

City of Natchez
Minutes
Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Special Call Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

9:30 AM

Council Chamber

Board Secretary, Denise Bell

1. Call to Order
2. Silent Prayer
3. Moment of Silence
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Roll Call by City Clerk:

Present: Mayor Darryl V. Grennell
Alderman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: via telephone conference
Alderman Frazier
Alderman Sarah Carter-Smith
Alderman Felicia Irving: Via telephone conference
Alderman Dan Dillard

Also Present: Deputy City Clerk, Denise Bell
Attorney, Robert Latham

Absent: Alderman Benjamin Davis
City Clerk Servia Fortenberry

1. Justin Dollar-Public Works Director

Order #83:03/20

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the surplus of equipment for the Public Works department.

Alderman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

2. Faye Minor-Recreation Department

Order #84:03/20

A motion was made by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Frazier to hire a temporary grass cutting service.

Alderman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

3. James Johnston-Community Development

Order #85:03/20

2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD)

US Department of Transportation

Originally retitled in 2018, this program replaces USDOT's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, which the city has applied for the past several years to construct a multi-use docking facility on the MS River. BUILD's Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) came out a couple of weeks ago announcing the availability of \$900 million in discretionary grant monies that is available on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local and/or regional impact on transportation-related activities.

Urban applications require a 20% local match; rural applicants are NO LONGER encouraged to provide a local match and a local match is no longer a consideration in the review of the application.

Applications are due to the USDOT on or before 5:00 EDT on Friday, May 8, 2020.

The updated cost for the proposed docking facility including design/survey, permitting, CE&I and contingency totals \$10,186,124.00.

Staff is requesting a motion to work with Volkert Engineering to prepare and submit a BUILD 2020 application for the purpose of funding the construction of a new multi-use ramp facility on the Mississippi River to assist the city in meeting both existing and future needs of the cruise industry.

Motion by Alderwoman Smith, second by Alderwoman Mathis

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

Order #86:03/20

Staff is requesting a motion allowing the City of Natchez to prepare and submit a BUILD 2020 application for funding consideration to the US DOT.

Motion by Alderwoman Smith, second by Alderman Frazier

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

NOTE – it has been discussed to look at including raising Silver Street in proximity to the 'turnaround' to where it connects to D.A. Biglane in an effort to reduce flooding, eliminate prolonged road closure and to open up for future development. This re-construction would look to raise this portion of Silver Street above the 500-year flood level.

Staff has reached out to the American Queen Steamboat Company, American Cruise Line and Viking to obtain economic data and support for the city's (proposed) grant application to the USDOT.

A preliminary sketch of the proposed ramp facility is provided. The location is for **ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY!** A site has **NOT** been selected! If funded, an

Environmental Assessment (EA) will have to be performed, which may impact the exact location of the proposed docking facility.

The US DOT expects to announce grant award winners by mid-September.

Order #87:03/20

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

Staff is requesting a motion to allow the Natchez Railroad to issue a Request for Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) for firms/individuals interested in providing the engineering services for the design and preparation of plans for the railroad embankment retaining wall adjacent to NW abutment of St. Catherine Creek (MP 144.6) and a culvert through the railroad embankment located at approx. 700 track feet E of Ratcliffe Farm Road near MP 131.9 in Adams County. Proposals are due by April 14, 2020.

A selection committee will review the proposals received. Staff would like to know if the mayor or any members of the board, in addition to the Project Engineer and city staff, would like to be on this selection committee. *Board members agreeing to be on the review committee are Sarah Carter-Smith and Dan Dillard.*

Staff is also requesting a motion to approve Reimbursement #16 to the Natchez Railroad as stated below and to allow the mayor to sign the Request for Advance or Reimbursement form to draw down funds from the Federal Railroad Administration –

Payee	Federal Funds	NRR/Local	Total Request
Natchez Railroad	\$107,598.40	\$35,866.13	\$143,464.53

Motion by Alderman Dillard, second by Alderwoman Smith

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

Order #88:03/20

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

Staff received quote bids by 12:00 noon on Monday, March 2, 2020 to clean two (2) identified illegal dumpsites. A summary of the quote bids received is as follows –

Dump Site	Dozier, Inc	G. Rayborn Contracting
402 W. Stiers	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
End of Reed St.	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Days to Clean All Sites	30 days for ea site	20

The apparent low bidder is G. Rayborn Contracting, with a total bid of \$24,000.00. Note that the City of Natchez only has \$20,000.00 available to clean the two (2) identified illegal dump sites. *Staff spoke w/Garrett Rayborn and he has agreed to reduce his bid to \$20,000.00 to allow for both identified illegal dump sites to be cleaned.*

Staff is requesting a motion to accept the low bid of \$20,000.00 to clean the two (2) identified illegal dump sites.

Motion by Alderman Frazier, second by Alderman Dillard

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

Note – on 12.10.19 the board accepted the quote bid from G. Rayborn Construction to clean the illegal dump site on Ouachita Street.

Energy Efficiency Improvements Schneider Electric

89:03/20

Staff was informed late this past week that that the City's MS Energy Coordinators Association (MECA) award nomination won the MECA 2020 Energy Order #Efficiency Award for Local Government! Allie Harris would like to know if the mayor and/or member of the board would like to attend the association's awards luncheon to accept the award on Thursday, March 26th at The Alluvian Hotel in Greenwood. Allie would like a headcount by Thursday, March 12th.

Mrs. Mathis expressed a desire to attend the awards luncheon.

Downtown Natchez Farmers Market

Staff requested a motion to approve Mr. Eddie Burke's consulting contract.

Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderman Dillard.

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Nay

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote passes by majority.

4. Closed Determination

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Frazier for a closed determination.

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

5. Executive Session

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Irving, to return to executive session. The vote carried unanimously.

6. Return to Open Session

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Frazier, to return to open session. The vote carried unanimously.

7. Attorney Bob Latham

90:03/20

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Frazier to present settlement for Chistlife Church.

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

91:03/20

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Frazier to hire an attorney for the Mayor for an issue with an Engineering Contractor.

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

8. Adjourn

A motion was made by Alderman Dillard, seconded by Alderman Frazier to adjourn Special Call Meeting.

Alderwoman Joyce Arceneaux- Mathis: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Sarah Carter-Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Felicia Irving: Aye

Alderman Dan Dillard: Aye

The vote carried unanimously.

DARRYL V. GRENELL MAYOR

ATTEST:

SERVIA FORTENBERRY, CITY CLERK

