith
 - Alderwoman Hall
 - Mayor Dan Gibson
- Organizing a meeting for the southwest Mayor's Association in Natchez, August 30, 2023, at the Natchez Convention Center.
- Update on damage from Hune 27th storm event
- Passage of Resolution to address debris removal at Watkin's Street Cementer

A motion was made by Alderman Frazier, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve the Resolution for debris removal at Watkin's Street Cemetery.

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye

Alderman Davis: Aye

Alderman Moroney: Aye

The motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion of damage to Concord Park and Duncan Park
- Approval to grant access license to the Trust for Public Land to monitor abatement of asbestos containing conduit at historic bridge on City-owned land in proximity of Forks of the Road.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to grant access license to the Trust for Public Land to monitor abatement of asbestos containing conduit at historic bridge on City-owned land in proximity of Forks of the Road.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Animal Control Updates
- Discussion of the July 4th event on the Bluff at the Bandstand
- State of the City, July 24th, 2023, at 5:30 PM
- Discussed the lightening on the Mississippi Bridge
- Thanked citizens for their patience with trash collection issues.
- Launched a new lighting project to replace amber lighting with new LED lighting.

Closed Determination

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to go into a closed determination to discuss two personnel matter at City Hall and a contract pertaining to communication services to the City of Natchez.

The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session started at 1:26 PM

Executive Session

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to enter into Executive Session to discuss the matters presented.
The motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion of personnel issues in regard to the Recreation Director
- A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderman Davis to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues in regard to the Parks and Recreation Director
The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session ended @ 2:02 PM

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to return to Open Session.
The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Session.
The motion carried unanimously.

Report

- Discussed 2 personnel matters at City Hall and contract for communication services for the City of Natchez.

No Action was taken.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting, July 11, 2023.
The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:


MEGAN MCKENZIE, CITY CLERK


DAN M. GIBSON, MAYOR