

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, September 1, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Chip Johnson presiding. Aldermen present were: Sam Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs. Also present for the meeting were: City Clerk Katie Harbin, City Attorney Kenny Stockton, City Engineer Joe Frank Lauderdale, Assistant Police Chief Shane Ellis, Fire Chief Hubert Jones, Planning Director Jared Darby, Community Director Gia Matheny, Parks Director Dewayne Williams, Public Works Director Gary McElhannon, Assistant Public Works Director Bobby Burton, Court Clerk Cassandra Perry, Judge Quimby, Judge Nowak, Human Resources Manager Julie Harris, Emily Harris, Henry Bailey, Kitty Dell Moore, Maureen Morgan, Freda Eatwell, Susan Fernandez, Richard Flake, Kathy Cunningham, Ria Flake, Allene Hubbard, R. Hubbard, Dan Lackey, Steve Doll, Carolyn Richards, Margaret Hicks, Chris Camp, Roxanne McIngvale, Sandra McElhannon, Janet Booth, Roy Booth, David Wright, Sami Baird, Darla Mirth, Wesley Callahan, Jason McCaleb, Brandon Poppenheimer, April Henley, Niki Flanagan, Robert Spears, Dale Bellflower, Jason Renmaker, Wade Stark, Mitch McNeely, Jason Parolli, Paul Whitfield, Pan Whitfield, Blake Cooper, Camille Pittman, Steven Pittman, Amy Brown, Amanda Cunningham, Ty Owen, Chris Jones, Brian Couch, Memory Craig, Derick Biglane, David Raffety, and Arlie Walters.

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### INVOCATION

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Alderman Miller gave the invocation.

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### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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Agenda  
City of Hernando  
Mayor and Board of Alderman  
Regular Meeting

September 1, 2015

6:00pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Invocation
- 3) Approve Agenda
- 4) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s 109311 – 109527 less 109348, 109349, 109430
- 5) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s (Lauderdale) 109348 and 109430

- 6) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s (Miller) 109349
- 7) Approve Minutes
- 8) Consent Agenda
  - A) Authorize Katie Harbin, Carla Scallorn and Julie Harris to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Regional training meeting in New Orleans, LA on December 2-4, 2015, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
  - B) Authorize Hubert Jones, Marshel Berry, and Chad Ray to attend the CPAT Entry Exam in Jackson, MS on September 14 & 15, 2015, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
  - C) Authorize Chad Ray to attend the Firefighter 1001 I-II in Jackson, MS and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. The date will be set once the CPAT Exam is complete
  - D) Authorize Jared Darby to attend the Alabama Mississippi State APA annual conference in Orange Beach, AL on October 6-10, 2015, also authorize to pay registration and travel expense
- 9) Authorize to give Fred Tuggle a \$0.50 per hour 90 day performance raise from \$10.25 to \$10.75 per hour
- 10) Request to close streets for Flock Around the Block on March 16, 2016
- 11) Request to close streets for Through the Roof P.T. on October 10, 2015
- 12) Request to close streets for the HHS Homecoming parade on October 22, 2015
- 13) Request from Hernando Main Street Chamber of Commerce for funding
- 14) Application for Preliminary and Final Plat approval for Poppenheimer Subdivision, submitted by Billy Poppenheimer. The subdivision is comprised of two lots totaling 10 acres located on the south side of Pleasant Hill Road just west of Getwell Road in Section 28, Township 2 South, Range 7 West. The property is currently zoned "A-R", Agriculture-Residential.
- 15) Discussion and possible acceptance of Heritage Oaks Cove
- 16) Adopt Resolution declaring September 21-25, 2015 Storm Water Awareness Week
- 17) Authorize Mayor Johnson to sign an engagement letter with Williams, Pitts, and Beard, PLLC
- 18) Authorize Mayor Johnson to sign a contract with Williams, Pitts, Beard, PLLC for the Audit fye 2015

- 19) Authorize to raise the basketball fee \$5.00 as recommend by the Board last year
- 20) Public Hearing on the proposed budget and proposed tax levy for the upcoming fiscal year for the City of Hernando
- 21) Adopt Resolution setting Ad Valorem tax levy for the City of Hernando fye 2016
- 22) Authorize to borrow \$300,000.00 from the Utility fund for the General fund
- 23) Authorize to borrow \$100,000.00 from the Utility fund for the Debt Service fund
- 24) Adopt Resolution directing the City Attorney to prepare the necessary documents to borrow funds for the General fund in anticipation of taxes and to advertise
- 25) Authorize Mayor Johnson to sign an agreement for an Ambulance Billing Service
- 26) Executive Session for Negotiations
- 27) Adjourn

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

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

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**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO.'S 109311 – 109527 LESS 109348, 109349, 109430**

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No. 109311 – 109527 less 109348, 109349, in the amount of \$756,206.29 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman Lauderdale 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 McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Lauderdale.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO.'S 109348 AND 109430 (LAUDERDALE)**

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Alderman Lauderdale recused himself and left the room.

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No. 109348 and 109430 in the amount of \$208,559.34 for approval.

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

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO.'S 109349 (MILLER)**

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Alderman Miller recused himself and left the room.

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No. 109349 in the amount of \$37,008.80 for approval.

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

Those voting "Aye": Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON AUGUST 18, 2015**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the Minutes from the regular Board Meeting on August 18, 2015 as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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- A) Authorize Katie Harbin, Carla Scallorn and Julie Harris to attend the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Regional training meeting in New Orleans, LA on December 2-4, 2015, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
- B) Authorize Hubert Jones, Marshel Berry, and Chad Ray to attend the CPAT Entry Exam in Jackson, MS on September 14 & 15, 2015, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses
- C) Authorize Chad Ray to attend the Firefighter 1001 I-II in Jackson, MS and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. The date will be set once the CPAT Exam is complete
- D) Authorize Jared Darby to attend the Alabama Mississippi State APA annual conference in Orange Beach, AL on October 6-10, 2015, also authorize to pay registration and travel expense

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

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**AUTHORIZE TO GIVE FRED TUGGLE A \$0.50 PER HOUR 90 DAY PERFORMANCE RAISE FROM \$10.25 TO \$10.75 PER HOUR**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Higdon to authorize to give Fred Tuggle a \$0.50 per hour 90 day performance raise from \$10.25 to \$10.75, based on the personnel committee's recommendation, following the recommendation of the Public Works Director. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURES FOR THE FLOCK AROUND THE BLOCK ON MARCH 26, 2016**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the request for street closures for the Flock Around the Block on March 26, 2016. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**REQUEST TO CLOSE STREETS FOR THROUGH THE ROOF P.T. ON OCTOBER 10, 2015**

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Sami Barid presented the request for the Through the Roof P.T., to be held on October 10, 2015. The request is to also double the 5K route.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the request to close streets for Through the Roof P.T. on October 10, 2015, doubling the approved route. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**REQUEST TO CLOSE STREETS FOR THE HHS HOMECOMING PARADE ON OCTOBER 22, 2015**

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Motion was duly made by Alderwoman Brooks and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the request to close streets for the HHS Homecoming Parade on October 22, 2015. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**REQUEST FROM HERNANDO MAIN STREET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR FUNDING**

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Susan Fernandez presented the request on behalf of the Hernando Main Street Chamber of Commerce.

Motion was duly made by Alderwoman Brooks and seconded by Alderman McLendon to approve the request from the Hernando Main Street Chamber of Commerce for funding of \$20,000.00 this fye 2016. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**APPLICATION FOR PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR POPPENHEIMER SUBDIVISION, SUBMITTED BY BILLY POPPENHEIMER. THE SUBDIVISION IS COMPRISED OF TWO LOTS TOTALING 10 ACRES LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF PLEASANT HILL ROAD JUST WEST OF GETWELL ROAD IN SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST. THE PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY ZONED "A-R", AGRICULTURE-RESIDENTIAL**

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Jared Darby presented the application and final plat for the Poppenheimer subdivision. The Planning Commission approved the application.

**MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**FILE: PL-1111**

**DATE: September 1st, 2015**

**CAPTION: Preliminary and Final Plat Approval; Poppenheimer Subdivision; Lauderdale Engineering**

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**INTRODUCTION:**

Lauderdale Engineering, representing the owner of the subject property, is requesting a preliminary and final plat approval. The subdivision will consist of two lots. The subdivision is located on the south side of Pleasant Hill Road and west of East Parkway Street.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Lot 1 will consist of 4.3 acres and will have 193 feet of frontage along Pleasant Hill Road. The lot will extend 785 feet to the south. Lot 2 is larger with a total area of 5.7 acres with 347 feet of road frontage. There is an existing structure on Lot 2 that violates the A-R, Agriculture-Residential bulk requirements; however, due to the nature of the subdivision the structure shall be considered a legal non-conformity.

**PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

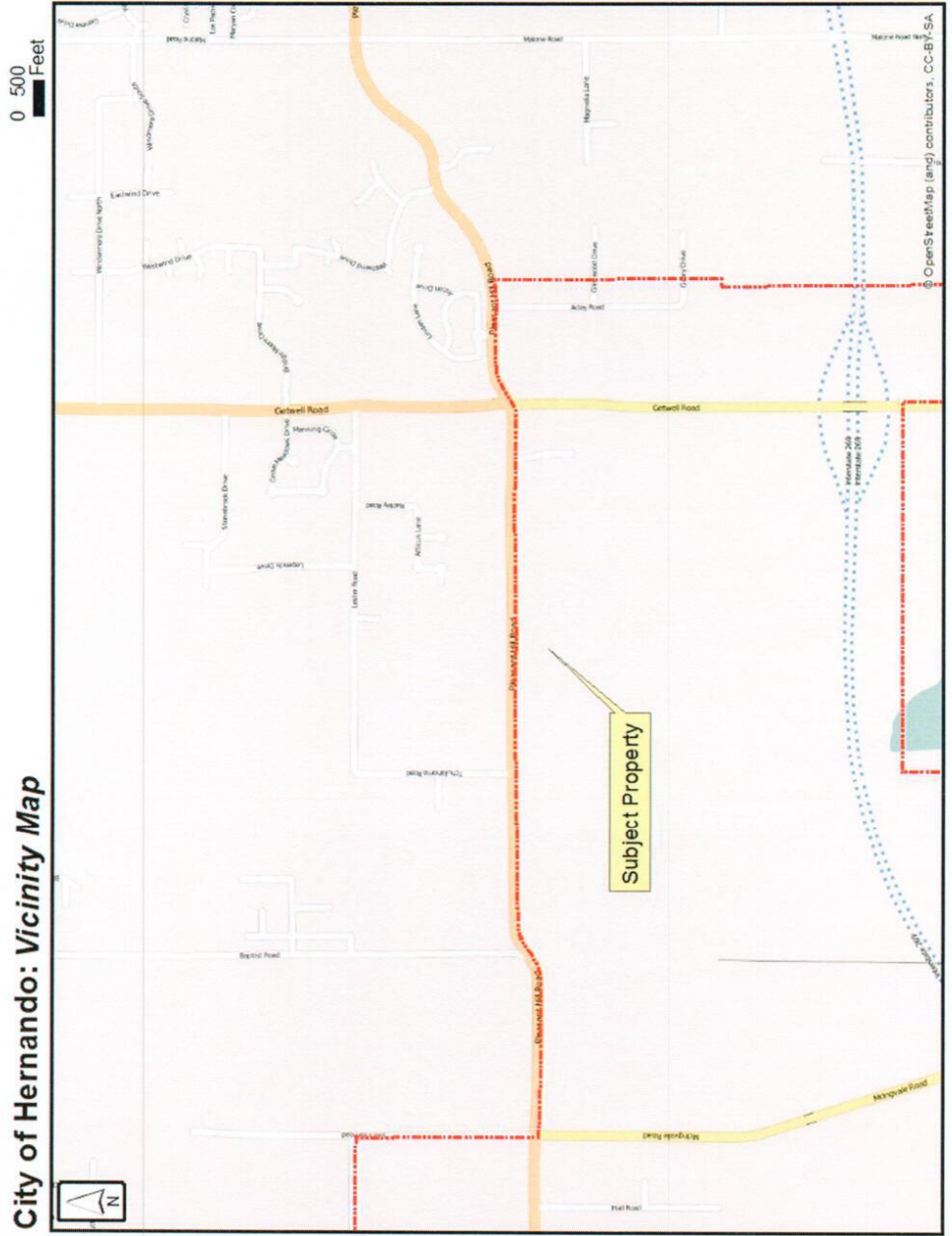
The Commission has found that the geometry of the proposed plat meets the City of Hernando's Subdivision Regulations, and the lot is within keeping of the character of the neighborhood. If the Mayor and Board of Aldermen chooses to approve the subdivision, the Planning Commission recommends the following conditions of approval:

- A. Improvements to be the responsibility of the developer and not the responsibility of the City of Hernando.
- B. Grading, drainage, and engineering construction plans to be approved by the City Engineer and Public Works Director.
- C. Finished floor elevations shall be listed for each lot.
- D. All utilities and services (electric, telephone, cable, etc.) to be installed underground. The water service lines shall be installed with tracing wire at the top.
- E. Final approval by the Board of Aldermen and recording of the plat.
- F. No relocated buildings will be allowed.
- G. Surrounding properties that are within 100 ft. shall be outlined with ownership records given.
- H. DeSoto County Health Department Certificate shall be included on the plat.
- I. Building setbacks shall be listed to reflect the A-R, Agriculture-Residential requirements.
- J. Utility easements shall be listed as 10 ft. rear and 5 ft. side.

**INCLUDED EXHIBITS:**

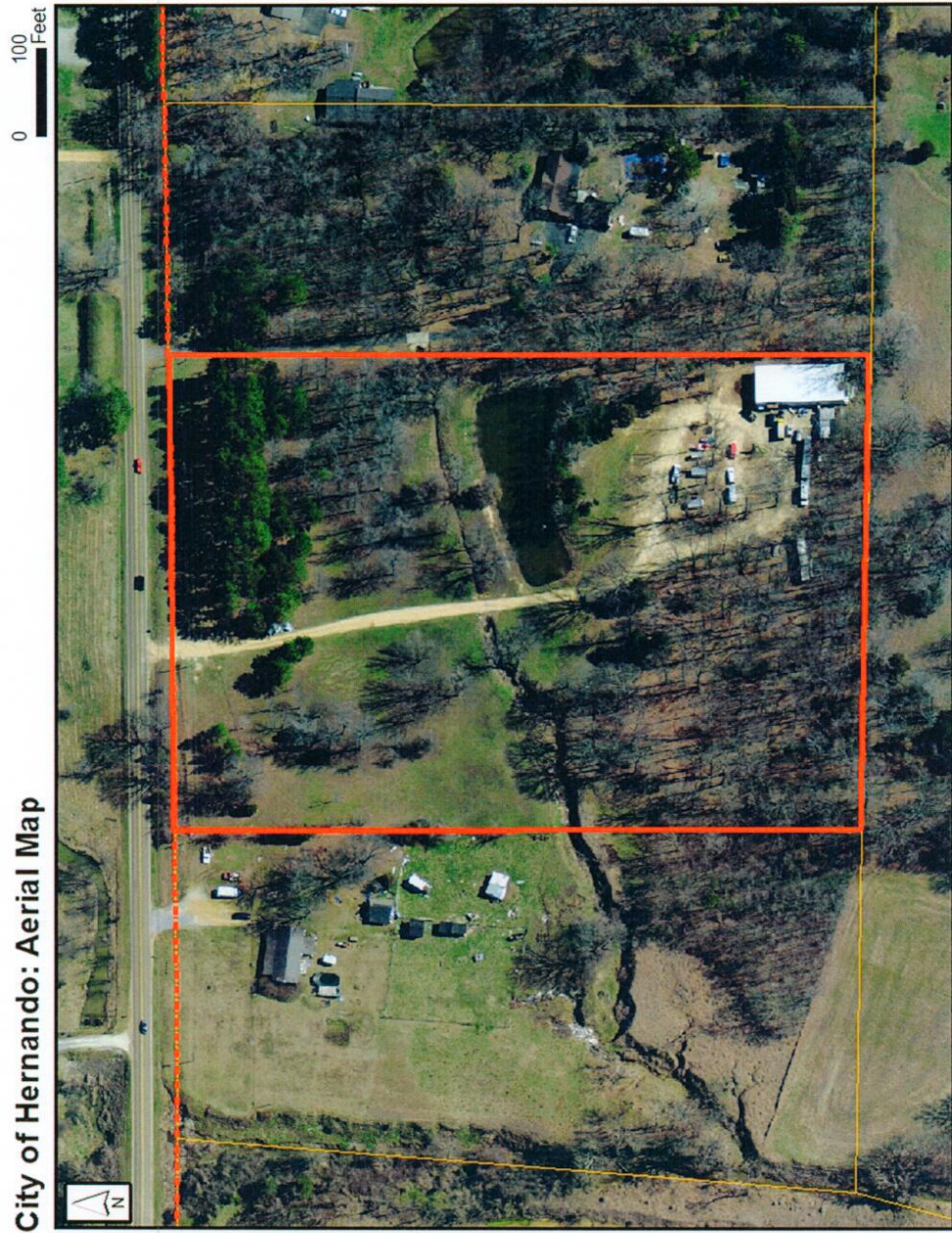
- Poppenheimer Subdivision Plat
-

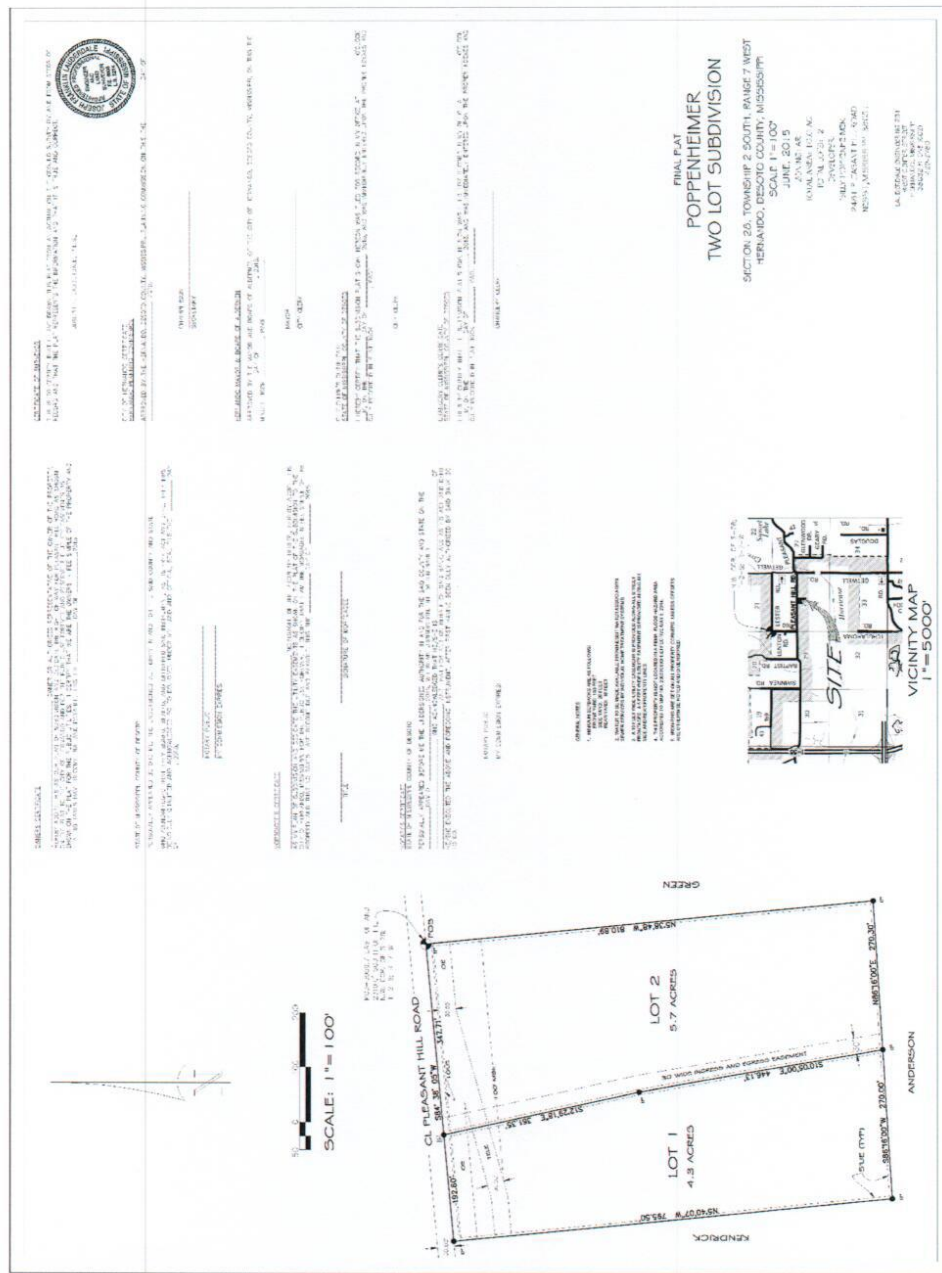












Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the application for Preliminary and Final Plat approval for Poppenheimer subdivision,

submitted by Billy Poppenheimer. The subdivision is comprised of two lots totaling 10 acres located on the South Side of Pleasant Hill Rd just west of Getwell Rd in Section 28, Township 2 South, Range 7 West. The property is currently zoned "A-R", Agriculture-Residential, based on the Planning Commission's approval with conditions. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF HERITAGE OAKS COVE**

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Joe Frank Lauderdale presented a report on the street, stating that it is up to City Standards.

Kenny Stockton stated that they will have to give us a good title to the property and the City will need authority to convey the property.

Chris Camp asked Kenny what the steps were that they needed to do, in order to start the process.

Kenny Stockton answered Mr. Camp stating that he will get in touch with Mr. Camp to help him get it done.

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### **ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 21-25, 2015 STORM WATER AWARENESS WEEK**

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#### **RESOLUTION OF THE HERNANDO BOARD OF ALDERMEN, DECLARING SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> – 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 STORMWATER AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Hernando, Mississippi desire and deserve a safe and clean environment in which to live and raise their families; and

WHEREAS, it is known that the streams of Hernando are adversely impacted by the introduction of man-made pollutants; and

WHEREAS, Hernando has been designated as a Stormwater Phase II Entity; and

WHEREAS, Hernando has developed a Stormwater Runoff Management Program to meet the requirements established by the Clean Water Act and mandated by the United States

Environmental Protection Agency and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality;  
and

WHEREAS, public education about the causes, effects, and prevention measures of and for stormwater and non-point source pollution of our streams is essential to Hernando’s efforts to return its streams to their natural pollution-free condition; and

WHEREAS, Hernando has adopted Public Education and Public Involvement as part of their Stormwater Runoff Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of Hernando, Mississippi:

That the Week of September 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be, and it is hereby declared to be “Stormwater Awareness Week”.

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Alderman Higdon, who moved its adoption. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Lauderdale, and a roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, and Alderman Bryant.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINING: None.

ABSENT: None.

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of all of the members of the Board present, the mayor declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

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MAYOR

ATTESTED AND SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMENT FOR APPROVAL BY THE CLERK OF THE CITY ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2015.

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CLERK OF THE CITY

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

Min. of 9-1-15; Bk. No. 24; Pg. No. 11; Agn. Itm. 16

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**AUTHORIZE MAYOR JOHNSON TO SIGN AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH  
WILLIAMS, PITTS, AND BEARD, PLLC**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman McLendon, and seconded by Alderman Miller to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign an engagement letter with Williams, Pitts, and Beard, PLLC. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**AUTHORIZE MAYOR JOHNSON TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH WILLIAMS, PITTS,  
AND BEARD, PLLC FOR THE AUDIT FYE 2015**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, and seconded by Alderman McLendon to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign a contract with Williams, Pitts, and Beard, PLLC for the Audit fye 2015. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**AUTHORIZE TO RAISE THE BASKETBALL FEE \$5.00 AS RECOMMENDED BY  
THE BOARD LAST YEAR**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman McLendon, and seconded by Alderman Lauderdale to authorize to raise the Basketball fee \$5.00 as recommended by the Board. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015



**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVY FOR  
THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR THE CITY OF HERNANDO**

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Mayor Johnson announced that we were going into the Public Hearing.

Darla Mirth, 1897 Gracie Rd, stated the following:

“Good evening,

My name is Darla Mirth. I grew up in Mississippi and have lived in Hernando for the past 13 years.

I understand that you are considering a bond issue that would in effect raise property taxes. I am here tonight to support the property tax increase. I am supporting this increase for the following reasons:

1. Property taxes in Hernando are currently artificially low. What I mean by that is there is a mismatch between the resources available to run the city and the resources needed to run the city. By not appropriately matching revenues to expenses an imbalance occurs that is not easily reversible. For example, certain expenses are highly likely to rise over time, such as healthcare. The City of Hernando, in order to continue to provide quality services to its citizens needs to address this issue. Additionally, city employees should receive a raise. Research shows that appropriately compensating city employees is necessary to achieve fiscal stability – employee retention and development are both linked to compensation.
2. We currently are overly dependent on an asymmetrical tax model – hoping that development and tax revenue from big box stores will save us as citizens from having to adjust our property taxes. We are also overly reliant on grant revenue. Per auditor’s report from 2014, and I quote here – “Hernando has been fortunate to receive grants and loans for projects such as water improvements, parks, and drainage improvements.” I believe the overreliance on big box stores and grants to provide needed revenue is detrimental in the long run. Additionally, my belief is that base-broadening and higher tax rates should be seen as complements, not substitutes. Hernando continues to grow. Both new and old residents need services. The city needs to be prepared for this growth and address it proactively.
3. The amount of the proposed tax increase is not material (significant). A home valued (not assessed) at \$400,000 can expect an annual increase of \$127 and a house valued at \$100,000 can expect an annual increase of \$31.75. The relatively low cost of these tax increases makes them very attractive to homeowners.
4. Infrastructure is a vital part of any city and Hernando is no exception. Money is needed to improve roads and parks. It is also needed to provide a local match for federal funds that will go towards projects such as: Nesbit and Commerce overlays, traffic signals, and Commerce Road West. The total local obligation for these projects is \$718,065.50 over 2015, 2016, and 2017. This would match federal funds that total approximately \$3.6 million.
5. Police and fire need equipment. Soccer players of all ages need access to clean bathrooms with running water. In the interest of time, I won’t list any more reasons to

approve a small tax increase – I hope at this point the issue is moot and I am just wasting your time because you plan to the pass the needed tax adjustment. And finally,

6. The tax increase funds a broad range of projects and services that benefit all citizens of Hernando, not just a few. It is time for Hernando citizens to invest in Hernando!

Again, I urge you to pass this tax increase without delay. Thank you for your time.”

Alderman McLendon asked why do you think the citizens didn't pass the Parks Tax.

Darla Mirth stated that she will not speak to that issue, that she does not know enough about it. Mrs. Mirth stated that she voted for it.

Dale Bellflower, 1385 Thousand Oak, stated that he had a reservation about a tax increase. Pay raises, parks, road overlays are important. It would be better to focus on the interior streets in neighborhoods. Commerce to Della Street. It is easier for citizens to go for a tax increase when they can see direct improvements for them. Police, Fire are important, also ditches. Mr. Bellflower stated that he is opposed to the 5 lane of McIngvale of Commerce to Byhalia, but understands the 5 lane of McIngvale of Green T to Byhalia. Mr. Bellflower stated that he knows Alderman Lauderdale wants big box, but citizens could drive to Southaven, to help keep Hernando like it is. Byhalia to Commerce, if limited traffic of big trucks, would be ok. Priority is Commerce. Mr. Bellflower stated that he doesn't understand the improvements to the square. He is for improving roads in neighborhoods and for the tax increase.

Mayor Johnson stated that some of the Storm water Phase II cost are in this budget that will address some of those concerns.

Richard Flake, 2142 Heritage Cove, Stated that the road is really bad at the Gateway at Thousand Oaks and McIngvale, a chunk of road way is awful on the south side of the street.

Alderman Lauderdale stated that is private property.

Mayor Johnson stated that we have done some improvements. Mayor Johnson asked Joe Frank Lauderdale to address that issue.

Susan Fernandez, speaking on behalf of business owners, stated that the new interchange is valuable to businesses, without it we are passed by. If that happens we will miss out on the tax dollars.

Wade Stark, 145 Sweetbriar Ave, stated that the biggest issue that we have is turning down businesses, because of building requirements. Mr. Stark understands that they can't park in front of that building on Highway 51. It doesn't look like businesses can grow like that. Mr. Stark stated that he is against the tax increase and that he thinks the Mayor only thinks about recreation.

Mayor Johnson stated that he thinks Mr. Stark is wrong about that.

Wade Stark stated that you have to crawl before you can walk. You need to look at how you are spending the money. We need to look at where we are going and where we've been. It looks like we only want homes, not businesses. Mr. Stark also stated that the no smoking rule sent one business out of business. Mr. Stark asked what would the 10% increase go for.

Mayor Johnson replied that most of it would be for a \$4.5 million bond issue, which would go to infrastructure, water and sewer, improvements, parks Improvements and road improvements. Mayor Johnson stated that if we do a good mix of improvements, your house will be worth more money.

Freda Eatwell, 3230 Shady Hill Dr, stated that she agreed with Wade Stark.

Mayor Johnson went over the changes to the proposed budget presented on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Which were the following:

The Municipal Court Judges and attorneys salary was changed from starting January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>

Added \$2,000 to Court department capital machine and equipment for computers for the court room.

A salary increase for the Board of Aldermen and Mayor were removed.

Ad Valorem taxes was increased 3.175 mills and put into the bond fund to pay a note for a \$4.5 million dollar bond issue and a short term loan to purchase radios and radars for the Police and Fire departments.

Added \$75,000 to purchase new water meters in the Utility Department.

Added \$150,000 for street overlays in the general fund.

Changed the new position in the Planning Department to start in January instead of October.

Changed the Tax anticipation loan amount from \$1.7 to \$1.4 million.

Alderman McLendon asked how much \$150,000 would get in overlays.

Joe Frank Lauderdale responded that it depends on how wide and what street. It costs about \$1.50 for 7200 feet, roughly 1 ½ miles.

Alderman Miller stated that he is concerned about the increase, but neighborhood streets are not being overlaid. His streets keep getting knocked down. Mr. Miller stated that it's not right and he has a problem with that. The worst streets should be done first.

Alderman Higdon stated that he has been pushing hard for a sewer system in Green T. The streets are listed as more traveled, and the ones that would affect most people.

Alderman Miller stated that we didn't do a traffic study, no reason a street with 10 people shouldn't be paved just because another street has 100 people.

Alderwoman Brooks stated that we are trying to be proactive not reactive. We have a lot of good things coming to the City. We want to work with business owners to make sure they do well and thrive. Mrs. Brooks stated that only 3 people contacted her about the budget proposal and only 1 of the three didn't want the tax increase. We as a Board are trying to look to the future to see that the City grows in a positive way.

Dale Bellflower, stated that he does support overlays, we need neighborhood street improvements. Mr. Bellflower also stated that we need the sewer improvements in the neighborhood, we need a balance. Mr. Bellflower stated that citizens could more accept a tax increase with neighborhood improvements.

Alderman Higdon stated that the sewer is the number one improvement for neighborhoods.

Jason stated that they have the worst street.

Joe Frank Lauderdale stated that we have a contract with Lehman Roberts for forked Creek, about \$100,000 worth on various parts, 20 sections of streets.

Frankie Shannon stated that Hill and College Street should have had sidewalks by now.

Mayor Johnson answered that is a project with federal money and we are waiting on one more right of way.

A member of the audience stated that they are interested in the re stripping of Commerce St.

Mayor Johnson stated that Commerce Street is going to get overlaid and restriped in the current year's budget.

Alderman McLendon stated that he has a problem with the \$150,000 on overlays. Mr. McLendon stated that he wanted to add a budget request fye 2016 to give the Hernando Youth Football organization \$2,000.00. They are a nonprofit, self-sufficient organization that makes money by selling ads for the program. They have never come to the City asking for money. They have to relocate to play at Hernando Middle School and have to pay \$2,000.00 to use their fields. Mr. McLendon would like to include this request in the new budget, if Kenny says it's ok. Alderman McLendon asked why did everyone vote against a tax for the Parks department.

Amy Brown, 480 West Commerce St, stated that there was a lot of miss informing and miss information about that.

Wesley Callahan, 745 Shadow View Cv, stated that he agreed, there wasn't a lot of information out there.

An audience member stated that he voted no for the Parks tax, he didn't want to pay more when he went out to eat.

Jason Parolli, 1604 Cedar Grove Dr, stated that the Hernando Youth Football league had to move because approximately 400 kids played football, approximately 500 played soccer, kids played Frisbee, and just recreational play, all on the same field. Too many kids had to play on one field. It got used year round. You guys are doing the right thing, it is necessary. You have to have more money to pay for everything.

Alderman McLendon stated that they didn't want it to be going to a slush fund.

Jason Parolli stated it was because of lack of a plan for Pennies for Parks or lack of information. Mr. Parolli also stated that Churches are starting to go down because of a lack of youth programs.

Chris asked if we knew what the voter turnout was.

Alderman Hobbs answered 1500, so about 10%.

Chris stated that you can't get an accurate conclusion from that.

Wade Stark stated you are only allocating \$150,000 for overlays, that isn't going to get you much.

Mayor Johnson stated that \$150,000 is not true just for overlays. It is \$150,000 for inner streets, neighborhood streets, and \$1.2 million for bigger overlays.

Alderman Hobbs stated that it will be \$4.4 million in the next 3 years. It is more than what it looks like.

Ken Thompson stated that the baseball fields were packed for soccer tryouts. The Pennies for Parks tax was not well represented, not checked. A tax increase for Parks is a good investment; you will get a lot back. Hernando needs more parks, they help bring more people.

Mr. Cook stated the he somewhat opposes the tax increase. Some older people don't think you have someone responsible in charge of Parks. There is no good explanation for what the money is being spent on. The cemetery has to have separate funds.

Mayor Johnson answered that the Cemetery does have segregated funds now.

Alderman McLendon asked if we could run the cemetery.

Mayor Johnson answered of course, if we have the money.

Alderman Higdon stated that it isn't just sports, is it just kids playing also.

Mayor Johnson stated that it takes money and labor.

Jason Parolli stated that the fields need to be closed when it is wet.

Alderman McLendon asked how much was spent in overlays last year.

Mayor Johnson answered that he could get that number for Alderman McLendon.

Alderman Miller stated that he was still concerned on the internal street repair. Mr. Miller stated that he cannot support a tax increase without street repair.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION SETTING AD VALOREM TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF  
HERNANDO FYE 2016**

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**RESOLUTION SETTING AD VALOREM TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY OF  
HERNANDO, MISSISSIPPI FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 – 2016**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hernando now desires to set the ad valorem tax levy for the City for the fiscal year 2015 – 2016, pursuant to the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, and the Mayor and Board of Aldermen having carefully considered and determined the needs of the municipality and that the tax rate required to meet the expenses of said municipality for the fiscal year 2015 – 2016.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando, Mississippi that the ad valorem tax rate and levies for the fiscal year 2015 – 2016 shall be as follows:

**GENERAL FUND** – on each dollar (\$1.00) valuation as authorized by Section 27-39-307 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, for General Revenue purposes and General Improvements, Twenty-Six and 17/100 (26.17) Mills.

**MUNICIPAL BOND AND INTEREST FUND** – on each dollar (\$1.00) valuation as authorized by Section 21-33-45 of the Mississippi Code, Annotated, Five and 89.5/100 (5.895) Mills.

**LIBRARY FUND** – on each dollar (\$1.00) valuation as authorized by Section 39-3-7 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, 86/100 (.86) Mills.

**CULTURE & RECREATION FUND** – on each dollar (\$1.00) valuation as authorized for park improvements and maintenance, Two and 0/100 (2.00) mills.

The total mills for 2015 – 2016 is thirty-four and 92.5/100 (34.925) Mills.

**Motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale, seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the Resolution Setting the ad valorem tax levy for the City of Hernando for the fiscal year 2015 – 2016. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:**

**Those voting “Aye”:** Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Higdon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

**Those voting “Nay”:** Alderman Miller

**Alderman McLendon abstained from voting.**

**SO ORDERED on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.**

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**Chip Johnson, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Katie Harbin, City Clerk**

Alderman McLendon's abstained vote goes with the majority vote.

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**AUTHORIZE TO BORROW \$300,000.00 FROM THE UTILITY FUND FOR THE  
GENERAL FUND**

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**RESOLUTION TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE UTILITY FUND TO  
THE GENERAL FUND IN ANTICIPATION OF TAXES**

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando, a lawful municipality of the State of Mississippi, is acting pursuant to the power and authority vested to the governing authorities to borrow money for the current expenses of such municipality in anticipation of the ad valorem taxes to be collected for the current fiscal year pursuant to Section 21-33-325 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has a need to borrow funds from the municipal Utility Fund Treasury account to pay current expenses in the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the amount to be borrowed shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the anticipated, but uncollected, revenue to be produced by the current tax levy, against which such money is borrowed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has the authority to set the interest rate.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hernando, acting through its Mayor and Board of Aldermen, has determined the need to borrow for the General Fund, Three-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00), at zero interest, for a period not to exceed repayment by March 15, 2016. Said funds shall be transferred from the Utility Fund to the General Fund as needed.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale, seconded by Alderman Higdon to adopt the foregoing "Resolution to Borrow Funds from the Utility Fund in Anticipation of Taxes". A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

WITNESS our signatures on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chip Johnson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Harbin, City Clerk

**AUTHORIZE TO BORROW \$100,000.00 FROM THE UTILITY FUND FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND**

---

**RESOLUTION TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE UTILITY FUND FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND IN ANTICIPATION OF TAXES**

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando, a lawful municipality of the State of Mississippi, is acting pursuant to the power and authority vested to the governing authorities to borrow money for the current expenses of such municipality in anticipation of the ad valorem taxes to be collected for the current fiscal year pursuant to Section 21-33-325 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has a need to borrow funds from the municipal Utility Fund Treasury account to pay current expenses in the Debt Service Fund; and

WHEREAS, the amount to be borrowed shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the anticipated, but uncollected, revenue to be produced by the current tax levy, against which such money is borrowed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has the authority to set the interest rate.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hernando, acting through its Mayor and Board of Aldermen, has determined the need to borrow for the Debt Service Fund, One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), at zero interest, for a period not to exceed repayment by March 15, 2016. Said funds shall be transferred from the Utility Fund to the Debt Service Fund as needed.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale, and seconded by Alderman Higdon to adopt the foregoing "Resolution to Borrow Funds from the Utility Fund in Anticipation of Taxes. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:



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

Those voting "Nay": None.

WITNESS our signatures on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chip Johnson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Harbin, City Clerk

**ADOPT RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE THE  
NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO BORROW FUNDS FOR THE GENERAL FUND IN  
ANTICIPATION OF TAXES AND TO ADVERTISE**

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE THE  
NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO BORROW FUNDS FOR THE GENERAL  
FUND IN ANTICIPATION OF TAXES**

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando, a lawful municipality of the State of Mississippi, is acting pursuant to the power and authority vested to the governing authorities to borrow money for the current expenses of such municipality in anticipation of the ad valorem taxes to be collected for the current fiscal year pursuant to Section 21-33-325 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as Amended; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hernando has a need to borrow funds from a qualified bank located within the municipal to pay current expenses in the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the amount to be borrowed shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the anticipated, but uncollected, revenue to be produced by the current tax levy, against which such money is borrowed; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hernando, acting through its Mayor and Board of Aldermen, has determined the need to borrow for the General Fund, up to One Million Four Hundred Dollars (\$1,400,000), at the best interest offered, for a period not to exceed repayment by March 15, 2016. Said funds shall be deposited to the General Fund as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Attorney is hereby directed to prepare the necessary documents to receive bids from the local banks and to prepare the documents to complete the loan transactions.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, seconded by Alderwoman Brooks to adopt the foregoing "Resolution to Direct the City Attorney to Prepare the Necessary Documents Borrow Funds for the General Fund in Anticipation of Taxes" and to solicit the banks for bids on the loan . A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay":

WITNESS our signatures on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chip Johnson, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Katie Harbin, City Clerk**

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**AUTHORIZE MAYOR JOHNSON TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT FOR AN  
AMBULANCE BILLING SERVICE**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs, and seconded by Alderman Higdon to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign an agreement for an Ambulance Billing Service with Credit Bureau Systems, Inc., doing business as Ambulance Medical Billing, Inc. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

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**GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS GOING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR  
NEGOTIATIONS**

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

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**GO INTO EXECUTION SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS**

---

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

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs, and seconded by Alderwoman Brooks to come out of executive session for negotiations. A vote was taken with the following results:

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

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2015

**ADJOURN**

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

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

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MAYOR CHIP JOHNSON

ATTEST:

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KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK