

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met for the Special Meeting at City Hall on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Chip Johnson presiding. Alderpersons present were: Alderman W.I. "Doc" Harris, Alderwoman Natalie Lynch, Alderman Andrew Miller, Alderman Bruce Robinson, Alderman Chad Wicker, Alderwoman Beth Ross, and Alderman Ben Piper. Also present for the meeting were: City Clerk Pam Pyle, Public Works Director Lee Germany, Nester Duran

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Alderman Miller gave the invocation.

CITY OF HERNANDO
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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Date: August 24, 2021

To: All Aldermen of the Municipality of Hernando, Mississippi

From: Mayor Chip Johnson

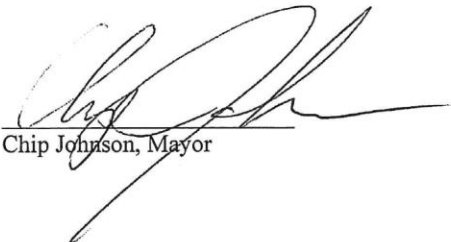
Subject: Special Meeting

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando shall be held on August 24, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the City Hall Building in the City of Hernando, Mississippi.

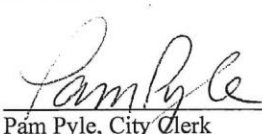
The purpose of the meeting is to:

- 1) Approve the DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District to hold a wildlife food plot workshop on September 9, 2021.
- 2) FYE22 Budget Workshop (Department Head Presentations).

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


Chip Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Pam Pyle, City Clerk

All Aldermen were contacted by email on 8/24/2021

Agenda
City of Hernando
Mayor and Board of Alderman
Special Meeting

August 24, 2021

6:00pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approve Agenda
- 5) Approve the DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District to hold a wildlife food plot workshop on September 9, 2021.
- 6) FY22 Budget Workshop (Department Head Presentations)
- 7) Adjourn

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion was duly made by Alderwoman Lynch and seconded by Alderman Wicker to approve the agenda as presented.

A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderwoman Lynch, Alderman Miller, Alderman Robinson, Alderman Wicker, Alderwoman Ross and Alderman Piper.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 24th day of August, 2021.

**APPROVE THE DESOTO COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
TO HOLD A WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT WORKSHOP ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

Motion to approve the DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District to hold a wildlife food plot workshop on September 9, 2021 at the Gale Center at no charge.

A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Harris, Alderwoman Lynch, Alderman Miller, Alderman Robinson, Alderman Wicker, Alderwoman Ross and Alderman Piper.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 24th day of August, 2021.

FY22 BUDGET WORKSHOP-DEPARTMENT HEAD

Mayor Johnson:

We are not approving the budget tonight, but have department presentations for consideration. We have three pieces of the budget that Lee Germany and I will present. After, you can let myself, Lee and Pam know of any changes to be made. Hopefully, we can bring all of the changes made to the budget back to the board and approve it. This is truly a workshop and we have BBI access set up if you have any question. Lee Germany will present the Public Works budget.

Hotel/Motel Tax will be the first and there is no department head that oversees that. This stand-alone budget is pretty straight forward. We receive a 1% tax on Hotel/Motel stays.

All salary figures in the full budget include a 3% increase in each department.

Lee Germany presented the Public Works budget.

Discussion on the Street department, which has one employee. The new patch machine will have a significant time and cost savings. Lee does not anticipate the need for any new equipment purchases at this time. Street lights are a high cost. Changing to LED lights will be researched to see what the cost will be to have them all changed at once through Entergy with a note. The cost savings would offset the note. Entergy is already upgrading to LED on new projects. The Capital Improvements Street Overlay has \$850,000.00. There was a 2018 study done for street overlay by Civil-Link, and it was suggested that we may need to update the report frame work that they already have. It may be used for divots or cracks in your street. It is not going to be fresh black top covering the City of Hernando over the next six years. So that is important to communicate to the people of Hernando. The report recommends that there be \$1,200,000.00 on hand for projects. There is \$250,000.00 from the state that Senator McLendon and Representative Darnell worked on, that we will receive, and the suggestion is to put that in this line item. It looks like there are some contracts that have not been completed. Some of the projects will still have invoices coming in before this budget year ends. We have only spent at this time \$130,000.00. It seems that we are always behind in this area. The city will also look into bidding street overlay project all at one time at the beginning of the year and hopefully get a better price, while considering time restraints, and revenues coming in.

Utility Fund:

The Utility Fund is an Enterprise Fund and is not funded by taxes. It is funded by fees like DCRUA, wastes water, water, and garbage to fund it. There are no anticipated new loans this year. There is a past due list that will be reviewed.

There is one Shop employee that does the Public Works maintenance on all vehicle equipment regular maintenance in house. The new building is conducive to doing that kind of work. It has a two-bay shop that is heated and really nice. On the utilities item. We are still trying to figure out what the Entergy bills will be. The new building was purchased, but the Entergy and Atmos bills were not transferred for over a year. Lee was unable to get an amortization for the past bills for budgeting, so he has no history and have no idea.

In the Sewer department, Capital Outlay, Lee will get a detailed list of the items needed in furniture and fixtures. It was requested that all departments have a detailed list on any Capital Outlay items. DCRUA revenue and charges do not match because of the storm water that gets in our sewer drains when it rains. It was discussed that one employee be hired to check and track where the water is entering our sewer system. Typically, storm drains tend to fail. They get holes in them and suck in dirt along with the water, which leaves holes in people's yards and in the streets, causing infrastructure failure. A \$40,000.00 employee could save us possibly \$200,000.00.

In the Sanitation department, they are responsible for cutting grass along the side of the streets. We adopted the Commerce/I55 entrance and the Nesbit/I55 entrance from MDOT. MDOT only cut those twice a year, and we felt that it needed at least twelve or fifteen cuts. So, we cut those. Lee is requesting the purchase of 2 tractors and 1 side boom mower. The current 2 tractors are over 20 years old and need constant repairs, and they are compounding as they age. We have one waiting on parts at this time, so only one is in working order. There was a suggestion that Lee check with some of the local auctions to see if there are any that would meet his needs, and he said he could look at that as well. After discussion, Lee's recommendation is to purchase 2 tractors and 1 side boom mower. Lee will also make a comparison list on repairing the old tractors and the cost of new machines.

Water department:

Lee spoke about the cost savings and effectiveness of the radio read water meters. We also purchase construction grade meters that are cheaper because they tend to get broken during construction. They typically budget \$50,000.00 per year on meters, but this year it is much more. There are around 700 registers that have failed on the radio read meters that have to be replaced estimated at \$100,000.00. The other \$50,000.00 is for upgrading old meters, new construction radio meters, construction meters, and faulty meters during the year. He is requesting hiring additional employees. One new position for the water crew and an open position for asst. water

operator. There was discussion on the lowest pay rate and how to increase them fairly. This will be looked at in the near future. We are not showing any water capital outlay this year. Contingency is \$1,191,322.63. We can use that in other items, or hopefully, let it grow where it is and build up there. This will stay in the utility fund and cannot be used in any other fund.

RECESS

There being no further business at this time a motion was duly made by Alderman Wicker, seconded by Alderman Robinson to recess until August 26, 2021 at 6pm.

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

MAYOR CHIP JOHNSON

ATTEST:

PAM PYLE, CITY CLERK