

CITY OF PASS CHRISTIAN, MISSISSIPPI

MINUTE BOOK 142

REGULAR MEETING

February 6, 2024

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Alderpersons of the City of Pass Christian, Mississippi met on the above date at the Municipal Court Bldg., 105 Hiern Avenue, Pass Christian, Mississippi, at 6:00 p.m., same being the time and place for said meeting.

PRESENT: Mayor Renaud “Jimmy” Rafferty, Alderman at Large Kenny Torgeson, Alderwoman Betty Sparkman, Alderwoman Regina Charlot, Alderman Victor Pickich, City Attorney, Alderman Kirk Kimball, City Attorney, Malcolm Jones and City Clerk, Ron Duckworth.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS PRESENT: Chief of Police Daren Freeman; Code Enforcement Director, Mark Savasta; Chief Dwight Gordon, Harbor Master Russell Holliman, Jr., Public Works Director Kirk Ladner; Senior Services Director Marie Lamb, Community Affairs Director, Susan Putnam.

There being a quorum present to transact the business of the City, the following proceedings were had and done.

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Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderwoman Betty Sparkman the Board unanimously approved the agenda for February 6, 2024, Board of Alderperson Meeting.

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THE MAYOR OPENED UP THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Victor Pickich the Board adopted the Proclamation in memory of Mary Alice Berry Bowser, as requested by Alderwoman Regina Charlot.

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The Mayor recognized Pass Christian’s Outstanding Citizen (Joseph Piernas), Teacher of the Year (Connie Skrmetta), and City Employee of the Year (Ron Duckworth)

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ADMINISTRATIVE

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderwoman Betty Sparkman, unanimously approved, the Board heard the update on the status of the repairs at Randolph Center, as requested by Alderwoman Regina Charlot. The Board agreed to put this request on the next agenda of February 20, 2024.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kirk Kimball and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson, unanimously approved, the Board heard an update regarding public safety / traffic control for the St. Paul’s Carnival Pass Christian Mardi Gras Parade to be held Sunday Feb. 11, 2024, from the Police Chief as requested by Alderman Kirk Kimball.

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Alderwoman Betty Sparkman’s motion to consider adoption of a new sound ordinance received no second and died for a lack of a second.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderman Victor Pickich the Board unanimously authorized the City Engineer to prepare legal description for properties adjacent to the City’s western boundary for Friendly Annexation proceedings.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderman Kirk Kimball the Board unanimously approved the payment to Covington Civil and Environment Engineering for Engineering Services for the following Invoices:

- Invoice 16521.08-02 Emerald Avenue Lift Station Rehab \$8,875.00
- Invoice 16522.08-02 Fleitas Avenue Lift Station Replace \$17,460.00
- Invoice 16523.08-02 HWY 90 Pedestrian Walkway \$108,500.00
- Invoice 16524.08-02 West Bulkhead Wall Replacement \$9,000.00

These invoices are reimbursable through GOMESA and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderman Victor Pickich the Board unanimously approved the payment to Overstreet and Associates for the following invoices:

- Invoice 3137 – in the amount of \$2,277.50 for Construction Phase for Gravity Sewer Phase I
- Invoice 3138 – in amount of \$5,215.00 for Design & Permitting Phase for Gravity Sewer Phase II & III
- Invoice 3119- in the amount of \$4,530.88 for Bidding and Negotiating for Gravity Sewer Phase I
- Invoice 3120 – in the amt of \$52,955.00 for Design & Permitting Phase for Gravity Sewer Phase II & III.

These Invoices are reimbursable through GOMESA and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kirk Kimball and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously approved Change Order #2 (Secure Concrete Fillers Project on the West Bulkhead Wall) adjusting the contract quantities to confirm to the completed work for a net decrease in the contract in the amount of \$252.00 and request approval of payment of Pay application #1 in the final amount of the contract is \$129,684.00 to Gray Falcon Construction as the repair project has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the contract requirements. This is a reimbursable expenditure from Tidelands (FY23-P600-05) and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. (The proposed change is necessary or incidental to the completion of the work as originally bid is commercially reasonable, and not made to circumvent the public purchasing statutes, and that the decrease in cost is reasonable).

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Upon motion of Alderman Kirk Kimball and seconded by Alderwoman Regina Charlot the Board discussed the Work Order #6 from Bob Esher City Engineer. For Labor and Equipment to remove and repair asphalt settlement at both approaches to the bridge on East North Street near Seal Ave in the amount of \$8,292.00 to DNA Underground, LLC, under the City’s Unit price Contract. This will be paid out of the MIT Fund. As requested by Alderman Kirk Kimball.

Upon motion Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderwoman Betty Sparkman made the motion to Table the original motion.

Betty Sparkman	Aye
Regina Charlot	Aye
Kirk Kimball	Nay
Victor Pickich	Aye
Kenny Torgeson	Aye

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Upon motion of Alderman Kirk Kimball and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously approved the reimbursement to Quinn Eagan (Eagan Management Group, LLC) under the development Agreement for expenses incurred for Eagan project on East Scenic Drive. These invoices were provided to us in January 2024. A-9

- Reimbursement Eagan \$6,400 for Drafting and design June 2023 Invoice 1-A
- Reimburse Eagan \$4,900 for Drafting and design September & October 2023 Invoice 3

To be paid out of the Senate Bill 2948 Capital Expenditure Fund and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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No Action was taken for the Director of Public Works to remove the green tire ground cover from the Johnny Hanson Playground in War Memorial Park and replace it with pea gravel with a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00. As requested by Alderman Pickich. (from prior meeting).

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Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and Alderman Victor Pickich the Board unanimously agreed to Table the motion to add concrete steps and to repair handrails in front of Parker’s (Davis Drug Store) to obtain costs for steps with repair to handrails completed.

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Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderman Victor Pickich the Board unanimously voted to Table request to authorize the Purchasing Clerk to obtain pricing on a 1-ton Gasoline Cab and Chassis Truck. As requested, the following quotes were obtained:

- 2024 Ford 750 - \$73,455
- 2022 Chevy 6500 - \$85,779
- 2024 Freightliner M2 - \$95,900

As requested by Alderman Pickich. (from prior meeting)

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EVENTS

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderwoman Betty Sparkman the Board unanimously approved the 2024 Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by The Chick Elves, at War Memorial Park on Saturday, March 30, 2023, at 10:00am and approved a \$300 donation for purchasing candy for the event. This bringing favorable notice to the resources and opportunities of the City. This is a budgeted expense to be paid out of the Community Promotions Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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HARBOR DEPARTMENT

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously authorized advertisement of the West Harbor Pier C-1 improvement (replace wood with flow-through decking) – Tidelands Trust Fund Project FY23.

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously approved the application from Jane Hendrick’s for re-subdivision by merging two parcels 0312m-04-015.00 (Lot 18) and parcel 0312m-04-016.000 (Lots 16 & 17) as requested by the City Attorney. (All lots will be compliant with the requirement of the City Development Code).

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Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously authorized the division of Lot 35, Timber Ridge Shores, Unit 3, from the parcels listed under Tax Parcel 0312M-02-083.000 as requested by Gabriel and Karen Corchiani as recommended by City Attorney. [Although the square footage of Lot 35 is currently less than the minimum lot size of 7,260 square feet for that residential zone, this lot was originally platted as a lot containing approx. 8,460 square feet fronting on the Bay of St. Louis. Over the years the lot has eroded due to wave action and constitutes a “non-conforming lot under the City’s Development Code. The lot individually complies with 90% of the requirements for lot width, area, and principal front setbacks and/or is equal to the majority of other building sites within the immediate vicinity pursuant to Section 1.8.10(c)(2) of the Development Code.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously approved Chief Gordon's recommendation to approve the quote and to contract with GLOBAL CONTRACTING, LLC, to conduct demolition and mold remediation on the upstairs bunkroom at Fire Station 1 in the amount of \$17,066.00, as this is the lowest best and most responsive quote. See attached quotes. This is an approved budgeted expenditure to be paid out of the Capital Improvement Fund and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderwoman Regina Charlot the Board unanimously approved the recommendation to hire Angel Hunt to fill the existing vacancy in patrol effective February 9, 2024, and a starting salary of \$18.50 per hour plus holiday pay. She has passed all civil service requirements. The position has a one-year probationary period. This is a budgeted position and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Alderman Victor Pickich and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously approved the items 1 – 21 below

- 1. Approved the reimbursement of \$172.54 to the Mayor for the expenses associated with the MML Mid-Winter Conference Meeting with State Legislators in Jackson on January 11-12, 2024. The is a budgeted expenditure and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-1
- 2. Approved the request of The Whiskey Bar to use public space on the north side of The Whiskey Bar building located at 118 Davis Avenue in Pass Christian for Beer/Light Alcohol sales on Sunday, February 19, 2023. CA-2
- 3. Approved to allow the Pass Christian School Chess Tournament to be held at the Randolph Center on Friday, April 19, 2024, requested by Paula Lacoste, Pass Christian Middle School Gifted Teacher. Paula is also asking for all fees to be waived for the event. This bringing favorable notice to the resources and opportunities to the City. CA-3

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4. Approved to allow The American Red Cross to use the Pass Christian Senior Citizens Center at the Randolph Center for the Media Blood Drives throughout the 2023 season. The dates for the Drives will be as follows:

- o Red Cross Month Community Drive – Wednesday, March 13, 2024
- o Media 4 Red Cross – Monday June 17, 2024
- o Katrina Memorial – Thursday August 22, 2024
- o WLOX New Year Celebration – Monday, December 23, 2024

They are also asking for all fees to be waived. This bringing favorable notice of the resources and opportunities of the City. CA-4

5. Approved the request of Bret Bentz, Recreation Director, to have a Men’s Basketball Tournament (17+) on April 27, 2023, 9:00am at Church Park. Grand Prize of \$1,000.00. This is sponsored by Prescott Williams. This bringing favorable notice to the resources and opportunities of the City. CA-5

6. Approved allowing the LAD Project, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, to have a 1st Annual Fundraiser at War Memorial Park, on April 13, 2023, from 10:00am to 5:00pm for all of pass Christian and surrounding communities. This Event is being held to begin securing funds to reach the goal of owning their own building to best serve children in Pass Christian. This bringing favorable notice to the resources and opportunities to the City. CA-6

7. Approved the request of Gulf Coast Running Club for use of Memorial Park and public streets for annual running events on the following dates in 2024, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This bringing favorable notice to the resources and opportunities of the City, as requested by Leonard Vergunst, Representative. CA-7

- Saturday April 13, 2024
- Saturday August 3, 2024
- Saturday December 21, 2024

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R E G U L A R M E E T I N G

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8. Approved the request to send Mark Savasta to ADA Compliance Workshop in Olive Branch, MS, March 27-28, 2024. This class is \$200.00, and lodging is an estimated \$300.00, per diem is \$128.00 and use of city Vehicle. This will be paid out of the Planning Department Training and Travel Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-8
9. Approved the membership for Billy Dauphin, Code Inspector, in the American Association of Code Enforcement. Membership is \$100.00 yearly. This will be paid out of the Community Development Training and Travel Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-9
10. Approved the request for Jennifer Rivera to attend class at the Construction Exam Center for Zoning Inspector in Mobile, AL. Dates are April 22 through April 26, 2024. The fee for the class is \$595.00 with hotel cost of \$626.30 per diem \$320.00. The use of the city vehicle is also approved. This will be paid out of the Planning Department Training and Travel Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-10
11. Approved the request for Billy Dauphin to attend class at the Construction Exam Center for Combination Property Maintenance & Zoning Inspector in Mobile, AL. Dates are April 22 through April 26, 2024. The fee for the class is \$995.00 with a hotel cost \$626.30. per diem is \$320.00. The use of the city vehicle is also approved. Jenifer and Billy will ride to Mobile in one vehicle. This will be paid out of the Planning Department Training and Travel Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-11

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12. Upon motion of Alderman Victor Pickich and seconded by Alderwoman Betty Sparkman the Board unanimously agreed to allow the attendance of Captains Andy Purchner and Dia'Mond Woodman at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) 2024, scheduled to take place in Indianapolis, Indiana from April 16-20. Registration and attendance fees for both Captains have been sponsored at a value of \$2500. The FDIC is a premier event in the fire service industry, offering an extensive selection of over 200 classes covering various aspects of firefighting and emergency response. This conference provides a unique opportunity for professional development, networking, and exposure to the latest advancements in our field. The department will be responsible for per diem (\$531), lodging (\$1,188.72), and an estimated \$300 in fuel costs. Attached to this request, is a small selection of classes tailored to the specific interests of Captains Purchner and Woodman. These sessions, along with the overall experience at FDIC, will enhance their abilities as leaders in our department. This will be paid out of the Fire Department Travel and Training Budget and funds are available as confirmed by the City Clerk. CA-12
13. Approved the installation of a covered boatlift in slip P-216 at the tenant's expense. All construction will comply with harbor modifications guidelines and will be installed by A Step Above Marine Contractors who will obtain DMR permits before installation. CA-13
14. Approved the installation of a covered boatlift in slip P-620 at the tenant's expense. All construction will comply with harbor modifications guidelines and will be installed by Innovative Builders who will obtain DMR permits before installation. CA-14
15. Agreed to ratify resignation from Dispatcher Nichole Saccurato from full time position, and to be placed on PT call out list at \$16.69 per hour effective February 5, 2024. CA-15
16. Approved the request to send Dispatcher Melissa Miller to NECI 911 Office Recertification class held February 26 – March 1, 2024, in Gulfport, MS. Tuition is \$395.00 and refunded by the State of Mississippi. CA-16
17. Approved the minutes of the January 31, 2024, Special Meeting of the Mayor and Alderpersons Meeting, as requested by Deputy City Clerk Shannon Starita. CA-17

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- 18. Approved the minutes of the December 5, 2023, Regular Mayor and Board of Alderpersons meeting, with changes, as requested by Deputy City Clerk Shannon Starita. CA-18
- 19. Approved the minutes of the December 19, 2023, Regular Mayor and Board of Alderpersons meeting, with changes, as requested by Deputy City Clerk Shannon Starita. CA-19
- 20. Approved the minutes of the January 2, 2024, Regular Mayor and Board of Alderpersons meeting, with changes, as requested by Deputy City Clerk Shannon Starita. CA-20
- 21. Approved the minutes of the January 16, 2024, Regular Mayor and Board of Alderpersons meeting, with changes, as requested by Deputy City Clerk Shannon Starita. CA-21

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CLAIMS DOCKET

Upon motion of Alderwoman Betty Sparkman and seconded by Alderman Kirk Kimball the Board unanimously approved the Claims Docket in the amount of \$760,150.97.

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CLOSED SESSION

- 1. Per the request of the Police Department, consider going into Closed Session to decide to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter concerning performance of employee in Police Department.

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously agreed to go into Closed Session to decide to go into Executive Session.

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Kenny Torgeson the Board unanimously agreed to come out of Closed Session to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters concerning the performance of an employee in the Police Department.

Upon motion of Alderman Kenny Torgeson and seconded by Alderman Kirk Kimball the Board unanimously agreed to come out of Executive Session.

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Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson, carried unanimously, it was agreed upon by the Board to follow the recommendation of Police Chief Daren Freeman to demote Officer Roland Flowers from the position of Sergeant to Patrol with a reduction in pay. Mr. Flowers has agreed to this disciplinary action.

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2. Consider request to go into Closed Session to decide to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter for termination of employee in the Harbor Department.

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Victor Pickich the Board unanimously agreed to go into Closed Session to decide to go into Executive Session.

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson, the Board voted unanimously, to come out of Closed Session.

Upon motion of Alderwoman Regina Charlot and seconded by Alderman Kenny Torgeson, carried unanimously, the Board agreed not to go into Executive Session to discuss the matter and agreed to follow the recommendation of Harbor Master Russell Holliman Jr., to immediately terminate James Whittington from the position of Harbor Patrol for cause for reasons explained in Closed Session.

Mayor

02/06/2024

City Clerk

02/06/2024