

**MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI
January 17, 2024
6:00 PM**

The Mayor opened the January 17, 2024 special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order. Present were Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee, City Attorney John Scanlon, and City Clerk Paula Tierce. The meeting was opened with an invocation by Kelly Simpkins followed by the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen were provided the December 2023 Financial Statement and the January 2024 Sales Tax Report.

Next Mayor McGee announced that the City of Ridgeland was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2022, which was 31st consecutive year. Mayor McGee announced that the Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. City Clerk Paula Tierce and Finance Manager Ashley Daniel received the award on behalf of the Finance & Administration Department and was commended on their hard work and dedication to the City of Ridgeland.

Next came the recognition of Detective Erin Boyd for being selected "Officer of the Month" for December 2023. Mayor McGee announced that during the month of December, numerous auto burglaries were reported in the City of Ridgeland. Detective Boyd began investigating the cases and during the investigation, a fingerprint recovered from one of the vehicles led to a possible suspect in the burglaries. Using social media, Detective Boyd was able to determine that the suspect was attempting to sell stolen items from one of the burglaries. Detective Erin Boyd set up a sting operation which led to the arrest of the suspect and the recovery of stolen items, including firearms, from multiple auto burglaries. After the arrest, the suspect was linked to additional crimes in the city and was later charged with those as well. Mayor McGee thanked Detective Erin Boyd for her hard work and dedication to the City of Ridgeland and encouraged her to keep up the good work.

City Clerk Paula Tierce adjudicated that the notice for the special called meeting was properly posted and served; a copy of the Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

Next came the matter of accepting the Minutes of the January 2, 2024 Board of Aldermen meeting. The Minutes were accepted with no corrections noted.

Next came the consideration of the Consent Agenda. Mayor McGee announced that item "b" needed to be removed and that said item would be re-advertised for a later meeting. Alderman D. I. Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Petition and Application for Dimensional Variance for Larry and Gail Gilbert - 316 Kelly's Glen (Accessory Structure) - Ordinance Attached Hereto as Exhibit "B"
- b) Cleaning of Private Property - 414 Midway Avenue - REMOVED
- c) Review Crawfish Hut Asbestos / Demolition Bids (Revised to include Asbestos Abatement) and approve a budget amendment transferring \$21,500 from the General Fund to 001-180-604 Professional Fees - Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "C"
- d) Surplus Property for Community Development - Ford Ranger - Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "D"
- e) Approve Contract with PR Event Management for the Century Ride 2024 - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "E"
- f) Approve Contract with Pyro Shows for Balloon Glow 2024 - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "F"
- g) Declare Property Surplus (Fire Dept.) - Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "G"
- h) Budget Amendment - Transfer \$811.93 from 005-101-730 Capital Machinery to account 005-101-500 Office Supplies. (Police Department) - Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "H"
- i) Sole Source Letter - Motorola Vigilant LEARN Software (Police Department) - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "I"
- j) Sole Source Letter - Motorola CC Interview Room Camera (Police Department) - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "J"
- k) Approve Customer Agreement with Motorola CC Interview Room (Police Department) and Approve Budget Amendment Decreasing Court Service Fees Fund Balance \$12,426 and Increase Account 005-101-730 \$12,426 - Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "K"

- l) Sole Source - Badger Meter, Inc. for Quote# S100359402 - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "L"
- m) Authorize the Public Works Director to Advertise for Bids - Highland Colony Parkway Tank and Well - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "M"
- n) Authorize the Mayor to sign Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for Ridgewood Road Drainage Improvements - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "N"
- o) Authorize the Mayor to sign Supplemental Agreement No.1 for the EMCSDS Interceptor Improvements Purchase Order No. 23-75485 - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "O"
- p) Authorize the Mayor to sign Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the Purple Creek Interceptor Improvements Purchase Order No. 23-75486 - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "P"
- q) Authorize the Mayor to sign the Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the City-wide Advanced Water Meter Improvements Project amending the terms of the Hemphill Term Bid Documents and to be applied to all purchase orders assigned to Hemphill Construction for the installation of water meters - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "Q"
- r) Authorize the Public Works Director to Advertise for Bids - 6-month Term Bids for Asphalt - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "R"
- s) Approve Agreement with Butler Snow for the Fiscal Year 2023 Continuing Disclosure Reporting - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "S"
- t) December 2023 Privilege License Report - Order Attached hereto as Exhibit "T"
- u) Sewer Adjustments - Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "U"

The motion was seconded by Alderman Chuck Gautier and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee
Nay(s): None
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried..

Next came the payment of claims numbered 18957 - 188266 and January 12, 2024 Payroll (\$2,620,155.93). Alderman Wesley Hamlin moved to approve. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Ken Heard and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard,

Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Mayor McGee then announced the need to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and economic development. Alderman Brian Ramsey moved to go into Closed Session to determine the need of going into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and economic development. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Bill Lee moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and economic development. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to approve the conditions of approval for the Prado Vista Phase One project be as amended as follows:

Before top Golf Certificate of Occupancy:

- Improvements to Sunnybrook Road from Colony Park Boulevard to facilitate safe access to and from the Top Golf Entrance.
- Assurance that no light pollution exists beyond the Prado Vista development to the north and that no light source can be observed beyond the northern property line of Prado Vista from a standing height.
- No digital screens shall be included with the project along the edge of the range portion of the project.

Before Any Other Certificate of Occupancy in Prado Vista:

- The existence or assurance of a traffic light signal at the Top Golf Exit on Colony Park Boulevard.
- Drainage, utilities, and access provided by the Prado Vista Development – Phase 1, as required.
- 6' high concrete wall installed along the northern boundary of the Prado Vista Development – Phase 1.

The motion was seconded by Alderman Wesley Hamlin and a vote was taken as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to authorize Mayor Gene McGee and Public Works Director Alan Hart to approve the clearing and grubbing of 150 +/- acres of land for an economic development project. The motion was seconded by Brian Ramsey and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Alderman Wesley Hamlin moved to authorize City Attorney John Scanlon to make a demand to tear down the remaining of the old City Hall building while meeting the Department of Environmental Quality standards, and request a monetary settlement for the last appraised value of the building, being \$1.5 million. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Alderman Wesley Hamlin moved to leave Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Alderman D. I. Smith and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Vote: Aye(s): Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman D.I. Smith, Alderman Bill Lee

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The Mayor reopened the meeting and announced the action taken by the Board of Aldermen during the Executive Session.

There being no further business before the Board of Aldermen, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the _____ day of January, 2024.

GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAULA TIERCE, CITY CLERK

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 19th day of January, 2024.

Gene F. McGee
GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Paula Tierce
PAULA TIERCE, CITY CLERK

