

**MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI
March 3, 2015
6:00 PM**

The Mayor called the first regular March, 2015 meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order. Present were Mayor Gene F. McGee, Alderman D. I. Smith, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Wesley Hamlin, Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Brian Ramsey, Alderman Scott Jones, City Attorney James Gabriel, and City Clerk Paula Tierce. The meeting was opened with an invocation by Alderman Brian Ramsey followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen were provided the statement from the City Attorney for services rendered through February 20, 2015.

Next came the recognition of Officer Ben Johnson for being selected as Officer of the Month for December, 2014. Mayor McGee informed the Board of Aldermen that Officer Johnson made a traffic stop on a vehicle with a broken front windshield. After speaking with the occupants of the vehicle, Officer Johnson noticed an odor of marijuana as well as the stories of the occupants did not match. The occupants were then removed from the vehicle and Officer Johnson discovered a large amount of methamphetamines, marijuana, scales to weigh drugs, paraphernalia for ingesting drugs, two ski masks, and a rubber Halloween style mask. Further investigation revealed that the driver of the vehicle was a gang member and the other occupant was a young female, who had drugs in her possession and denied knowledge of the specific drugs in the vehicle before the drugs were mentioned to her. Officer Johnson's continued diligence in combatting the drug trade is admirable. Officer Johnson's actions may have impacted the life of the juvenile female involved in this incident. The masks located in this vehicle are indicative of possible criminal behavior. Officer Johnson may have thwarted an impending crime with his vigilance. Mayor McGee commended Officer Johnson for his job well done and encouraged him to keep up the good work in making the City of Ridgeland a safe place to live and work.

Next came the matter of accepting the Minutes of the February 17, 2015 Mayor and Board of Aldermen Meeting. The Minutes were accepted with no corrections noted.

Next came the matter of the continuation of the hearing for the property located at 329 Midway Avenue, Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi pursuant to Mississippi Code 21-19-11, to determine if said property is in such a state of uncleanness to be a menace to the public health, safety, and/or welfare of the community. Drew Smith, Code Enforcement Officer, provided picture of the property taken on March 3, 2015 and informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the property remained in the same state as on February 17, 2015 and recommended to proceed with the cleaning. Chris Ramsey, Building Official, informed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the building on the property was unrepairable. The Mayor asked if there was anyone present in the audience that would like to address the Board of Aldermen regarding the property located at 329 Midway Avenue, Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi and there was no response. Alderman D. I. Smith moved to declare the property located at 329 Midway Avenue, Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi a menace to the public health, safety, and/or welfare to the community. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Brian Ramsey and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye

Alderman Kevin Holder Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey Aye
Alderman Ken Heard Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried. Copies of the photographs are attached hereto as Exhibit “A”.

**CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING/CONSIDERATION OF THE CLASS
A NONCONFORMING ZONING STATUS REQUEST BY JACKSON
RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATES ONE, LLC (VAN MARK APARTMENTS)
REBUTTAL ONLY**

Mayor McGee informed the Board of Aldermen that he had received a request from Kelly Simpkins, attorney for the City of Ridgeland, to continue the hearing to March 17, 2015. A copy of the request is attached hereto as Exhibit “B”.

Alderman Chuck Gautier left the meeting and recused himself completely from the Special Event Permit request by Fleet Feet for The Blue Mile event on Friday, June 5, 2015 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Township.

Next came for consideration the Special Event Permit Application submitted by Fleet Feet for The Blue Mile event on Friday, June 5, 2015 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Township. Alderman Scott Jones moved to approve the Special Event Permit Application for The Blue Mile. The Motion was seconded by Alderman D. I. Smith and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith Aye
Alderman Scott Jones Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier RECUSED
Alderman Kevin Holder Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey Aye
Alderman Ken Heard Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried. A copy of the Special Event Permit is attached hereto as Exhibit “C”.

(Alderman Chuck Gautier rejoined the meeting)

Next came the matter of the items set out on the Consent Agenda. Alderman Wes Hamlin moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- a) Accept Payment of \$10,601.22 from Woodlands Real Estate Company, LLC for 2” Sewer Line from Barksdale Cadillac to McGraw Rental and Authorize Budget Amendment Increasing Accounts 400-000-379 and 400-650-760 – Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “D”
- b) Budget Amendment Increasing Account 400-650-691 (Ridgeland West Sewer Fees to City of Jackson) \$144,192 and Decreasing Account 400-000-192 (Public Utilities Fund Balance) \$144,192 – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “E”*
- c) Declare Station 2 Bay Heater (160-6-01081) Surplus – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “F”*

- d) Special Event – 200 Million Flowers – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “G”*
- e) Special Event – 2015 Heatwave Classic – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “H”*
- f) Special Event – KidsFest – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “I”*
- g) Special Event – Ride of Silence – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “J”*
- h) Special Event – Titan Trot – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “K”*
- i) Special Event – Century Ride – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “L”*
- j) Motorola Service Agreement – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “M”*
- k) Fiscal Year 2015-2016 DUI Grant – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “N”*
- l) Purchase of Finger Print Identification System from Morpho Trust USA, LLC and Budget Amendment Decreasing Court Services Fund Balance (005-000-192) \$17,040.00 and Increase Court Service Capital Machinery & Equipment (005-101-730) \$17,040.00 – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “O”*
- m) Purchase of Incode Module for Court Services and Budget Amendment Decreasing Court Services Fund Balance (005-000-192) \$64,635.00 and Increase Court Services Capital Machinery & Equipment (005101-730) \$64,635.00 – *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit “P”*

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Kevin Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye
Alderman Kevin Holder	Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey	Aye
Alderman Ken Heard	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

There next came for consideration the matter of payment of claims. Alderman Scott Jones moved that claim numbers 121370 through 121632 and the February 20, 2015 Payroll be approved and paid. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Chuck Gautier and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye
Alderman Kevin Holder	Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey	Aye
Alderman Ken Heard	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The Mayor then informed the Board of Aldermen of the need to go into Closed Session to discuss the need to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and a personnel issue. Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to go into Closed Session to discuss the need to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and a personnel issue. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Brian Ramsey and a vote was taken there as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye

Alderman Kevin Holder	Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey	Aye
Alderman Ken Heard	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Alderman Brian Ramsey moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and a personnel issue. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Chuck Gautier and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye
Alderman Kevin Holder	Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey	Aye
Alderman Ken Heard	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Brian Ramsey moved to leave Executive Session. Alderman Kevin Holder seconded the Motion and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman D. I. Smith	Aye
Alderman Scott Jones	Aye
Alderman Wes Hamlin	Aye
Alderman Chuck Gautier	Aye
Alderman Kevin Holder	Aye
Alderman Brian Ramsey	Aye
Alderman Ken Heard	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The Mayor reopened the meeting and announced that there was no action taken by the Board of Aldermen during the Executive Session.

There being no further business before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, the Mayor declared the first regular March 2015 meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the _____ day of March, 2015.

GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAULA TIERCE, CITY CLERK