

Published Agenda



Monday, December 16, 2024
4:00 PM

City Council
Monday Meeting Agenda

Council Chambers
200 Forrest Street

- Call to Order
- Public Hearing
- 1.2024-792

Hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan for the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 1996, as Amended and Restated November 2024 (the "Redevelopment Plan").
- 2.2024-791

Hold a Public Hearing on the Tax Increment Financing Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace, City of Hattiesburg, Lamar County, Mississippi, November 2024.
- Agenda Adjustments

- Delete Routine Item #8 and Add Policy Items #20 and #21 at the request of the Administration as follows.
- 20.2024-787

Adopt a Resolution requesting the Legislature of the State of Mississippi to enact a local and private bill enabling the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to extend the repealer imposed on the Special 1% Tax levied on the gross proceeds from hotel/motel overnight room rentals and restaurants, excluding restaurants with gross sales less than \$100,000.00 annually, which proceeds are divided by the City of Hattiesburg and the University of Southern Mississippi to July 1, 2030.
- 21.2024-803

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the obligation and expenditure of a portion of ARPA funds for modification and use of Lamar County property as a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) facility.
- Agenda Review
- Citizens' Forum
- Meeting Recess

Call to Order

Public Hearing - Proposed Tax Increment Financing Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Hattiesburg City Council held a **Public Hearing on the proposed Tax Increment Financing Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan for the City of Hattiesburg at 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 16, 2024**, in Council Chambers at City Hall, *pursuant to order adopted November 19, 2024, at Minute Book 2023 Pages 194-195*; same being from an adjourned meeting held on December 3, 2024.

Those present included Mayor Toby Barker and members of the City Council Jeffrey George, Ward 1; Deborah Delgado, Ward 2; Carter Carroll, Ward 3; Dave Ware, Ward 4; and Nicholas Brown, Ward 5. Others in attendance included Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; City Attorney, Randy Pope; Clerk of Council, Ronda S. Kennedy; Deputy Clerk of Council, Lisa Luu Jolly; City staff members; media; and the public.

Council President George Called the meeting to order, **opened the Public Hearing** and explained the procedures.

- I.2024-792
- Hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan for the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 1996, as Amended and Restated November 2024 (the "Redevelopment Plan").
- Attachments: TIF Plan as Amended and Restated Redevelopment Plan

Ms. Jones presented an overview of the proposed amended and restated *TIF Redevelopment Plan*.

Council President George asked the public if there were any citizens present who wished to speak regarding the proposed *TIF Redevelopment Plan*.

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Council.

By unanimous consent, Council President **George closed the public hearing at 4:06 p.m. and proceeded with the Public Hearing on the TIF Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace.**

Public Hearing - Increment Financing Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace

- 2. **2024-791** Hold a Public Hearing on the Tax Increment Financing Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace, City of Hattiesburg, Lamar County, Mississippi, November 2024.

Attachments: TIF Plan Hattiesburg Marketplace

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Hattiesburg City Council held a **Public Hearing on the Increment Financing Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace at 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 16, 2024**, in Council Chambers at City Hall, *pursuant to order adopted November 19, 2024, at Minute Book 2023 Page 195.*

Council President George **opened the Public Hearing at 4:06 p.m.** and explained the procedures.

Ms. Jones presented an overview of the *Increment Financing Plan for Hattiesburg Marketplace*.

Council President George asked the public if there were any citizens present who wished to speak regarding the *Hattiesburg Marketplace Increment Financing Plan*.

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Council.

By unanimous consent, Council President George **closed the public hearing at 4:09 p.m. and proceeded with the Agenda Review.**

Agenda Adjustments

- **Delete Routine Item #8; Add Policy Items #20 and #21** at the request of the Administration as follows:

The Clerk of Council read aloud adjustments to the agenda.

- 20. **2024-787** Adopt a Resolution requesting the Legislature of the State of Mississippi to enact a local and private bill enabling the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to extend the repealer imposed on the Special 1% Tax levied on the gross proceeds from hotel/motel overnight room rentals and restaurants, excluding restaurants with gross sales less than \$100,000.00 annually, which proceeds are divided by the City of Hattiesburg and the University of Southern Mississippi to July 1, 2030.

Attachments: Resolution to Extend 1% Special Levy December 2024

- 21. **2024-803** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the obligation and expenditure of a portion of ARPA funds for modification and use of Lamar County property as a Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) facility.

Attachments: Resolution Designating Funds for Crisis Stabilization Unit 12.24

Agenda Review

Council President George proceeded with the **Agenda Review.**

Following discussion of agenda items, Council President George **closed the Agenda Review.**

Citizens' Forum

Council Vice President Ware **proceeded with the Citizens' Forum.**

He stated the procedures and invited members of the public to speak.

The following citizens addressed the Council:

- *Virginia Smith, 200 Tuscan Ave., Apt. A*

There were no other citizens present who wished to address the Council.

Council Vice President Ware **closed the Citizen Forum.**

Executive Session

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware for the Council to **ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DETERMINE THE NEED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 4:22 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 – George, Delgado, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Carroll

Council President George asked for the Chambers to be cleared at this time.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware and seconded by Council Member Delgado to **ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** to *discuss litigation strategy*, since to have an open meeting on this would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the City, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (b) at 4:23 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 – George, Delgado, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Carroll

The City Attorney stepped out into the hall and announced that the Council has gone into Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy.

Those present for the Executive Session were Mayor Toby Barker; Council members Jeffrey George, Deborah Delgado, Dave Ware and Nicholas Brown; Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; City Attorney, Randy Pope; Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Jones; Police Chief, Hardy Sims; City Engineer, Marybeth Bergin; Deputy Director of Transportation and Engineering, Hunter White; Director of Parks and Recreation, Betsy Mercier; Chief Communications Officer, John Arender; Clerk of Council, Ronda Kennedy; Deputy Clerk of Council, Lisa Luu Jolly.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Ware and seconded by Council Member Brown exit Executive Session and **RE-OPEN** the meeting to the public at 4:33 p.m.

There being no discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 – George, Delgado, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Carroll

Council President George stated to the public that there was no action taken during Executive Session.

Meeting Recess

Council President George declared the meeting recessed at 4:34 p.m., this 16th day of December, 2024, by unanimous consent, until the 17th day of December, 2024.

ATTEST:

APPROVE:


Clerk of Council


Council President

ATTEST AND CERTIFY:

APPROVE:


City Clerk


Mayor