

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on October 5, 2021, at 5:00 P.M., this being the regular recessed meeting time. Mayor Graves called the meeting to order and the following Aldermen were present: Dear, Hale, Moore, Simpson and Tanksley. Also present were: Katie Harbin, City Clerk; Ginger Miller, City Attorney; Ethan Foresman, Fire Chief; Richard Chandler, Police Chief; Matt Defore, Assistant Police Chief; Jeff Rich, Public Works Director; Brevin Holden, Code Compliance Officer/Fire Inspector; Courtney Scott, Animal Shelter Director; Earnestine Cowan, Utility Supervisor; Jim Huestis, Building Official; Michelle Huestis, Donna Vecellio, and Jamie Sowell.

Alderman Tanksley gave the invocation.

Discussion of School Board Member Appointment

Mayor Graves advised the Board that he met with each of the gentlemen this past week. All seem very good and like a good fit for the position. I wanted each of you to be able to hear from them and ask any questions you might have.

Raney Young spoke to the Board of Aldermen as to why he would be a good fit for the open School Board position. Mr. Young stated that he is a Pastor, he retired from the Army after 26 years of serving, has 5 kids with the youngest being in the school system.

Keegan Armstrong spoke to the Board of Aldermen as to why he would be a good fit for the open School Board position. Mr. Armstrong is from Sardis but moved here 11 years ago. Mr. Armstrong has 3 kids, all in the school system. Mr. Armstrong has graduated from the University of Mississippi and works in education.

Jason Cooper spoke to the Board of Aldermen as to why he would be a good fit for the open School Board position. Mr. Cooper has lived in Tate County for 12 years and has had a business in Senatobia for 12 years for Physical Therapy. Mr. Cooper has two children in the school system.

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to table this item for further review. All voting yea, motion carried

Issues with water rate increase

Mayor Graves advised the Board that we inadvertently had the new water rates on the bills that went out, due this month.

Utility Supervisor Earnestine Cowan went over what happened with the bills. Mrs. Cowan stated there was a miscommunication as to when the new rates needed to be entered and the bills were mistakenly sent out with the new rates. We have since adjusted the bills that were incorrect and removed the new rates. We also had some issues with the readings.

Alderman Simpson asked if someone's bill happened to be estimated low and then read the next cycle, they could get a higher bill, correct?

Earnestine Cowan answered yes.

Mayor Graves stated that we will start the new fees with the readings that start after October 15th, since the effective date is October 15th.

Authorize to accept the lowest and best bid for construction / renovation of the new Police Department Building

Motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Hale, to authorize to accept the lowest and best bid from Cerberus in the amount of \$663,834.00 for the construction / renovation of the new Police Department Building. All voting yea, motion carried.

Presentation of renewal rates for ancillary lines of insurance coverage

Donna Vecellio, Insurance Consulting Group, went over the renewal rates for the ancillary insurances. Mrs. Vecellio advised that by moving them all with Principal, it will be a cost savings and easier for administration staff.

Motion was made by Alderman Hale, seconded by Alderman Moore, to move the ancillary lines of insurance coverage to Principal, keeping the same benefit levels that we currently have. All voting yea, motion carried

Pressure washing Downtown and Boy Scout Building – Jamie Sowell

Jamie Sowell spoke to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen regarding a pressure washing downtown project she is doing. Mrs. Sowell has gotten a quote to pressure wash the downtown area including sidewalks, curbs, City buildings, etc. She has also gotten businesses a discounted price for them to do their building, awning, etc, at the same time we are doing ours. Main Street has put money aside with a grant to get this done. Mrs. Sowell is asking the City to pay for the City portion, which comes to \$6,000.00.

Motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve to use \$6,000 from the Downtown Revitalization grant money to pressure wash the City sidewalks, curbs, and City buildings. All voting yea, motion carried.

Jamie Sowell spoke to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen regarding the City owned old Boy Scout building. Mrs. Sowell stated that this building is just sitting there, falling in. There are utility lines under it, but it is a great building and we need to save it. We are working now to clean it up to use it for the Christmas Village on November 6th. I am asking for some help. Main Street will pay to help fix the building up, but we want to know the City will help pay also, before we invest a lot into it. We don't want to do a lot to it and then the City decide to tear it down. The building is structurally sound, but does need work and a new roof. I've spoken to Kevin and Trey and they advised that the City could use the Downtown Revitalization grant money to improve the building, if you want to.

Building Official Jim Huestis stated that construction wise it is sound. It does have a leaking roof. We did get an estimate to replace the roof last year, it was around \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Mayor Graves stated I think we'd need an estimate before voting on just spending money to fix the building.

Jamie Sowell stated I think \$50,000 would be a good start. Mrs. Sowell stated we could possibly use the Small Town Center to do a rendering of the building, to show what could be done. Main Street has a credit with them and I can see about using our credit for this building.

Alderman Moore stated I think it is a great idea, but Small Town Center might come back and say you need to spend a lot more on it to make it usable. Why would we spend the money before getting a rendering.

Jamie Sowell stated I'm going to listen to the professionals. I just don't want to put more time and money into the building if the City doesn't want to save it.

Alderman Simpson stated I think if we can use the building for all of the different events, I'd rather save the building than sell it.

Authorize to temporarily close Front and Main Street for the Trunk or Treat event on October 26, 2021

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Moore, to approve to temporarily close Front and Main Street for the Trunk or Treat event on October 26, 2021. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to temporarily close a portion of Ward Street for the Witches Night Out event on October 14, 2021

Motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Simpson, to approve to temporarily close the portion of Ward Street from the parking lot behind the French Hotel building to Main Street for the Witches Night Out event on October 14, 2021. All voting yea, motion carried.

Department Reports

Building Official Jim Huestis went over the September information for Building / Planning. Mr. Huestis stated that the ownership of the property at 413 Dean Street has changed, and the new owner is working to improve the property, so we shouldn't have to pay to demo that property.

Animal Shelter Director Courtney Scott went over the information for September. Ms. Scott stated that they are currently working on doing more events and fundraising for the Shelter.

Public Works Director Jeff Rich went over the September information for his department. Mr. Rich informed the Mayor and Board that he met with the Cor of Engineers regarding the ditch carrying the water out of the City. They put it on their list. Also, I have a meeting with the Grenada Railway regarding the tracks at Shands Bottom Rd.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Graves went over each consent agenda item, numbers 11 - 25, asked if anyone had any questions.

Approve Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on September 21, 2021 and the Special Meeting on September 29, 2021

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve the minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on September 21, 2021 and the Special Meeting on September 29, 2021. All voting yea, motion carried.

Approve Docket of Claims numbers: 21467 - 21669 for a total of \$852,431.02

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve the Docket of Claims Numbers 21467 - 21669 with a total of \$852,431.02. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize K9 Handler to attend the K9 Handler Training School on October 20 - 24, 2021 in Jonesboro, AR, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize K9 Handler to attend K9 Training School on October 20 - 24, 2021, in Jonesboro, AR, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Blake Warren to attend the 2021 Crime Stoppers Training Conference on October 19 - 22, 2021 in Biloxi, MS, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize Blake Warren to attend the 2021 Crime Stoppers Training Conference on October 19 - 22, 2021 in Biloxi, MS, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Assistant Police Chief DeFore to attend the 12th Annual Legal and Liability Risk Management Conference on October 13 – 15, 2021 in Franklin, TN, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize Assistant Police Chief DeFore to attend the 12th Annual Legal and Liability Risk Management Conference on October 13 – 15, 2021 in Franklin, TN, also authorize to pay registration and travel expenses. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Mayor Graves to sign an agreement with Paradigm for our 2022 Public Awareness Mailing Program

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize Mayor Graves to sign an agreement with Paradigm for our 2022 Public Awareness Mailing Program. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Fire Department employee Travis McDonald to use his accrued personal time that will be in excess of his annual accrual rate

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize Fire Department employee Travis McDonald to use his accrued personal time that will be in excess of his annual accrual rate. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee Lloyd Rodgers

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee Lloyd Rodgers. All voting yea, motion carried.

Accept the Resignation from Public Works employee Bodie Locke

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to accept the Resignation from Public Works employee Bodie Locke. All voting yea, motion carried.

Accept the Resignation from Public Works employee Jonathan Youngblood

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to accept the Resignation from Public Works employee Jonathan Youngblood. All voting yea, motion carried.

Approve Budget Amendments FYE 2022

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING IN SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Pursuant to Section 21-35-25 of the Mississippi Code 1972, Annotated, it is hereby ordered by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Senatobia, Tate County, Mississippi, that the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022, be amended and approved to wit:

BE IT ORDERED, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2022, for the City of Senatobia, Mississippi be amended in the following respects:

	<u>Budget Amount</u>	<u>Amendment</u>	<u>New Budget Amount</u>
General Fund			

Expenses			
Street Department			
Personnel Services	388,216.45	1,040.00	389,256.45
Contingency	40,746.85	1,040.00	39,706.85
Utility Fund			
Expenses			
Administration			
Personnel Services	143,863.68	2,000.00	145,863.68
Water & Sewer Department			
Personnel Services	269,811.12	499.20	270,310.32
Gas Department			
Personnel Services	196,233.86	5,761.60	190,472.26
Contingency	302,604.04	3,262.40	305,866.44

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that these amendments are necessary in the following funds:

General Fund: To correct personnel salaries.

Utility Fund: To correct personnel salaries.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the forgoing budget amendments shall be published one (1) time as required by law in the local newspaper, a newspaper of general circulation in said city, fully qualified under the provisions of Chapter 497, General Laws of Mississippi, if amendment meets the requirements to be published.

Each amendment having been presented separately and as a whole, motion was duly made by Alderman Simpson and seconded by Alderman Dear to adopt the foregoing resolution amending the budget of the City of Senatobia. A roll call vote: All voted "AYE".

ORDERED AND DONE this the 5th day of October, 2021.

Greg Graves, Mayor

Katie Harbin, City Clerk

Authorize the Police Department to purchase a 2018 Dodge Charger from Missouri Hwy Patrol in the amount of \$18,674 (using insurance funds)

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize the Police Department to purchase a 2018 Dodge Charger from the Missouri Hwy Patrol in the amount of \$18,674. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to hire Dustin Clemons as a full time CDL Driver in the Public Works Department at the rate of \$15.00 per hour

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize to hire Dustin Clemons as a full time CDL Driver in the Public Works Department at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to pay Invoice 87243 from Safe Life Defense in the amount of \$1,825.20

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, seconded by Alderman Dear, to authorize to pay Invoice 87243 from Safe Life Defense in the amount of \$1,825.20. All voting yea, motion carried.

Go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, seconded by Alderman Simpson, to authorize to go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Go into Executive Session for Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Moore, seconded by Alderman Simpson, to authorize to go into Executive Session for Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Animal Shelter Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Hale, seconded by Alderman Simpson, to authorize to write up Courtney Shelter for not following proper procedures. All voting yea, motion carried.

Come out of Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Hale, seconded by Alderman Dear, to come out of Executive Session. All voting yea, motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson and seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to adjourn. All voting yea, motion carried.

Greg Graves, Mayor

ATTEST:

Katie Harbin –City Clerk