

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Tom Ferguson presiding. Aldermen present were: Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman Hobbs. Also present for the meeting were: City Clerk Katie Harbin, City Attorney Kenny Stockton, Police Chief Scott Worsham, Assistant Police Chief Shane Ellis, Human Resources Manager Julie Harris, Public Works Director Gary McElhannon, Planning Director Keith Briley, Director of Community Economic Development Gia Matheny, Parks and Recreation Director Dewayne Williams, Parks and Recreation Program Director Dolly Brechin, Robert L Renier, Andrea L Love, Bob Ginn, Cal Williams, Greg Smith, and Robert Long.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Alderman Miller gave the invocation.

AGENDA

Agenda
City of Hernando
Mayor and Board of Alderman
Regular Meeting

December 19, 2017

6:00pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approve Agenda
- 5) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s 121200 - 121382
- 6) Approve Minutes from the regular Mayor and Board meeting on November 21, 2017
- 7) Approve Minutes from the regular Mayor and Board meeting on December 5, 2017
- 8) Consent Agenda
 - A) Authorize Josh Ward to attend the Firefighter 1001 I-II Certification class, in Pearl MS at the MS State Fire Academy on January 8 thru February 22, 2018, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
 - B) Authorize Kenny Stockton to attend the Winter Mississippi Municipal Attorneys' CLE Seminar in Jackson, MS on January 11, 2018, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
- 9) Authorize Desoto County Soil and Water Conservation District to use the Gale Center on March 29, 2018 for no charge, for their Annual Membership and Awards Banquet (Desoto county members and non-members, local and state elected officials, and some federal government representatives will be in attendance)

- 10) Authorize to accept donation from Blue Cross Blue Shield for the Healthy Hometown Award in the amount of \$25,000
- 11) Presentation of Police Department Awards
- 12) Authorization to hire 1 police officer after January 1st 2018 to supplement military deployment of Officer Scott. Officer Scott has been deployed with the Mississippi National Guard on active duty orders through summer of 2019
- 13) Authorize to hire Brian Spencer as a full time Paramedic at a rate of \$14.52 per hour
- 14) Authorize to hire Matthew Jones as a full time Paramedic at a rate of \$14.52 per hour
- 15) Authorize to hire Austin Crawford as a full time Non Certified Firefighter at the rate of \$10.00 per hour
- 16) Authorize to hire Tarren Smith as a full time Certified Firefighter at the rate of \$12.26 per hour
- 17) Authorize to hire Scott Trapolino as a full time Non Certified Firefighter at the rate of \$10.00 per hour
- 18) Authorize to hire Jarred Brown as a full time Non Certified Firefighter at the rate of \$10.00 per hour
- 19) Application rezoning from AR Agricultural Residential to C-2 Highway Commercial – Parcel No. 208624000 0000800 and Parcel NO. 208624000 000100 – Mr. Robert Ginn with Land Development Resources, LLC. PL-1282
- 20) Application for Final Plat approval for a 4-Lot 4.86-Acre Residential Subdivision – East Side of Highway 51, South of Cobblestone Lane North, and North of Forked Creek Parkway – Mr. Robert Reiner with Reiner Development, Inc. PL-1289
- 21) Authorize to purchase a Dodge Ram pick up truck in the Public Works Department
- 22) Authorize to apply for the Recreation Trails Grant program
- 23) Authorize Mayor to sign a contract with Vision Internet for website services
- 24) Authorize Mayor to sign the promissory note and other closing documents in regard to the purchase to certain assets of North MS Utility Company
- 25) Executive Session for EMS personnel
- 26) Adjourn

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the agenda as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting “Aye”: Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting “Nay”: None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017.

APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO.’S 121200 - 121382

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No. 121200 - 121382 in the amount of \$551,930.41 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, and seconded by Alderman Bryant to approve the docket of claims for payment as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Harris.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MEETING ON NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the minutes from the regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on November 21, 2017. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MAYOR AND BOARD MEETING ON
DECEMBER 5, 2017**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs, and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve minutes from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on December 5, 2017. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Authorize Josh Ward to attend the Firefighter 1001 I-II Certification class, in Pearl MS at the MS State Fire Academy on January 8 thru February 22, 2018, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
- B) Authorize Kenny Stockton to attend the Winter Mississippi Municipal Attorneys' CLE Seminar in Jackson, MS on January 11, 2018, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Harris to approve the consent agenda as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**AUHTORIZE DESOTO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO
USE THE GALE CENTER ON MARCH 29, 2018 FOR NO CHARGE, FOR THEIR
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND AWARDS BANQUET (DESOTO COUNTY MEMBERS
AND NON-MEMBERS, LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND SOME
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE)**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Bryant to authorize Desoto County Soil and Water Conservation District to use the Gale Center on March 29, 2018 for no charge, for their Annual Membership and Awards Banquet, which will benefit the citizens and community of the City of Hernando. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO ACCEPT DONATION FROM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD FOR THE HEALTHY HOMETOWN AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to accept the donation from Blue Cross Blue Shield for the Healthy Hometown Award in the amount of \$25,000.

A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Police Chief Worsham acknowledged Officers and presented awards.

Officer James Ratliff was presented with a Letter of Recognition.

Officer John W Green was presented with a Letter of Recognition.

Detective Shea Wright was presented with a Letter of Recognition.

Officer Perry Thornton was presented with the Civic Achievement Award.

Assistant Police Chief Shane Ellis was presented with the Chief Award for Job Excellence.

Officer Robert Scott was presented the Metal of Valor for Extraordinary Action.

Officer Candice Campos was presented the Metal of Valor for Extraordinary Action.

Officer Brian Darby was presented the Metal of Valor for Extraordinary Action.

Sergeant John Cotter was presented the 2017 Police Officer of the Year Award.

AUTHORIZE TO HIRE 1 POLICE OFFICER AFTER JANUARY 1, 2018 TO SUPPLEMENT MILITARY DEPLOYMENT OF OFFICER SCOTT (OFFICER SCOTT HAS BEEN DEPLOYED WITH THE MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD ON ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS THROUGH SUMMER OF 2019)

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Higdon to authorize to hire 1 Police Officer effective up the leave date of Officer Scott, following the Personnel Committee's recommendation, based on the recommendation of the Police Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Harris.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO HIRE BRIAN SPENCER AS A FULL TIME PARAMEDIC AT A RATE OF \$14.52 PER HOUR

The Board held a brief discussion on hiring additional personnel at this time.

Alderman Hobbs stated that he doesn't want to hire employees to start now, if we don't have the money. Mr. Hobbs stated that he's not approving another loan. Mr. Hobbs asked the City Clerk if she was comfortable with spending the additional money at this time.

City Clerk Katie Harbin answered that in her opinion, it is best to wait until the first pay check would be at the end of February when we get our largest revenues in. Mrs. Harbin stated that last year we did get a large amount of taxes in January, but I have no way of knowing if that will happen this year.

Alderman Miller stated that he is comfortable with it.

Mayor Ferguson stated that we raised taxes for this, we should provide this service now.

Alderman Higdon stated that he agreed with the 21st.

Fire Chief Hubert Jones stated that we will have extra revenue from running the second ambulance.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Miller to authorize to hire Brian Spencer as a full time paramedic at a rate of \$14.52 per hour with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO HIRE MATTHEW JONES AS A FULL TIME PARAMEDIC AT A RATE OF \$14.52 PER HOUR

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Higdon to authorize to hire Matthew Jones as a full time paramedic at a rate of \$14.52 per hour with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO HIRE AUSTIN CRAWFORD AS A FULL TIME NON CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTER AT A RATE OF \$10.00 PER HOUR

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Harris to authorize to hire Austin Crawford as a full time non certified firefighter at a rate of \$10.00 per hour, with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO HIRE TARRIN SMITH AS A FULL TIME CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTER AT A RATE OF \$12.26 PER HOUR

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Harris to authorize to hire Tarrin Smith as a full time certified firefighter at a rate of \$12.26 per hour, with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**AUTHORIZE TO HIRE SCOTT TRAPOLINO AS A FULL TIME NON CERTIFIED
FIREFIGHTER AT A RATE OF \$10.00 PER HOUR**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Harris to authorize to hire Scott Trapolino as a full time non certified firefighter at a rate of \$10.00 per hour, with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**AUTHORIZE TO HIRE JARRED BROWN AS A FULL TIME NON CERTIFIED
FIREFIGHTER AT A RATE OF \$10.00 PER HOUR**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Bryant to authorize to hire Jarred Brown as a full time non certified firefighter at a rate of \$10.00 per hour, with a start date of January 21, 2018, following the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, based on the recommendation of the Fire/EMS Chief. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPLICATION REZONING FROM AR, AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL TO C-2
HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL – PARCEL NO. 208624000 0000800 AND PARCEL NO.
208624000 000100 – MR. ROBERT GINN WITH LAND DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES,
LLC. PL:1282**

Planning Director Keith Briley presented the application and the staff report. Mr. Briley stated that the Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions, listed in the report.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the application for rezoning from AR, Agricultural Residential to C-2 Highway Commercial – Parcel No. 208624000 0000800 and Parcel No. 208624000 000100, following the recommendation of the Planning Commission with the conditions listed in the staff report. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPLICATION FOR FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR A 4-LOT 4.86 ACRE RESIDENTIAL
SUBDIVISION – EAST SIDE OF HIGHWAY 51, SOUTH OF COBBLESTONE LANE
NORTH, AND NORTH OF FORKED CREEK PARKWAY – MR. ROBERT REINER
DEVELOPMENT, INC. PL:1289**

Mayor Ferguson stated that Alderman McLendon lives in this ward where this item is located, and since Alderman McLendon isn't present he would like to table this item.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Higdon to table this item to the January 2, 2018 Board Meeting, following the request of the Mayor. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**AUTHORIZE TO PURCHASE A DODGE RAM PICK UP TRUCK IN THE PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Ferguson stated that at this time he is unable to support this. This will come out of the utility fund and some questions have come up with that, we are looking into it further.

Alderman Hobbs asked Mr. McElhannon if we don't approve this, will this truck still be available after the first of the year?

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that the purchase of this truck is because we are closing on the North MS Utility purchase on the 21st. We spoke about purchasing a truck and hiring two new employees to be able to handle the work due to the new customers. Someone ordered this truck and changed their minds, that's why it is at the dealers now, ready to go. If we don't get his one we will have to order one and it could take 3 - 4 months.

Mayor Ferguson asked if this is the only place you can get one?

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon answered that it is around here.

Mayor Ferguson stated that under the circumstances of the utility fund at this time, I cannot make this recommendation.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that he checked with the City Clerk, we have the money. We are going to have to buy supplies, items.

Mayor Ferguson stated come up here and convince the Board, because I cannot recommend it.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that if we don't get it what are we going to do, when we start this new water we will have to have stuff to operate with.

Mayor Ferguson stated all I'm telling you is to convince the Board, I can not support this because of questions with the utility fund.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that he doesn't have anything else to say.

Alderman Hobbs asked if anyone else had any questions.

Alderman Miller asked where we stand on employees.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that they have 7 employees, we are going to try to do it with one right now. I wanted 4, but we previously agreed on 2. We will have to buy chemicals and other supplies. We can't run it with what we've got.

Alderman Hobbs asked if we can finance, since you are worried about the money.

Mayor Ferguson asked where would we pull the money from to pay for it.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon stated that our new water rates will be effective on the next bill, that should help with it.

Mayor Ferguson stated that until further investigation with this utility fund, I cannot support this.

Public Works Director Gary McElhannon asked so what do we not need to do, not meter read, tell me what we can't do, to operate like we need to?

Alderman Hobbs stated that there is no reason why we shouldn't be able to purchase this.

Mayor Ferguson asked Kenny what was his opinion on this.

Kenny Stockton answered that he was not sure what he was speaking of.

Mayor Ferguson stated I just can't recommend it, the Board can approve it.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Miller to authorize to purchase a Dodge Ram truck for the utility department, on state contract for the price of \$21,219.00. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": Alderman Higdon.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE TO APPLY FOR THE RECREATION TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize the City to apply for a Recreation Trails Grant Program. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH VISION INTERNET FOR WEBSITE SERVICES

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Miller to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Vision Internet for website services. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN THE PROMISSORY NOTE AND OTHER DOCUMENTS IN REGARD TO THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF NORTH MS UTILITY COMPANY

City Attorney Kenny Stockton stated that our first payment would be interest only, around the amount of \$137,500, due in January 2019.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize the Mayor to sign the promissory note and other documents in regard to the purchase of certain assets or North MS Utility Company. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Harris.

Those voting "Nay":

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPROVE TO RESCIND THE MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR MAYOR AND BOARD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize to rescind the motion approving the minutes from the regular Mayor and Board Meeting on November 21, 2017. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Miller, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting "Nay": None.

Alderman Higdon abstained from voting.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MAYOR AND BOARD MEETING ON
NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize to rescind the motion approving the minutes from the regular Mayor and Board Meeting on November 1, 2017. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

Alderman Higdon abstained from voting.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017

**GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS GOING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR
EMS PERSONNEL**

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to go into closed session to discuss going into executive session for EMS Personnel. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to go into executive session for EMS Personnel. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Bryant to come out of Executive Session for EMS personnel. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017.

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A EEOC CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Miller to authorize the Mayor to sign a EEOC Conciliation Agreement. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman Hobbs

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 19th day of December, 2017.

ADJOURN

There being no further business at this time a motion was duly made by Alderman Bryant, seconded by Alderman Higdon to adjourn.

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

MAYOR TOM FERGUSON

ATTEST:

KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK