

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF BOONEVILLE
AUGUST 20, 2013**

BE IT REMEMBERED that the regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Booneville, Mississippi was held on Tuesday, August 20, 2013, at the City Hall at 7:00 p.m., the time and place for said meeting.

Those in attendance were the following members of the Board: Alderman David Bolen, Alderman Harold Eaton, Alderman Mark McCoy, Alderman Jason Michael, and Alderman Jeff Williams. Also, present were Daniel K. Tucker, City Attorney, Lavaile Shields, City Clerk, and several City employees and visitors. The meeting was called to order in open session by Mayor Blythe and a quorum was declared present.

The invocation was given by Alderman Jeff Williams.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Alderman Jason Michael.

There first came on for consideration, the request to approve the consent agenda. The items on the consent agenda were as follows:

- (1) To approve the minutes of the July 29, 2013, August 6, 2013, and August 8, 2013 board meetings;
- (2) To approve sending Tyler Allen to the full time police academy in Tupelo, Mississippi;
- (3) To approve purchasing property owned by Darrell Brumley in the amount of \$15,000.00 minus the amount of property taxes of \$6,428.60, after a title search;
- (4) To upgrading the microsoft office software;
- (5) To approve paying the Mississippi Department of Employment Security for the second quarter in the amount of \$53,263.38;
- (6) To approve sending willing employees to an online grant writing class at the cost of \$85.00 at Northeast Mississippi Community College;
- (7) To approve seeking bids on cleaning and pest control for all City property;
- (8) To approve accepting bids for the City cell phone service;

(9) To approve the use of the Community Center on October 6 at 2:00 p.m. at no costs, for a beauty pageant. All proceeds would go to the Mainstreet Association;

(10) To approve reimbursing Jerry Bridges \$57.25 for gas from his approved trip;

(11) To approve reimbursing Michael Ramey \$137.50 for lodging in Tunica, Mississippi for an approved class;

(12) To approve reimbursing Carolyn Jones \$159.50 for lodging in Tunica, Mississippi for an approved class.

Alderman Williams made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request for the City to release any interest it held in the third phase of the Cedar Ridge Subdivision Project. Tony Smith had purchased this property and was unsure as to what he would do with the property at this time. Alderman McCoy made a motion for the City to release any interest that the City had in said property, seconded by Alderman Jason Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for discussion, Trudy Featherson with the Mainstreet Association. She gave an update on the Fall Festival and informed the Board that there would be upcoming ribbon cutting ceremonies.

There next came on Leon Hayes giving an update on the Prentiss County Development Association. He also announced that the PCDA would have their annual banquet on September 19, 2013.

There next came on for consideration, the request to go into closed session to determine if an executive session was needed. Alderman Eaton made said motion, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

While in closed session, it was determined that an executive session was needed. Alderman Bolen made said motion, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members

of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Alderman Bolen made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Back in open session, it was announced that a personnel matter had been discussed, with interviews being held for the Court Clerk position. City Clerk Lavaile Shields made a motion to hire Ashley Hurt, as the full-time Court Clerk at \$12.00 per hour effective immediately, with a six (6) month probationary period. At the conclusion of the probationary period, her salary would be increased to \$12.50 an hour. Alderman Michael made said motion, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, Ronnie Johnson with Public Properties. Mr. Johnson first requested that charges and costs to demo the property located at 805 A South Lake Street in the name of James W. and Mitzie Dunkin be charged to their taxes and filed with the Chancery and Circuit Court as normal. The costs of the clean up \$2,750.00, with 15% penalty \$412.50, and \$160.00 filing fee, for a total of \$3,322.50. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, Ronnie Johnson, requesting that charges and costs to demo property located at 103 Cedar Street, in the name of Mary Davis c/o Charles McDonald be charged to their taxes and filed with the Chancery and Circuit Court as normal. The costs of the clean up for 2013 was \$245.00, with a 15% penalty of \$36.75, and \$160.00 filing fee, for a total of \$441.75. For the year of 2012, \$874.00 with a 15% penalty of \$131.10, for a total of \$1,005.10. The grand total for 2012 and 2013 is \$1,446.85. Alderman Bolen made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, a public hearing concerning the clean up property located at 100 Oakmere, in the name of Gretchen Frantz. She had appeared before

the Board at an earlier hearing and had requested an additional thirty (30) days to clean up said property. The thirty (30) days were granted and nothing had been done. Ronnie Johnson stated that the property in its current state was a menace to the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Booneville, Mississippi. Alderman McCoy made a motion to take bids to clean up said property, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to accept bids to build the handicap ramp at the Gas & Water Department. Druetto Construction of Batesville, Mississippi had placed the lowest bid of \$12,900.00. Alderman Williams made a motion to accept to bid of Druetto Construction, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to purchase the microsoft office update program and abode programs in the Gas Department, in an amount up to \$775.00. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Bolen, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to ratify the gas rates at \$11.50 per MCF. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, Fire Chief Jerry Wallace requesting permission to send three (3) firemen to training in Tupelo, Mississippi at \$95.00 per fireman. Alderman Michael made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to hire Tia Grove from part-time to full-time fireman at \$9.16 per hour, effective immediately. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman McCoy, and the following vote was had:

Alderman Bolen "Nay,"

Alderman Eaton "Nay,"

Alderman McCoy "Aye,"

Alderman Michael "Nay,"

Alderman Williams "Aye."

With a vote of three (3) against and two (2) for, the motion failed.

City Attorney Daniel Tucker requested a motion to go into closed session to determine if an executive session was needed. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

While in closed session, it was determined that an executive session was needed. Alderman Williams, seconded by Alderman Bolen, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Alderman Williams made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Back in open session, it was announced that a personnel matter had been discussed.

Alderman Williams made a new motion to hire Tia Grove from part-time to full-time fireman, at the rate of \$9.16 per hour, effective immediately. Said motion was seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request for permission to purchase fire boots for Corey Reece. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on consideration, the request to apply for a Rural Development Grant in the amount of \$50,000 with the cost to the City being up to \$500.00. Alderman Michael made said motion, seconded Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to make a five (5) way stop at Washington St., First St., and Hotel Street. Alderman McCoy made a motion to make that street a five (5) way stop, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board

present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried. The Aldermen did request that James Olive put up some type of flashing warning up for a while, at the streets, where the stops signs would be added. This would give the citizens time to get use to the new stop signs.

There next came on for consideration, the request to purchase an ad in the Jumpertown School Program. No motion was made, and therefore the matter therefore died.

There next came on for consideration, the request to purchase an ad in the Banner-Independent for the Fall Sports Review. A one quarter page ad would costs \$150.00, and would promote the City of Booneville, Mississippi. Alderman Michael made said motion, seconded by Alderman Bolen, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the Board's Report. Alderman Williams reported that something needed to be done at Anderson Elementary to relieve some of the traffic as school was getting out.

Alderman Eaton requested that the City start following the drug testing policy for random drug tests.

Alderman Michael requested that the Street Department look at putting speed bumps or rumble strips down in his neighborhood to slow traffic down, because there were so many children in that neighborhood.

There next came on for consideration, the Mayor's Report. Mayor Blythe reported that the City needed to take bids on health insurance and requested approval to accept those bids. Alderman Williams made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

There next came on for consideration, the request to go into closed session. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

While in closed session, it was determined that an executive session was needed. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of

the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Alderman McCoy made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Alderman Williams, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Back in open session, it was announced that a personnel matter had been discussed. Alderman Michael made a motion to post to hire a part-time employee at the Gas & Water Department, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Alderman Bolen made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Alderman Michael, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

While in closed session, it was determined that an executive session was needed. Alderman McCoy made said motion, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Alderman McCoy made a motion to go back into open session, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.

Back in open session, it was announced that potential litigation was discussed with no action taken.

There being no further business, Alderman McCoy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Eaton, and with all members of the Board present and voting "Aye", the motion unanimously carried.


DERRICK R. BLYTHE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LAVAILE SHIELDS, CITY CLERK