

**MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE  
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI**

**April 7, 2026**

**6:00 PM**

The Mayor called the April 7, 2026, 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith, Attorney John Scanlon, and City Clerk Angela Richburg. The meeting opened with an invocation by Police Chief Brian Myers followed by the pledge of allegiance.

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Next came the recognition of K9 Officer Ben Johnson for being selected "Officer of the Month for March 2026". Mayor McGee stated that in March 2026, he played a key role in a credit card fraud and identity theft investigation which spread across Ridgeland and Jackson. Through coordinated efforts with detectives and the Street Crimes Unit, both suspects were arrested after being located at their residence. Mayor McGee thanked Officer Johnson for his dedication to the City of Ridgeland and encouraged him to continue the good work. - The letter of recognition is *attached hereto as Exhibit "A"*

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen were provided the City Attorney's Statement for Services rendered February 25, 2026, through March 31, 2025.

Next came the matter of accepting the Minutes of the March 16, 2026, Work Session and the March 17, 2026, Board of Aldermen meeting. The Minutes were accepted with no corrections noted.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Next came the Public Hearing to Consider Amendments to Sections 21, 500.02 and 600.14 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Mayor opened the public hearing and the City Clerk adjudicated that proper and timely notice was advertised by state law. A copy of the notice is attached hereto as Exhibit "B." Public Works Director Alan Hart presented the amendments. The Mayor asked the audience if there was anyone present that would like to speak that did not sign the list and there was no response; a copy of the list is attached hereto as Exhibit "C". The Mayor then closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

Next came the discussion to Consider Ordinance Amending Sections 21, 500.02 and 600.14 of the Official Zoning Ordinance of the City of Ridgeland and approve Codification of Zoning Ordinance. Alderman Bill Lee moved to approve. The Motion was seconded by Alderman Wesley Hamlin, and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

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

Nay(s): None

Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried. – Ordinance is *attached hereto as Exhibit "D"*

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Next came the consideration of the items set out on the Consent Agenda. Alderman D.I. Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- a) Ratify the Emergency Declaration Made by Mayor Gene McGee for the Repair of the Multiuse Bridge - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "E"*
- b) Approve the Administrative Update No. 2 of the Ridgeland Solid Waste Master Plan - *Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "F"*
- c) Accept Intent Letter from Waste Management and Establish a Committee to Develop an RFP for Solid Waste Collection Services - *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit "G"*
- d) Approve Tourism Rebate Resolution for the Madison County Conference Center and Hotel Project - Hotel Conference Development SPE, LLC - *Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "H"*
- e) Approve Bid Award to Edko for the Herbicide Spraying Contract and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Contract - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "I"*
- f) Declare Lewis Electric the Lowest and Best Bidder for Certain Pole Base Replacements - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "J"*
- g) Architectural Review for Oak Place Shopping Center - Storefront Designs - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "K"*
- h) Site Plan and Architectural Review for Conference Center and Hotel at Prado Vista - Preliminary Architecture - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "L"*
- i) Site Plan and Architectural Review for Trehan Wholesale - Paint Colors - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "M"*
- j) Site Plan and Architectural Review for 835 South Wheatley - Paint Colors - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "N"*
- k) Award Contract to Hemphill Construction Co., Inc. for the Colony Park Water Distribution Project - / EPA STAG 03D24224 - *Order Attached Hereto As Exhibit "O"*
- l) Award Contract to Hemphill Construction Co., Inc. for the Steed Road Connector Multi-Use Trail Project – STP-0213-00(037) LPA/109472-701000 - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "P"*
- m) Approve the Hemphill Construction Co. Pay Application No. 2 in the Amount of \$123,059.50 for the Wheatley Street Road Reconstruction Project - Madison County ARPA Sub-Award and Madison County Reimbursement Grant - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "Q"*

- n) Approve Budget Amendment (Transfer) by Decreasing 388-000-192 (Highland Colony Rehab Fund Balance) by \$68,884, Decreasing 315-000-192 (2019 Bond Fund Balance) \$31,116 and Increasing 320-601-600 (Engineering) by \$100,000 for Preliminary Engineering Expenses for the Lake Harbour Drive Multiuse Trail Extension Project - *Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "R"*
- o) Approve Neel-Schaffer Invoice No. 1114032 in the Amount of \$25,796.78 for the Lake Harbour Drive Multiuse Trail Extension Project - STP/LPA - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "S"*
- p) Accept Payment and Authorize Mayor to Grant Access for a Boardwalk Pipelines Temporary Easement in the Amount of \$1,400.00 - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "T"*
- q) Requesting Acceptance of Check Donation from JABA 2 LLC-Fire Department - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "U"*
- r) Authorization the Mayor to sign a contract for the purchase of a Pierce Ladder Truck-Fire Department - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "V"*
- s) Donation to the Ridgeland Police Department from JABA 2 LLC (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "W"*
- t) Special Event - Autism Awareness Family Fun Day (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "X"*
- u) Special Event - Central Mississippi Realtors Decade Dash (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "Y"*
- v) Special Event - Jackson Young Lawyers Legal Beagle 5K (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "Z"*
- w) Special Event - Southern AgCredit Fish Fry (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "aa"*
- x) Special Event - Township Jazz Festival (Police Department) - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "bb"*
- y) Designate Aplos Restaurant as the Lowest and Best Bidder for after the Ride Meal for the 2026 Century Ride and authorize Recreation and Parks to issue a Purchase Order in the amount of \$14,268.00 - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "cc"*
- z) Designate Mars Marketing Lowest and Best Bidder for Promotional items for Century Ride 2026 - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "dd"*
- aa) Designate Hartley Equipment Lowest and Best Bidder for Pine Straw - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "ee"*
- bb) Approve George Birge Contract for Balloon Glow - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "ff"*
- cc) Sewer Adjustments - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "gg"*
- dd) Approval of the RJ Young Rental Agreement for Citywide Copiers and Printers in the Monthly Amount of \$5,205.00 and Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreement - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "hh"*

- ee) Approve Mayor and Board of Aldermen to Attend the 2026 Mississippi Municipal League Summer Conference in Biloxi, MS - *Order Attached Hereto as Exhibit "ii"*
- ff) Approve the Resolution Designating Mayor Gene McGee as the 2026 MML Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate Alderman D.I. Smith - *Resolution Attached Hereto as Exhibit "jj"*

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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

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Next came payment of claims 205296 - 205708, the March 20, 2026 and April 3, 2026 Payroll, and the March 2026 Month-end (\$4,492,691.39). Alderman Wesley Hamlin moved to approve. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

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The Mayor announced the need to go into Closed Session to discuss the need of going to Executive Session to discuss land acquisition and pending litigation.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Alderman D.I. Smith moved to enter Closed Session to discuss negotiation of the former City Hall land acquisition and setting just compensation for real estate. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to enter Executive Session to discuss negotiation of the former City Hall land acquisition and setting just compensation for four parcels. The motion was seconded by Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone) and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

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

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

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Next came the discussion to approve the Real Estate Purchase Agreement between the City of Ridgeland and RM Development Group, LLC for U.S. Highway 51 and Lake Harbour Drive parcel 0721-31B-29/00.00 with the address of 304 Highway 51, Ridgeland and parcel 0721-31B-31/00.00 with the address of 103 Lake Harbour Drive, Ridgeland in the amount of two million, six hundred thousand and no/100 dollars (\$2,600,000.00) and authorize the mayor to execute the agreement. Alderman Kevin Holder moved to approve. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried - Agreement is Attached Hereto As Exhibit "kk".

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Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to establish just compensation for parcel 071G-36A-068/00.00/ PPIN 6938 of Madison County owned by Leroy Shelton in the amount of \$192,000.00 and authorized the offer of said amount. The motion was seconded by Alderman Wesley Hamlin, and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

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

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried - Agreement is Attached Hereto as Exhibit "ll".

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Alderman Wesley Hamlin moved to establish just compensation for parcel 071G-25D-071/00.00/ PPIN 5786 of Madison County owned by Alice Hobson in the amount of \$133,000.00 and authorized the offer of said amount. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried - Agreement is Attached Hereto As Exhibit "mm".

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Alderman D.I. Smith moved to establish just compensation for parcel 071G-25D-065/00.00/ PPIN 5780 of Madison County owned by Johnny W. Davis and Jo Ann W. Davis in the amount of \$140,000.00 and authorized the offer of said amount. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried - Agreement is Attached Hereto as Exhibit "nn".

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Alderman Chuck Gautier moved to establish just compensation for parcel 071G-25D-062/00.00/PPIN 5777 of Madison County owned by Ben Houston and Eloise L. Houston in the amount of \$229,000.00 and authorized the offer of said amount. 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 Bill Lee, Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone), Alderman D.I. Smith  
Nay(s): None  
Abstention(s): None

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried - Agreement is Attached Hereto as Exhibit "oo".

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Alderman Kevin Holder moved to adjourn the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Alderman Brian Ramsey (via telephone) and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

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

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

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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 6:29 p.m.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

Gene F. McGee  
GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Angela E. Richburg  
ANGELA RICHBURG, CITY CLERK

