

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met for the Special Meeting at City Hall on Monday December 7, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. with Mayor Tom Ferguson presiding. Aldermen present were: Alderman Harris, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks and Alderman Hobbs (via phone). Also present were: City Clerk Katie Harbin, City Attorney Kenny Stockton, Community and Economic Development Director Gia Matheny, Human Resource Manager Julie Harris, Chris Tong, Vickey McLendon, Julie Hopkins, Beverly Stone, and Jordan Brumbelow.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Alderman Higdon gave the Invocation

**CITY OF HERNANDO
475 WEST COMMERCE STREET
HERNANDO, MS 38632**

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**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Date: December 4, 2020

To: All Aldermen of the Municipality of Hernando, Mississippi

From: Mayor Tom Ferguson

Subject: Special Meeting

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando shall be held on December 7, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. at the City Hall Building in the City of Hernando, Mississippi.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- 1) Adopt Order of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando, Mississippi Approving Setting Special Election Date for the Alderman One Vacancy Created by the Departure from this Life of the Late Elhannan R. "Sonny" Bryant
- 2) Request from Julie Hopkins to hold a reverse Christmas parade

This notice is given pursuant to and in compliance with Section 21-3-21 of the Mississippi Code. Please be present.

Tom Ferguson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Katie Harbin, City Clerk

All Aldermen were contacted in person at the Special Meeting on 12/3/2020.

AGENDA

Agenda
City of Hernando
Mayor and Board of Alderman
Special Meeting

December 7, 2020

5:00pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approve Agenda
- 5) Adopt Order of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando, Mississippi Approving Setting Special Election Date for the Alderman One Vacancy Created by the Departure from this Life of the Late Elhannan R. "Sonny" Bryant
- 6) Request from Julie Hopkins to hold a reverse Christmas Parade
- 7) Adjourn

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

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 7th day of December, 2020.

**ADOPT ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF
HERNANDO, MISSISSIPPI APPROVING SETTING SPECIAL ELECTION DATE FOR
THE ALDERMEN ONE VACANCY CREATED BY THE DEPARTURE FROM THIS
LIFE OF THE LATE ELHANNAN R. "SONNY" BRYANT**

**ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE CITY OF HERNANDO, MISSISSIPPI
APPROVING SETTING SPECIAL ELECTION DATE FOR THE ALDERMAN ONE
VACANCY CREATED BY THE DEPARTURE FROM THIS LIFE OF THE LATE
ELHANNAN R. "SONNY" BRYANT**

WHEREAS, on November 28, 2020, ELHANNAN R. "SONNY BRYANT" the duly elected Alderman for Ward One (1) of the City of Hernando, Mississippi departed this life; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Alderman do respectfully and solemnly recognize that there is now vacancy existing in the elective office of Ward One (1) for the City of Hernando, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen pursuant to the requirements of Section 23-15-857 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended do hereby recognize that a special election be held within the City of Hernando, Mississippi for the purpose of fulfilling the unexpired term of the late Elhannan R. "Sonny" Bryant;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Hernando, Mississippi did meet at a duly noticed special called meeting within the statutory period of time as set forth in Section 23-15-857 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has the authority to take this action pursuant to the authority as set forth in the above referenced state statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando, Mississippi as follows, to wit:

- A. That a special election be held on the following date:

January 19, 2021.
- B. That all posting and notice requirements be made by the municipal clerk as required by Section 23-15-857 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended.

SO ORDERED AND DONE on this 7th day of December, 2020.

TOM FERGUSON, MAYOR

ATTESTED TO:

KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Harris to adopt the Order as presented in regard to the vacancy created by the departure from this life of the late Sonny Bryant and further move that the special election be held in accordance with the ward boundaries as in place at the time of the election of the late Sonny Bryant in 2017 as Alderman for Ward One (1) for the following reasons: (1) That the special election is for the unexpired term of the late Sonny Bryant. (2) That the recently adopted reapportionment/ redistricting plan for the City of Hernando, Mississippi pursuant to the Ordinance as adopted on November 17, 2020 is not yet final in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi. (3) That any attempt to hold the special election in accordance with the revised boundaries, as set forth in the November 17, 2020 Ordinance, for Ward One (1) of the City of Hernando, Mississippi would be very unlikely as notice to all those citizens affected by the reapportionment/redistricting ordinance could not be made in time for the special election. This has been confirmed by the City Clerk with the office of the DeSoto County Circuit Clerk as well. (4) That the reapportionment/redistricting ordinance has the net effect of changing the voting wards for the following number of citizens based upon the 2010 census data being the last such census data available and which are as follows: Total Population affected: 2,551 - Voting Age Population affected: 1,764. This information is based upon the changes made to Ward 1, Ward 4 and Ward 6 respectively in the adoption of the aforementioned ordinance. The Ward 1 and Ward 5 changes, according to the 2010 census numbers have been estimated to affect only commercial property at that time so no citizens would be impacted. (5) That any attempt to hold the special called election in accordance with the recently adopted ward boundaries for the City of Hernando would result in unnecessary confusion and would in essence have the net effect of being inequitable to a large number of citizens within the city and especially those in the existing Ward One (1) of the City of Hernando, Mississippi who have since the 2017 municipal election been represented by the late Sonny Bryant. I request that foregoing information be made a part of the record and included within the minutes.

A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 7th day of December, 2020.

Robin Cotton asked us to let the citizens know what kind of election equipment we will be using before the election.

REQUEST FROM JULIE HOPKINS TO HOLD A REVERSE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Julie Hopkins presented her request. Mrs. Hopkins stated she spoke with Desoto County Schools about using Dilworth and the loop behind the high school, they were ok with that. I received quotes on insurance and have some people that are willing to pay for that. There are no school games scheduled that day, and I think this route will cut down on the foot traffic. No businesses will be affected.

Mayor Ferguson asked what the limit for the liability insurance were.

Julie Hopkins answered \$1,000,000

Mayor Ferguson stated no throwing of candy right.

Julie Hopkins answered no sir.

Mayor Ferguson asked what time.

Julie Hopkins stated the line up will be at 5:45pm, with the parade being form 6:30pm to 8:00pm, on December 14, 2020.

Alderwoman Brooks asked what the float count was up to.

Julie Hopkins answered around 30. We will have to limit the number of floats do to the limited space.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the request to have a reverse Christmas parade, closing Dilworth Street from 5pm to 10pm on December 14, 2020. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 7th day of December, 2020

ADJOURN

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

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

MAYOR TOM FERGUSON

ATTEST:

KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK