



Monday, April 7, 2025
4:00 PM

City Council
Monday Meeting Agenda

Council Chambers
200 Forrest Street

Call to Order

Public Hearing

MB 2023

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1. 2025-237 Hold Public Hearing to determine if certain properties are in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community, according to the provision of MS Code 1972, Section 21-19-11.

Attachments: Hold Public Hearing Memo 04/07/2025
Dismissal Memo - 6 Canterbury Dr
1. 0 7th St - Case History
2. 141 Redus St - Case History
3. 143 Redus St - Case History
4. 212 N Tipton St - Case History
5. 504 Broad St - Case History
6. 6 Canterbury Dr - Case History

Agenda Adjustments - Add Policy Items #19 & #20 at the request of the Administration as follows:

19. 2025-304 Adopt a Resolution naming Hall Avenue East Overpass Bridge in honor of Percy W. Watson.
20. 2025-305 Adopt a Resolution naming Hall Avenue West Overpass Bridge in honor of Roger F. Wicker.

Agenda Review

Citizens' Forum

Work Session

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1. 2025-264 Presentation - Right Down Broadway Catalyst Project - Zoning Changes and Overlay District Draft, Presented by the Planning Division.

Meeting Recess

Call to Order

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Hattiesburg City Council held a **Public Hearing on unsafe properties at 4:00 p.m. Monday, April 7, 2025**, in Council Chambers at City Hall, pursuant to order adopted March 4, 2025, at Minute Book 2023 Page 282, to determine if the following properties are in such a state of uncleanness so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community.

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 and explained the procedures.**

Public Hearing

- 1.2025-237
- Hold Public Hearing to determine if certain properties are in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community, according to the provision of MS Code 1972, Section 21-19-11.

Attachments: Hold Public Hearing Memo 04/07/2025
Dismissal Memo - 6 Canterbury Dr
1. 0 7th St - Case History
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Code Enforcement Manager, Charles Copeland, presented the properties to be considered. Mr. Copeland recommended the that the Council adopt resolutions determining the properties are in such a state of uncleanliness so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community, providing a specified period of time to remove the violations, and declaring the City's intent to take action to clear violations and charge the cost plus penalty against the property if the violations are not resolved in the specified period of time. He recommended resolutions allowing homeowners 15 days to resolve violations.

Mr. Copeland, asked for *Case #6: 6 Canterbury Drive to be dismissed.*

Council President George called out each unsafe property listed and asked if there were any citizens who wished to speak on behalf of the property called.

- *Case #2: 141 Redus Street -*
 - *Case #3: 143 Redus Street -*
- } *Kelvin Chambers, property owner*

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Council regarding properties listed for the public hearing.

By unanimous consent, Council President **George closed the public hearing at 4:08 p.m. and proceeded with the Agenda Review.**

The Mayor welcomed Ms. Penny Potts and the Jobs for America’s Graduate (JAG) Students from N.R. Burger Middle School.

Agenda Adjustments - Add Policy Items #19 & #20 at the request of the Administration as follows:

The Clerk of Council read aloud the adjustments to the agenda.

- 19.2025-304
- Adopt a Resolution naming Hall Avenue East Overpass Bridge in honor of Percy W. Watson.
- Attachments: RESOLUTION-Hall Avenue East Bridge Naming-Percy W. Watson Bridge
- 20.2025-305
- Adopt a Resolution naming Hall Avenue West Overpass Bridge in honor of Roger F. Wicker.
- Attachments: RESOLUTION-Hall Avenue West Bridge Naming-Roger F. Wicker Bridge

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*
- *Roy L. Burrell, 332 J.M. Tatum Industrial*
- *Bill Wikstrom, 112 Cambrooke*
- *Eric K. Steele, 604 Dumas Ave.*
- *Douglas Chambers, 1205 Adeline St.*

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

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

Work Session

Council President George proceeded with the Work Session, which included:

1. **2025-264** Presentation - Right Down Broadway Catalyst Project - Zoning Changes and Overlay District Draft, Presented by the Planning Division.

Nathan Satcher, Senior Planner, presented the PowerPoint presentation.

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 4:54 p.m.

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

Yeas: 5 - George, Delgado, Carroll, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

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 Brown 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 4:55 p.m.

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

Yeas: 5 - George, Delgado, Carroll, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

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, Carter Carroll, Dave Ware and Nicholas Brown; Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; City Attorney, Randy Pope; Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Jones; Chief Financial Officer, Malcolm Berch; Police Chief, Hardy Sims; Fire Assistant Chief, Chris Carr; City Engineer, Marybeth Bergin; Director of Urban Development, Wiley Quinn; Director of Parks and Recreation, Betsy Mercier; Director of Public Works, Ronnie Perkins; 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 Carroll exit Executive Session and **RE-OPEN** the meeting to the public at 5:15 p.m.

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

Yeas: 5 - George, Delgado, Carroll, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

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 5:15 p.m., this 7th day of April 2025**, by unanimous consent, until the 8th day of April 2025.

ATTEST:

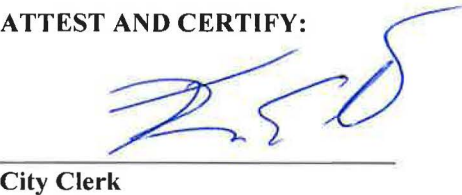
APPROVE:

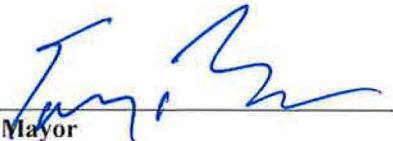

Clerk of Council


Council President

ATTEST AND CERTIFY:

APPROVE:


City Clerk


Mayor