

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

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

6:00 PM

**NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
& VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Board Secretary, Sevetrius Dillon

1. Call to Order by Mayor Pro Tempore Daniel Dillard, Alderman Ward 6
2. Prayer by Reverend Clifton Marvel, Macedonia B.C.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call by City Clerk:

Present: Aldерwoman Valencia Hall
 Alderman Billie Joe Frazier (present at 6:06pm)
 Aldерwoman Sarah Carter-Smith
 Aldерwoman Felicia Bridgewater-Irving
 Alderman Benjamin Davis
 Alderman Daniel Dillard

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

#104:03/21

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, March 9, 2021, with suggested corrections to BO#98:03/21, also contingent upon the Mayor reviewing his comments. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Public Hearing

Riccardo Giani- Planning Department

- Application PC 21-08. Entergy Services, LLC, 0 Hwy 61 S. Map #57-34.11: Request for a 50' telecommunications tower height variance for the construction of a 300' Telecommunication Tower.

#105:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve the application for PC 21-08, request for a 50' tower height variance for a new 300' telecommunications tower. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Welcome Visitors

Darrell Stewart, Natchez Manager- Arrow Disposal Service

Unfinished Business: None

County Business: None
Department Director's Reports

James Johnston- Community Development

Project Home Town
Development Infrastructure Program (DIP)
MS Development Authority

Staff is requesting a motion for the previously discussed documents needed for the submission of the City's DIP application to the MS Development Authority –

- Resolution to Apply
- Memorandum of Agreement between Project Home Town and City of Natchez
- Cash and/or In-Kind Match – minimum 10% to meet program guidelines; match to be met by in-kind services performed by Natchez Public Works, Attorney Callaway, and Mr. James Johnston, Community Development Director. The estimated value of an in-kind match is \$13,000.00.

#106:03/21

Motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Receiving of Bids – Solar Panel Cover, Pool Heater, Building Addition, etc.
Natchez Aquatic Center
MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks

Bids for the pool heating system were received at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, March 18, 2021. In summary –

Quote Bids for Heater Bidder	Order Time	Est. Install	Heater	Total Cost
Thorpe Sheet Metal	4-6 weeks	2 weeks	\$42,500.00	\$42,500.00
Natchez Heating & Cooling	6 weeks	10 days	\$43,109.00	\$43,109.00

Bids for the locker/shower addition, automatic chlorinator, permanent bleachers, pool deck extension, open storage (cubbies), secure storage (lockers), etc. along with the solar panel cover were received at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. A summary of the bids received is as follows –

Five Panel Thermal Pool Cover

Bidder	Estimated Delivery Date	Base Bid Amount	Alternate #1 Addition	Total
The Lifeguard Store	6 - 8 wks	\$ 32,877.00	\$ 7,422.00	\$ 40,299.00
Aquatic Technology, Inc.	6 - 8 wks	\$ 32,455.92	\$ 7,941.38	\$ 40,397.30
Base Bid - Five (5) Panel Thermal Cover Inc. One (1) Triple Power Winder + Freight				
Alt. No. 1 (Add) - One (1) Double Double Power Winder & Assoc. Added Freight				

Natchez Aquatic Center Addition

Bidder	Base Bid	Alternate #1 Deduction	Alternate #2 Deduction	Alternate #3 Deduction	Alternate #4 Deduction
Wilmar Construction Company	\$ 257,000.00	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 5,300.00
Alt. #1 (Ded) - Omit all work assoc. w/Pool Deck ext.					
Alt. #2 (Ded) - Omit all work assoc. w/providing pool-side lockers & cubbies					
Alt. #3 (Ded) - Omit all work assoc. w/providing permanent bleachers					
Alt. #4 (Ded) - Omit all work assoc. w/providing automatic chlorinator					

Recall that Waycaster & Associates, Project Architect along with staff made a presentation to both the Mayor and Board and Adams County in January 2021 to discuss expected cost increases associated with this project due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. At those meetings, it was brought to the respective boards' attention that the current estimated cost for all activities, i.e. building addition, solar panel cover and pool heater (along with A&E fee), etc. totaled \$406,198.00, roughly 13.5%. Funds available for the project total \$340,168.00. In January we estimated that this project would have a shortfall of \$66,030.00. Instead, if the board accepts all three (3) recommendations of the project architect and staff – building addition, pool heater, and thermal cover the shortfall is only \$22,691.00, of which the City of Natchez would need to contribute an additional \$11,346.00, and Adams County, contribute an additional \$11,346.00.

Currently, the City of Natchez and Adams County are each contributing \$85,250.00 towards this project. Should the staff recommendations be accepted the cash contribution for each body of government will increase to \$96,596.00 MDWF&P (Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks) is contributing \$172,584.00.

#107:03/21

Staff is recommending the quoted bid from Thorpe Sheet Metal totaling \$42,500.00 for the pool heater be accepted (subject to the concurrence of the Adams County Board of Supervisors).

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

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

#108:03/21

Staff is recommending the quoted bid of The Lifeguard Store totaling \$40,299.00 for the solar panel cover be accepted (subject to the concurrence of the Adams County Board of Supervisors)

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

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

#109:03/21

Staff is recommending the base bid of Wilmar Construction Company in the amount of \$257,000.00 for the pool addition, deck extension, permanent bleachers, automatic chlorinator, cubbies & lockers, etc. be accepted (subject to the concurrence of the Adams County Board of Supervisors). Motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, second by Alderwoman Irving. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Note – staff will meet with the Adams County Board of Supervisors at their next meeting to discuss the results of the bids received and seek concurrence.

Correction to Board Minutes – December 8, 2020

North Natchez Drainage Section 592

Tramone Smith, North Natchez Drainage Project Engineer appeared before the board on this date to discuss and seek approval for Change Order #5 for the following activity –

For the removal of concrete, 4.5' to 7' wide and 8" to 12" deep, above the existing force main(s) and sewer mains on Marblestone Road and Brookview Lane in the amount of \$26,302.40.

The minutes incorrectly listed the amount of the change order to be \$7,300.00.

The motion from this date was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving.

#111:03/21

Staff requests the minutes from 12.8.20 to be properly amended/corrected to reflect the correct value of the change order, which totals \$26,302.40.

Note – Staff's report was also included in the 12.8.20 minutes, with the amount of the change order listed correctly.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, second by Alderman Davis to accept the resolution to change the language to reflect the value of \$26,302.40 for the approval Change Order #5 for Board Order #521:12/20. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

2021 Special Needs Assistance Program

Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas

Staff wanted to inform the board that all fourteen (14) applications submitted to the Federal Home Loan Bank by local members Concordia Bank & Trust and Home Bank, N.A. were funded; contracts have been awarded to our two (2) local contractors and work has begun. In addition, work has been completed on five (5) homes.

Chief Robert Arrington- Natchez Fire Department

- Recognition of 3 firefighters for extraordinary work during the winter storm
 - Firefighter Steve Cranfield
 - Firefighter Michael Cain
 - Firefighter Nicholas Comfort
- Permission to purchase 'Jaws of Life'
 - Chief Arrington requested permission to purchase Jaws of Life from Municipal Emergency Services because the current set that's being used is broken and cannot be repaired. Chief Arrington stated that this is an emergency need because while Fire Department has an older second set, the set is just used as a backup, and because it is older, it is not reliable to cut through steel on newer vehicles.

#112:03/21

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to approve the request of the Fire Chief to purchase the Jaws of Life tool from Municipal Emergency Services in the amount of \$23,570.00 from the General Fund. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Justin Dollar- Public Works

- Requesting to surplus several items

#113:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve the request to surplus and auction Unit # 2093 – 1997 Ford F-150XLT 3 Door Pickup Silver VIN # 1FTEX17L7VNC68710. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

#114:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the request to surplus and auction Unit # 3301 - 2000 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4 DOOR SUV VIN # 1FMZU63E8YZC02223. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

#115:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the request to surplus and transfer Unit # 1031 - 2010 SCAG TURF TIGER / KAWASAKI W/C Serial # E3900825 to the Natchez Police Department Rifle Range. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

- General Bids Annual & 6-Month

#116:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to accept the lowest & best bid for the Annual and Six (6) Months General Bids. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

- Denton Georgia (Subcontractor for Atmos Gas) seeking permission to utilize a portion of Armstrong Tire Plant to store equipment for 3-6 months while working in Natchez. Discussion Item for Executive Session due to contract price negotiation.

City Officials' Reports

Alderwoman Hall – Ward One

- Thanked Department Heads and staff for the daily hard work that they do for this City
- In preliminary talks with Mr. Johnston and Mr. Burke on potential sites for a community garden in Ward One.

Alderman Frazier – Ward Two

- Reported on Wisteria Lane pole #505 lights need replacing
- A piece of heavy equipment (excavator) is parked in the Sadie V. Thompson School parking lot and the neighbors are complaining because it's tearing up the street. The company need to move the equipment to another location
- Attended a dinner in Ridgeland with the Mayor, Greg Harper, Representative Robert Johnson, Mrs. Johnson, Chandler Russ, Angela Hutchinson, and Rickey Gray. It was a very informative meeting; Representative Johnson shared some good information regarding money that will be coming to Mississippi and the City of Natchez.
- Thanked Mr. Moon for his help with a lady that had a hole in her yard. It was a private matter that she had to take care of herself but thanked him for addressing the matter
- The American Cruise Line docked here this week and was greeted by the Mayor, Ms. Hall, and a few others. I think they will be a big benefit to Natchez.

Alderwoman Smith – Ward Three

- Read (paraphrased) an anonymous letter from a citizen regarding the great work that the Police Department is doing. More arrests are being made, cases are being solved, there is more Police presence in the community; they have seen a difference since the new Police Chief has been in office.
- Following up with Mr. Frazier’s street light outage, they are currently handled by Kaytlyn McDonald in our Planning Department. Give Kaytlyn the address and/or pole number and she will send it to Entergy.

Alderwoman Irving – Ward Four

- She had an opportunity to participate in Morgan Town Middle School Virtual Career Day. The students asked questions about different careers that they may be interested in. They asked about city government and recreation; she encouraged them to come to be a part of a meeting whenever they can. She informed them that we have a community garden. She would like to see more, they can come and volunteer. She thanked Mrs. King, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Washington they rotated between classrooms and the technology worked well.
- Announced that she read on FEMA website; beginning in April they will be accepting applications. If you’ve had COVID related funeral expenses use the website to gather more information at fema.gov
- Inquired about cleanup at Armstrong Park and Jakeway Park, there are several large trees down and debris. She wanted to know if FEMA was still cleaning inside the parks.
- Acknowledge the enhancement at the Police Department parking lot. The lighting and stripping enhance the entire appearance of the building at the Police Department.

Alderman Davis – Ward Five

- The Aldermen are doing a great job, he like seeing the progress that they are making as a Board.
- He has received a lot of calls about debris pickup and cleaning, his constituents are happy about the progress they are seeing.
- Mrs. Irving asked: When we were given the information about FEMA and the pickup we said there would be a separate date for picking up household items. Do we have any idea when that separate date is? Alderman Dillard said the Mayor would be back in the office on Monday and we can contact him to get some separate dates. He has seen Looks Great trucks out working and they are making progress. He applauds Mayor Gibson and Richard Burke for getting this off the ground and in gear as quickly as they did. Richard Burke informed the Board that we have contracted Looks Great Services for the removal. Debris Tech is our monitoring company. That was done under emergency procurement it was for vegetative debris because that was the impediment; trees falling or sticks getting out into the street. We just put out bids for normal procurement that runs for two weeks, once that process is complete we will be focusing on household items.

Alderman Dillard – Ward Six (Mayor Pro Tempore) – No report

Servia Fortenberry - City Clerk’s Report

#117:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith 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

#118:03/21

A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to approve the **Mini 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

City Attorney's Report

- Approve agreement for Silas Simmons to conduct FY 20 Audit

#119:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve the agreement with Silas Simmons to conduct the City of Natchez FY 2019-2020 Audit. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye

Alderman Davis: Aye

- Approval of Tennis Contract (Discussion in Executive Session)
- Approval of Mayor Gibson Economic Development/Tourism Trip aboard the American Queen's American Countess.

#120:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to approve of Mayor Dan Gibson aboard the American Queen's American Countess for Economic Development/Tourism to include reimbursement of expenses incurred. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye

Alderman Davis: Aye

- Approval of Personnel and Human Resource Officers to attend the MASI Conference in Ridgeland, MS (Tuesday, March 23, 2021)

#121:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the Personnel and Human Resources Officers to attend the MASI Conference in Ridgeland, MS, Tuesday, March 23, 2021, to include reimbursement of expenses incurred. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye

Alderman Davis: Aye

Mayor's Report

- Approval of Interim Docking fees and Permit Agreement for City-owned property Under The Hill in Natchez

#122:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Smith, seconded by Alderwoman Hall for approval of Interim Docking fees and Permit Agreement for City-owned property Under the Hill in Natchez. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

Alderwoman Hall: Aye

Alderman Frazier: Aye

Alderwoman Smith: Aye

Alderwoman Irving: Aye

Alderman Davis: Aye

- Approval of Lease of Police and Fire vehicles
- Approval of MOA and Resolution regarding DIP grant for Project Hometown
- Sale of 11 Winston Hill (Executive Session Discussion)

#123:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to enter into Executive Session for discussion of terms of the potential lease at Titan Tire, negotiation of terms of tennis contract, and potential terms of sale of 11 Winston Hill. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Mayor Pro Tempore Dillard announced that no actions were taken in Executive Session.

#124:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to adjourn Executive Session and return to open meeting. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

#125:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Irving to instruct the city attorney to prepare a lease between the City of Natchez and a contractor to store vehicles at the Old Titan Tire location. Mr. Dollar said they proposed an amount in the ballpark of \$5,000 per month with all indemnity and hold harmless provisions included. Funds received will be designated for the repair streets. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

#126:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Hall, seconded by Alderwoman Smith to approve Tennis Management Contract with Johnny Wahlborg with the contract to be filed in the minutes. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

#127:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderman Davis to approve the sale of 11 Winston Hill to Mr. Steven Little in the amount One Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars and no cent (\$1,238.00) with established restrictions that property is to be used for personal use only with the City of Natchez reserving all rights of minerals and reversion provision if Mr. Little does not renovate and maintain the property. **The vote carried with the Board voting as follows:**

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

Adjourn

#128:03/21

A motion was made by Alderwoman Irving, seconded by Alderwoman Hall to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of March 23, 2021.


DANIEL DILLARD, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

ATTEST:


SERVIA FORTENBERRY, CITY CLERK

