

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

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021 11:00 AM NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
& VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Board Secretary, Sevetrius Dillon

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer by Reverend Clifton Marvel, Macedonia B.C.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call by City Clerk:

Present: Mayor Dan Gibson
 Alderwoman Valencia Hall
 Alderman Billie Joe Frazier-via teleconference
 Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith
 Alderwoman Felicia Bridgewater-Irving (arrived at 11:14 am)
 Alderman Benjamin Davis
 Alderman Daniel Dillard

Also Present: Attorney, Bryan Callaway
 Servia Fortenberry- City Clerk
 Sevetrius Dillon – Chief Deputy City Clerk-(via teleconference)

#45:02/21

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, January 12, 2021, with changes. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Welcome Visitors

Leadership Natchez
John Norris- Depot Update

#46:02/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to enter a non-binding agreement with John Norris and Natchez Depot project. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Deborah Cosey- citizen concerns

- Property taxes
- Discuss traffic and noise (from vehicles) on Gayosa Ave.

David Holloway & Andy Yates- Waste Management

- Presentation of Franchise Fees Check to the City of Natchez- \$16,069.22

Fred Kent- The Kitchen

- Request for outdoor seating

Unfinished Business: None

County Business: None

- Adams County DHS EWP request for \$60,000

#47:02/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to contribute \$60,000 to the Adams County DHS EWP grant. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

- Alderwoman Hall: Aye
- Alderman Frazier: Abstain due to potential family business conflict
- Alderwoman Smith: Aye
- Alderwoman Irving: Aye
- Alderman Davis: Aye
- Alderman Dillard: Aye

Department Director's Reports

James Johnston- Community Development

#48:02/21

**Reroofing of Natchez City Hall
2020 Community Heritage Preservation Grant Program (#2020-002)
MS Department of Archives & History**

In late January the City of Natchez received notice that it had been awarded said grant to reroof Natchez City Hall. The grant award totaled \$157,056.00 with the local match totaling \$84,858.00. Staff is requesting a motion to accept (or reject) the grant and to allow the mayor to sign the required Certificate of Acceptance (or Non-Acceptance) and return to MDAH.

Motion by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderwoman Smith to accept the MDAH CHPGP. The vote carried unanimously.

#49:02/21

**Cleaning of Illegal Dump Sites
Solid Waste Assistance Grant
MS Dept. of Environmental Quality**

Staff is recommending the quoted bid of \$2,300.00 from Dozier, Inc. to be accepted and staff issue a PO to clean the identified illegal dump site on Briel Avenue.

Motion by Alderwoman Smith, second by Alderman Davis. The vote carried unanimously.

#50:02/21

Staff is also requesting permission to seek quote bids for an illegal dumpsite located at 562 W. Stiers, next to Nebo Church. (Recommendation was made at the February 23, 2021 Board Meeting to change the address to the 500 block of W. Stiers. Also at the February 23, 2021 Board Meeting Alderwoman Hall notified the Board that the clean up was complete)

Motion by Alderwoman Smith, second by Alderwoman Hall. The vote carried unanimously.

#51:02/21

**Natchez Railroad at Grade Safety Improvement Program
2016 TIGER
Federal Railroad Administration**

Staff is requesting a motion to approve Reimbursement #22 to the Natchez Railroad as stated below, to allow the mayor to sign the Request for Advance or Reimbursement form to draw down funds from the Federal Railroad Administration, and to authorize the city clerk to issue a check upon receipt of the requested funds –

Payee	Federal Funds	NRR/Local	Total Request
		Natchez	
Railroad	\$178,246.59	\$59,415.55	\$237,662.14

Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderman Davis

In addition, below is a change order issued by Natchez Railroad and Midsouth Railroad Services, Inc. for work associated w/ upgrading the nine (9) automatic warning devices installations (as approved by the city on 5.26.20 & totaling \$882,907.95) –

#4 – Install 6 track GCP 4000 on W end Natchez rail yard tracks to allow motion detection for the River Terminal Road grade crossing; install 4 additional cameras & install signal maintenance of way cut-off switches in 6 instrument cabinets for a lump sum price of \$107,036.00

The total cost of the lone change order increases the value of Midsouth's contract to \$1,020,021.00.

Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderman Davis to approve reimbursement and requests for a change order. The vote carried unanimously.

#52:02/21

**Adams County Dept. of Human Services
Emergency Watershed Program (EWP)**

As discussed at the last finance meeting, the engineer's estimate for the said scope of work is b/n \$280,000.00 and \$300,000.00, with NRCS providing up to 75% of the project cost for eligible project costs. As presented in April 2020 Adams County is asking the City of Natchez to contribute \$60,000.00 towards this Emergency Watershed Project. Scope of work includes but is not limited to protecting power poles, building and concrete structures, etc.

Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderwoman Hall. The vote carried unanimously.

#53:02/21

**Rebuilding of the A&P Parking Lot (Project Silver)
Development Infrastructure Program (DIP #427)
Mississippi Development Authority**

Bids for this economic development capital improvement project were received at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, February 5, 2021, in the City Clerk's Office. Ten (10) bids in total were received, ranging from a high bid of \$615,047.00 from a contractor in Grand Prairie, TX to a low bid of \$322,600.00 from Stubbs NK Contractors LLC of Natchez.

Staff is recommending the acceptance of the low bid of \$322,600.00 from Stubbs NK Contractors LLC of Natchez subject to the execution of an agreement between Loss Prevention Services, LLC and the City of Natchez to cover all construction (and other related costs) above the available DIP grant received from the State of Mississippi (\$234,000.00) or \$88,600.00 plus or minus.

Motion by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderwoman Smith. The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Abstain

Alderman Davis: Aye

Alderman Dillard: Aye

#54:02/21

**2021 Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities (CDBG PF)
MS Development Authority**

See attached summary for review/discussion.

Justin Dollar- Public Works

- Change Order #2 for the demolition project

#55:02/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the request change order #2 request for the demolition project in the amount \$1,525.00. **The vote carried unanimously.**

- The beautification Project on Dr. MLK Jr. Street has been completed and documentation will be sent to Mayor for execution and payment.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to make Dr. MLK Jr. Day a day of service and beautification on Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Chief Joseph Daughtry- Natchez Police Department

- New Internal Affairs Complaint Form
- Update on Recruits for a different Academy
- Enter proposal for new cars

City Officials' Reports

Alderwoman Hall

- MS Tennis Association ordered and donated two shady courts and six (6) garbage cans. The total donation amount was \$1,136.00.
- Youth Baseball Organization hope to start their season March or April
- Project 592 is receiving a lot of positive feedback.
- Discovery of illegal dumpsites
- Meeting with Mr. Jonnie Waycaster, the North Natchez Park building is sound but will need to be gutted on inside.

Alderman Frazier

- Meeting with Mayfair Neighborhood Watch concerns with erosion problems near the Dollar General on George F. West Blvd.
- Concerns of speed bumps

Alderwoman Smith

- Dangers at Duncan Park need to be examined.

Alderwoman Irving

- Minorville Jubilee Committee Event, Stronger as One, July 31, 2021, at 9:30 am, request Mayor Gibson to speak on the program.
- Motorcade for retired firefighters; displayed honor, respect, and togetherness among departments and citizens throughout the city.
- Neighborhood Watch; looks forward to resuming the Community meeting

Alderman Davis

- No Report

Alderman Dillard

- Duncan Park facilities are important and beneficial to all within the City of Natchez
- Comments related to budget to be discussed at later date.

Servia Fortenberry - City Clerk's Report

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

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Abstain

Alderman Davis: Aye

Alderman Dillard: Nay

- Approval of Mini-Docket-None
- Update Audits

City Attorney's Report

- No Report

Mayor's Report

- Shift South Update
- Discussion of WIFI proposal for the City of Natchez

#58:02/21

A motion by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith, to approve Open Zone Communications' permission to complete an integrated assessment of the City and City buildings at no cost to the City of Natchez. **The vote carried unanimously.**

- Update on SNAP Program
- Approval to contribute to Natchez Euro Fest- April 9-10, 2021

#59:02/21

A motion by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving, to approve a contribution amount of \$2,500.00 to the Natchez Euro Fest on April 9-10, 2021. **The vote carried unanimously.**

- Approval for occasional security services at the Visitor Center

#60:02/21

A motion by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderwoman Hall, to approve a temporary security contract for services provided by FSA Enterprises, LLC at a rate of \$15 per hour at the Visitor Center on State Holidays. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

- Update on cruise ships, docks, and Silver Street
- Legislative Update
- Discussion of COVID-19 concerns
- Approval to be reimbursed for travel to GA for Economic Development purposes (February 9 – 13, 2021)

#61:02/21

A motion by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving, to approve reimbursement for travel to Georgia for Economic Development purposes for Mayor Dan Gibson Tuesday, February 9-13, 2021. **The vote carried unanimously.**

Adjourn

#62:02/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of February 9, 2021, in honor of former Board of Supervisor member Sammy Cauthen.



DAN M. GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



SERVIA FORTENBERRY, CITY CLERK

