

Published Agenda



Tuesday, January 6, 2026
5:00 PM

City Council
Tuesday Meeting Agenda

Council Chambers
200 Forrest Street

- Call to Order
- Call to Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
- Presentation Agenda
- Confirmation or Adjustment of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes for the December 15 & 16, 2025 meetings of the City Council.

p. 5 | 2025-1157 Approve the minutes for the December 15 & 16, 2025 meetings of the City Council.

POLICY AGENDA

MB 2024

Page #

p. 5 - 6

1. 2025-1104 Adopt an Ordinance for a text amendment requested by an applicant to the Hattiesburg Land Development Code (Ordinance No. 3209, as amended) to include pole signs as a conditional use approval in B-2 zoning districts and to allow electronic message reader boards as a conditional use approval in B-2 zoning districts. The Hattiesburg Planning Commission recommended denial at its meeting held on December 10, 2025.

p. 6 | 2. 2025-1105 Approve the request for conditional use approvals for a pole sign and an electronic message reader board for a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Planning Commission offered no recommendation on December 10, 2025.

p. 6 | 3. 2025-1101 Approve the request for variances from the separation of electronic message boards from the nearest lot line of a residential use minimum requirement of 200ft to instead allow for 55ft and from the maximum requirement of 40% sign area of a electronic message board to instead allow for 45.71 % for a sign at a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Board of Adjustment offered no recommendation on December 10th, 2025.

p. 6 - 7 | 4. 2025-999 Take from the Table: Appeal of the Planning Commission's November 12, 2025 decision, filed by Michael Bethley, Representative, to adopt an Ordinance to rezone Ward 5) from B-2 to B-3. The Hattiesburg Planning Commission voted to deny the petition. (Tabled on December 16, 2025).

p. 7 - 8 | 5. 2025-1071 Take from the Table: Accept the Board of Adjustment's recommendation to deny the request for a variance from the maximum front yard fence height of 4ft to allow for 8ft for an R-2 zoned property at 220 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue (PPIN 21672, Forrest County, Ward 5). (Tabled on December 16, 2025).

p. 8 | 6. 2025-1102 Adopt an Ordinance accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a zoning change from R-1C to R-2 for a property located at 112 Dearborne Street (PPIN 20931, Forrest County, Ward 4). Planning Commission recommended approval on December 10th, 2025.

p. 8 | 7. 2025-1103 Accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the conditional use request for a "Mobile Home Park" with additional conditions on an R-1A zoned property located at 1678 James Street (PPIN 39149, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions on December 10th, 2025.
The recommended added conditions are:

- That the structures not be placed in a special flood hazard area
- That the structures follow the conditions set out for Mobile Homes in Land Development Code Section 5.4.19

p. 8 - 9 | 8. 2025-1147 Adopt a Resolution setting Public Hearing on Monday, February 2nd, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at City Hall 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.

p. 9 | 9. 2025-1146 Adopt Resolutions adjudicating and directing the placement as an assessment for the cleanup costs and applicable penalties, not to exceed the values prescribed by State law, against the following properties.

p. 9 - 10 | 10. 2025-1153 Adopt a Nunc Pro Tunc Resolution amending Resolution 2025-24, originally adopted on January 24, 2025, to correct the legal description of the property located at 1214 Putnam Avenue related to a code enforcement cleanup assessment, and authorize execution and recording of the associated Release of Lien.

p. 10	11. 2025-1141	Adopt Resolution declaring a portion of Forrest County Parcel PPIN 27097 necessary for public use related to the Lincoln Road Detention Facility Project, Establishing just compensation, and Authorizing the Mayor to make a fair market value offer and the issuance of a manual check.
p. 10	12. 2025-1161	Adopt a Resolution approving the request for tax exemption filed by Trace West, LLC for ad valorem tax exemption, except school district ad valorem taxes, for property located in the Historic Preservation District at 129 Jackson Street in the amount of \$34,800.00, for a period of seven (7) years, beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2032; as authorized by Section 17-21-5 of the MS Code.
p. 10	13. 2025-1158	Adopt a Resolution determining waiver valuations and just compensations for certain real property with low fair market value to be acquired in connection with the Innswood Drainage, Phase I Project.
p. 10 – 11	14. 2025-1145	Approve Payment Application No. 7 (Final Payment) to JW Chain Contractors, LLC, in the amount of \$22,970.00, for restroom and exterior improvements at Tatum Park; authorize publication of the Notice of Final Settlement; and authorize issuance of a manual check for final payment.
p. 11	15. 2025-1149	Approve Agreement with Shows, Dearman and Waits, Inc. for the US Hwy 49 & Peps Point Fire Water Extension Project and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.
p. 11	16. 2025-1148	Approve Contractor and Owner Agreements according to the Emergency Roof Repair Initiative Manual and authorize the Mayor to execute in duplicate.
p. 11 – 12	17. 2025-1075	Approve Agreement between City of Hattiesburg, Hattiesburg Convention Commission and Hardy Street Baptist Church related the shared use of parking areas located at Hardy Street Baptist Church as per attached documents and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.
p. 12	18. 2025-1138	Approve an Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and HubCity Lacrosse to operate and promote for Hattiesburg residents for a period of one year in the amount of \$3,000 and authorize the Mayor to execute and issuance of a manual check.
p. 12	19. 2025-1159	Approve Lease Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Hattiesburg Tourism Commission for property located at 300 Hardy Street as per attached Agreement and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.
p. 12	20. 2025-1142	Acknowledge bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Grace Avenue Sidewalk Project and accept the bid from R & J Construction, Inc. as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.
p. 13	21. 2025-1143	Acknowledge bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Hanger Taxilane Project and accept the bid from J.W. Chain Contractors, LLC as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.
p. 13	22. 2025-1128	Acknowledge bids received on December 11, 2025, for the Camp Street Lighting Project and accept the base bid and alternate from Weaver Electric Inc. as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.
p. 13	23. 2025-1100	Ratify a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hattiesburg and Mississippi Army National Guard related to a training operation at Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport.
p. 13	24. 2026-2	Adopt a Resolution appointing Christopher Carr as Fire Chief for the City of Hattiesburg.
ROUTINE AGENDA		
p. 14	1. 2025-1152	Acknowledge receipt of the Two-Quote Docket.
p. 14	2. 2025-1139	Acknowledge the 2025 Expenditure Report from HubCity Lacrosse.
p. 14	3. 2025-1160	Acknowledge the Acceptance of Bid Withdrawal from J.W. Chain Contractors in relation to the FTA Sidewalk Project for Grace Avenue.
p. 14	4. 2025-1144	Ratify a Letter Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Mississippi Power related to utilities on Hardy Street.
p. 14	5. 2025-1150	Authorize the disposal of Code Enforcement records from and to 2020 to include code enforcement files without fines (GSM 10-05) and code enforcement files with fines (GSM 10-06) in accordance with Ordinance #3342 and the State of Mississippi Records Retention Schedule for Municipalities General Schedule as provided for in MS Code Ann. § 21-15-37.
p. 14	6. 2025-1129	Approve and Authorize issuance of manual checks for CDBG/HOME Claims per attached.
p. 14	7. 2025-1140	Approve the sale of grave spaces per attached receipts.
p. 14	8. 2025-1156	Approve claims docket for the period ending December 31, 2025.
In Memoriam:		
• Dr. Joseph B. Parker • Mr. Charles H. (Chuck) Carter, Jr. • Ms. Patricia H. (Pat) Yelverton • Ms. Hannah Hopkins • Dr. James C. Bishop, III • Mr. Edgar Jackson (Ed) Walker		
Meeting Adjourn		

Call to Order

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Hattiesburg City Council held a **regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026**, in the **Council Chambers at City Hall**, *this being the reconvened session of the recessed meeting held on January 5, 2026.*

In attendance were Mayor Toby Barker and members of the City Council Jeffrey George, Ward 1; Eric Boney, Ward 2; LeAnn Vance, Ward 3; Dave Ware, Ward 4; and Nicholas Brown, Ward 5.

Others in attendance were 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 Ware Called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Call to Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

The prayer was given by *Officer David Matos*.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by *Kermas Eaton*.

Presentation Agenda

The PRESENTATION AGENDA came before the Council.

There were no presentations at this time.

Agenda Adjustments:

THE MATTER OF THE AGENDA ORDER was before the Council.

Council President Ware asked whether there were any adjustments to the agenda.

The Clerk of Council responded that there were none.

Confirmation of the Agenda, as Amended

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Boney to **APPROVE** the agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Approval of Minutes for the December 15 & 16, 2025 meetings of the City Council.

2025-1157 Approve the minutes for the December 15 & 16, 2025 meetings of the City Council.

Attachments: 12-15-2025 APH. AR Mins.
12-16-2025 Mins.

Council President Ware asked whether there were any amendments to the minutes.

There being none, the minutes were **APPROVED** as presented.

POLCY AGENDA

THE POLICY AGENDA was then considered.

1. **2025-1104**
[ORD#3399] Adopt an Ordinance for a text amendment requested by an applicant to the Hattiesburg Land Development Code (Ordinance No. 3209, as amended) to include pole signs as a conditional use approval in B-2 zoning districts and to allow electronic message reader boards as a conditional use approval in B-2 zoning districts. The Hattiesburg Planning Commission recommended denial at its meeting held on December 10, 2025.

Attachments: Item K- Staff Report- 110 MLK Ave- Text Amendment Request
K Image Sheet -110 MLK Avenue Text Amendment

[Text Amendment ERB- MLK](#)
[Text Amendment Pole Sign- MLK](#)
[Minutes- December 2025- HPC](#)
[Ordinance - Text Amendment to LDC - Pole Signs Conditional Use B-2](#)

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George to **ADOPT ORDINANCE #3399** amending the Hattiesburg Land Development Code (Ordinance No. 3209, as amended) to allow pole signs and electronic message reader boards as conditional uses in B-2 zoning districts.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

2.

2025-1105

Approve the request for conditional use approvals for a pole sign and an electronic message reader board for a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Planning Commission offered no recommendation on December 10, 2025.
- Attachments:

[Item L- Staff Report- 110 MLK Ave-Conditional Use Request](#)
[L Image Sheet -110 MLK Avenue - Conditional Use](#)
[Text Amendment ERB- MLK](#)
[Text Amendment Pole Sign- MLK](#)
[Text Ammendent ERB 40 MLK Church](#)
[Minutes- December 2025- HPC](#)

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member Boney to **APPROVE** the request for conditional use approvals for a pole sign and an electronic message reader board for a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303).

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

3.

2025-1101

Approve the request for variances from the separation of electronic message boards from the nearest lot line of a residential use minimum requirement of 200ft to instead allow for 55ft and from the maximum requirement of 40% sign area of an electronic message board to instead allow for 45.71 % for a sign at a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Board of Adjustment offered no recommendation on December 10th, 2025.
- Request for 45.71% sign area variance was [DENIED]*

Attachments:

[Item D- Staff Summary- 110 MLK Ave](#)
[D Image Sheet -110 MLK Avenue](#)
[Public Hearing application- MLK Baptist Church 1_CC](#)
[Petition of Support](#)
[MLK Revised Proof 4](#)
[MLK Revised Proof 2](#)
[Minutes- December 2025- BOA](#)

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member Boney to **APPROVE** a variance from the separation requirement for an electronic message board from the nearest residential lot line, allowing a distance of 55 feet,

and to **DENY** the request for a 45.71% sign area variance at a B-2 zoned property located at 110 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (PPIN 32303).

** The 55-foot separation variance was approved; the 45.71% sign area variance was denied.*

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

4.

2025-999

Take from the Table: Appeal of the Planning Commission's November 12, 2025 decision, filed by Michael Bethley, Representative, to adopt an Ordinance to rezone a property located at 110 Martin Luther King
- [DENIED]

Avenue (PPIN 32303, Forrest County, Ward 5) from B-2 to B-3. The Hattiesburg Planning Commission voted to deny the petition. *(Tabled on December 16, 2025).*

Attachments: Item B Staff Report - 110 MLK Avenue- Rezoning
B Image Sheet - 110 MLK Ave-Rezoning
Application_CC
Minutes- November 2025- HPC- Full Minutes
Bethley Appeal- 110 MLK Ave- Appeal Paperwork
Ordinance - ZONING CHANGE - 101 MLK Avenue
Exhibit B-1

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **TAKE FROM THE TABLE** the appeal of the Planning Commission's November 12, 2025 denial of the petition to rezone property located at 110 Martin Luther King Avenue (PPIN 32303) from B-2 to B-3, filed by Michael Bethley, Representative.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **DENY** the appeal of the Planning Commission's November 12, 2025 denial of the petition to rezone property located at 110 Martin Luther King Avenue (PPIN 32303) from B-2 to B-3.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

5. **2025-1071** Take from the Table: Accept the Board of Adjustment's recommendation to deny the request for a variance from the maximum front yard fence height of 4ft to allow for 8ft for an R-2 zoned property at 220 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue (PPIN 21672, Forrest County, Ward 5).
[TABLED]
until 01/20/2026

Attachments: Item B- Staff Summary- 220 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue
B Image Sheet - 220 MLK Ave
Public Hearing Application_CC
sample fence to install to 8ft
site diagram 220 martin luther king ave
signed roger notary variance doc
Minutes- December 2025- BOA

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **TAKE FROM THE TABLE** the item to accept the Board of Adjustment's recommendation to deny a request for a front yard fence height variance to allow an eight (8) foot fence for an R-2 zoned property located at 220 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue (PPIN 21672).

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **RE-TABLE** the request for a front yard fence height variance at 220 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue (PPIN 21672) *until the January 20, 2026 Council meeting.*

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

6.

2025-1102
[ORD#3400]

Adopt an Ordinance accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a zoning change from R-1C to R-2 for a property located at 112 Dearborne Street (PPIN 20931, Forrest County, Ward 4). Planning Commission recommended approval on December 10th, 2025.
- Attachments:

Item I Staff Report- 112 Dearborne Street- Rezoning Request
HPC I- Image Sheet - 112 Dearborne Street
application CC
Minutes- December 2025- HPC
Ordinance rezoning property from R-1C to R-2 located at 112 Dearborne Street

A MOTION was made by Council Member Boney and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **ADOPT ORDINANCE #3400**, accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation, to approve a zoning change from R-1C to R-2 for a property located at 112 Dearborne Street (PPIN 20931).

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

7.

2025-1103

Accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the conditional use request for a “Mobile Home Park” with additional conditions on an R-1A zoned property located at 1678 James Street (PPIN 39149, Forrest County, Ward 5). The Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions on December 10th, 2025.
- The recommended added conditions are:

- That the structures not be placed in a special flood hazard area
 - That the structures follow the conditions set out for Mobile Homes in Land Development Code Section 5.4.19
- Attachments:

Item E- Staff Report-1678 James Street- Conditional Use Request
E Image Sheet - 1678 James Street
Application CC
Minutes- December 2025- HPC

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **ACCEPT** the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the conditional use request for a “Mobile Home Park” with the following recommended conditions on an R-1A zoned property located at 1678 James Street.

The approved added conditions are:

- That the structures are not placed in a special flood hazard area
- That the structures follow the conditions set out for Mobile Homes in Land Development Code Section 5.4.19

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

8.

2025-1147
[RES#2026-1]

Adopt a Resolution setting Public Hearing on Monday, February 2nd, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at City Hall 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:

Set 01 06 2026 - Blank Resolution Pages for Group 02 02 2026 - REVISED
Request to Set Public Hearing – CE 01 06 2026 - REVISED

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **ADOPT RESOLUTION #2026-1** setting Public Hearing on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at City Hall 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.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

9. **2025-1146**
[RES#2026-2-9] Adopt Resolutions adjudicating and directing the placement as an assessment for the cleanup costs and applicable penalties, not to exceed the values prescribed by State law, against the following properties.

- Attachments: Adjudication Memo 01 06 2026
1. 0 Oliver Ave PPIN 23548 - Adjudication Resolution
2. 200 Oliver Ave - Adjudication Resolution
3. 315 May Ave - Adjudication Resolution
4. 609 Hall Ave - Adjudication Resolution
5. 611 Hall Ave - Adjudication Resolution
6. 613 Hall Ave - Adjudication Resolution
7. 1010 Scott St - Adjudication Resolution
8. 4881 Hwy 49 S - Adjudication Resolution

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown to **ADOPT RESOLUTIONS #2026-2-9** adjudicating and directing the placement as an assessment for the cleanup costs and applicable penalties, not to exceed the values prescribed by State law, against the following properties.

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PPIN</u>
#2026-2	Neshara Reon Watrous	0 Oliver Avenue	23548
#2026-3	James Wooten	200 Oliver Avenue	23549
#2026-4	Kale Farms	315 May Avenue	13935
#2026-5	Alice V Ross C/O Burkett Ross	609 Hall Avenue	12859
#2026-6	Alice F Ross C/O Burkett Ross	611 Hall Avenue	12857
#2026-7	Alice F Ross C/O Burkett Ross	613 Hall Avenue	12856
#2026-8	Memphis McAbee	1010 Scott Street	12753
#2026-9	Ebrahim Mohammed Aldiri	4881 US Highway 49 South	27634

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

10. **2025-1153**
[RES#2026-10] Adopt a Nunc Pro Tunc Resolution amending Resolution 2025-24, originally adopted on January 24, 2025, to correct the legal description of the property located at 1214 Putnam Avenue related to a code enforcement cleanup assessment, and authorize execution and recording of the associated Release of Lien.

- Attachments: 1214 Putnam Ave - Nunc Pro Tunc Res
 Exhibit A - Original Resolution 2025-24 to be corrected - 1214 Putnam Ave
 Release of Lien Memo 01 06 2026 - Nunc Pro Tunc
 Release of Lien - 1214 Putnam Ave for Nunc Pro Tunc

A MOTION was made by Council Member Boney and seconded by Council Vice President George to **ADOPT (a Nunc Pro Tunc) RESOLUTION #2026-10** amending Resolution 2025-24, originally adopted on January 24, 2025, to correct the legal description of the property located at 1214 Putnam Avenue related to a code enforcement cleanup assessment, and authorize execution and recording of the associated Release of Lien.

The Council adopted Resolution #2026-10, a Nunc Pro Tunc Resolution correcting Resolution #2025-24, originally adopted January 24, 2025, for the limited purpose of correcting the legal description of the subject property to reflect the Council’s original intent and to ensure accuracy of the public record.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

11.

2025-1141

[RES#2026-11]

Adopt Resolution declaring a portion of Forrest County Parcel PPIN 27097 necessary for public use related to the Lincoln Road Detention Facility Project, establishing just compensation, and Authorizing the Mayor to make a fair market value offer and the issuance of a manual check.
- Attachments:

Resolution - PPIN 27097 - Jan. 5th, 2026

EJCO-PPIN 27097

Appraisal - 27097

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Vance

to ADOPT RESOLUTION #2026-11 declaring a portion of Forrest County Parcel [PPIN 27097] necessary for public use related to the Lincoln Road Detention Facility Project, establishing just compensation;

and AUTHORIZE the Mayor to make a fair market value offer and the issuance of a manual check.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

12.

2025-1161

[RES#2026-12]

Adopt a Resolution approving the request for tax exemption filed by Trace West, LLC for ad valorem tax exemption, except school district ad valorem taxes, for property located in the Historic Preservation District at 129 Jackson Street in the amount of \$34,800.00, for a period of seven (7) years, beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2032; as authorized by Section 17-21-5 of the MS Code.
- Attachments:

Trace West, LLC- Exemption

Application - Rec- pics

Memo

Values

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to ADOPT RESOLUTION #2026-12 approving the request for tax exemption filed by Trace West, LLC for Ad Valorem Tax Exemption, except school district ad valorem taxes, for property located in the Historic Preservation District at 129 Jackson Street in the amount of \$34,800.00, for a period of seven (7) years, beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2032; as authorized by Section 17-21-5 of the MS Code.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

13.

2025-1158

[RES#2026-13]

Adopt a Resolution determining waiver valuations and just compensations for certain real property with low fair market value to be acquired in connection with the Innswood Drainage, Phase I Project.
- Attachments:

Innswood Drainage Waiver Valuation-Amended Resolution

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Vance

to ADOPT RESOLUTION #2026-13 determining waiver valuations and just compensations for certain real property with low fair market value to be acquired in connection with the Innswood Drainage, Phase I Project.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

14.

2025-1145

Approve Payment Application No. 7 (Final Payment) to JW Chain Contractors, LLC, in the amount of \$22,970.00, for restroom and exterior improvements at Tatum Park; authorize publication of the Notice of Final Settlement; and authorize issuance of a manual check for final payment.

Attachments: 4030 Pay Application #7 Owner Letter
4030 Pay Application #7 Executed
Notice of Final Settlement - Tatum Park restrooms and ext imp
Executed Payment Application No. 7 to JW Chain Contractors, LLC - restroom and exterior improvements at Tatum Park

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **APPROVE** Payment Application No. 7 (Final Payment) to JW Chain Contractors, LLC, in the amount of \$22,970.00, for restroom and exterior improvements at Tatum Park;
 and **AUTHORIZE** publication of the Notice of Final Settlement and issuance of a manual check for final payment.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

15. 2025-1149 Approve Agreement with Shows, Dearman and Waits, Inc. for the US Hwy 49 & Peps Point Fire Water Extension Project and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.

Attachments: Engineering Contract Hwy 49 & Peps Point Fire Water Ext

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Vance

to **APPROVE** Agreement with Shows, Dearman and Waits, Inc. for the US Hwy 49 & Peps Point Fire Water Extension Project;

and **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to execute the same.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

16. 2025-1148 Approve Contractor and Owner Agreements according to the Emergency Roof Repair Initiative Manual and authorize the Mayor to execute in duplicate.

Attachments: 911 Atlanta Grant Agreement Packet
909 Wedgewood Grant Agreement Packet
1302 N. Main Street Grant Agreement Packet
Contractor and owner agreements for emergency roof repair - 1-6-2026

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **APPROVE** Contractor and Owner Agreements according to the Emergency Roof Repair Initiative Manual;
 and **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to execute in duplicate.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

17. 2025-1075 Approve Agreement between City of Hattiesburg, Hattiesburg Convention Commission and Hardy Street Baptist Church related the shared use of parking areas located at Hardy Street Baptist Church as per attached documents and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.

Attachments: Fourth Revised Use Agreement
Hardy Street Baptist Church Parking Lot - Final

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **APPROVE** Agreement between City of Hattiesburg, Hattiesburg Convention Commission and Hardy Street Baptist Church related the shared use of parking areas located at Hardy Street Baptist Church as per attached documents;

and AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute the same.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

18.

2025-1138

Approve an Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and HubCity Lacrosse to operate and promote for Hattiesburg residents for a period of one year in the amount of \$3,000 and authorize the Mayor to execute and issuance of a manual check.

Attachments: 26 HubCity Lacrosse - AGREEMENT Agreement with HubCity Lacrosse

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to APPROVE Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and HubCity Lacrosse to operate and promote for Hattiesburg residents for a period of one year in the amount of \$3,000;

and AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute and issuance of a manual check.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

19.

2025-1159

Approve Lease Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Hattiesburg Tourism Commission for property located at 300 Hardy Street as per attached Agreement and authorize the Mayor to execute the same.

Attachments: 300 HARDY LEASE AGREEMENT updated for adoption 1.6.26

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to APPROVE Lease Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Hattiesburg Tourism Commission for property located at 300 Hardy Street as per attached Agreement;

and AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute the same.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

20.

2025-1142

Acknowledge bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Grace Avenue Sidewalk Project and accept the bid from R & J Construction, Inc. as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.

Attachments: 16258 Grace Avenue Award Letter Revised
16258 Grace Avenue Certified Bid Tabulation
R&J bid

A MOTION was made by Council Member Boney and seconded by Council Member Brown

to ACKNOWLEDGE bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Grace Avenue Sidewalk Project;
ACCEPT the bid from R & J Construction, Inc. as the best and lowest bid;

and AUTHORIZE the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

21. **2025-1143** Acknowledge bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Hanger Taxilane Project and accept the bid from J.W. Chain Contractors, LLC as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.
Attachments: 18874 Bobby Chain Hangar Taxilane - Award Letter
18874 Bobby L Chain Airport Hangar Taxilane - Bid Tabulation
JW Chain

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Vice President George

to **ACKNOWLEDGE** bids received on December 4, 2025, for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Hanger Taxilane Project; **ACCEPT** the bid from J.W. Chain Contractors, LLC as the best and lowest bid; and **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

22. **2025-1128** Acknowledge bids received on December 11, 2025, for the Camp Street Lighting Project and accept the base bid and alternate from Weaver Electric Inc. as the best and lowest bid and authorize the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.
Attachments: Camp St Lighting Award Letter
Camp St Lighting Bid Tab
Camp St Lighting Low Bid Weaver

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **ACKNOWLEDGE** bids received on December 11, 2025, for the Camp Street Lighting Project; **ACCEPT** the base bid and alternate from Weaver Electric Inc. as the best and lowest bid; and **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to execute contracts upon preparation.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

23. **2025-1100** Ratify a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hattiesburg and Mississippi Army National Guard related to a training operation at Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport.
Attachments: MOU_HBG and MS Army National Guard_Temp traffic control tower_01.06.2026 ratify

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member Vance

to **RATIFY** Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hattiesburg and Mississippi Army National Guard related to a training operation at Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

24. **2026-2** Adopt a Resolution appointing Christopher Carr as Fire Chief for the City of Hattiesburg.
[RES#2026-14]
Attachments: RESOLUTION Fire Chief appointment- Chris Carr 1.6.26
Resume - Carr

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Vance

to **ADOPT RESOLUTION #2026-14** appointing Christopher Carr as Fire Chief for the City of Hattiesburg.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

ROUTINE AGENDA

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown
to **APPROVE** the Routine Agenda, including the claims docket and the addendum.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

1.

2025-1152

Acknowledge receipt of the Two-Quote Docket.
Attachments: Two-Quote Docket for January 6, 2026 Council Agenda
2.

2025-1139

Acknowledge the 2025 Expenditure Report from HubCity Lacrosse.
Attachments: Hub City Lacrosse expenses
3.

2025-1160

Acknowledge the Acceptance of Bid Withdrawal from J.W. Chain Contractors in relation to the FTA Sidewalk Project for Grace Avenue.
Attachments: Withdrawal Memo
 Withdrawal request from JW Chain Contractors
4.

2025-1144

Ratify a Letter Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Mississippi Power related to utilities on Hardy Street.
Attachments: MPC_Hardy UG_letter agreement_partial exe 12.22.2025
5.

2025-1150

Authorize the disposal of Code Enforcement records from and to 2020 to include code enforcement files without fines (GSM 10-05) and code enforcement files with fines (GSM 10-06) in accordance with Ordinance #3342 and the State of Mississippi Records Retention Schedule for Municipalities General Schedule as provided for in MS Code Ann. § 21-15-37.
Attachments: Records Disposal Memo 01 06 2026
6.

2025-1129

Approve and Authorize issuance of manual checks for CDBG/HOME Claims per attached.
Attachments: Roofing Invoice - 216 E 4th Street_Garraway
 Roofing Invoice - 302 Vernon Dahmer_Felts
 Roofing Invoice - 1107 Cherry Street
 LLG 3823 Invoice #13 12.12.25
 M&P Construction - #6 PayApp Draw
 Roofing Invoice - 202 Gay Avenue
 Terracon Invoice 1302 Main Street
 Terracon Invoice 909 Wedgewood Drive
 Terracon Invoice 3103 Jamestown Retest
 Frye Environmental Invoice 12.29.25
7.

2025-1140

Approve the sale of grave spaces per attached receipts.
Attachments: Receipts
 Moss
 Walker
 Woullard
 Hopkins
 John Grantham
 John& Michelle Grantham
 Receipts
8.

2025-1156

Approve claims docket for the period ending December 31, 2025.
Attachments: DOCKET 25.1231
 DT 25.1231

Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Council Vice President George to **ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DETERMINE THE NEED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 5:16 p.m.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Council Vice President Ware requested that the Chambers be cleared at this time.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Brown

to **ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 5:17 p.m. to discuss *pending litigation and litigation strategy*, as an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the City's litigating position, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section § 25-41-7 (b).

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

§ 25-41-7 (b): Litigation, where open discussion would have detrimental effect on litigating position.

The City Attorney stepped out into the hall and announced that the Council had entered executive session to discuss pending litigation and litigation strategy.

Those present for the Executive Session were Mayor Toby Barker; Council members Jeffrey George, Eric Boney, LeAnn Vance, 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 Chief, Chris Carr; Director of Urban Development, Wiley Quinn; Director of Transportation and Engineering, Marybeth Bergin; Deputy Director of Transportation and Engineering, Hunter White; Director of Public Works, Ronnie Perkins; Director of Parks and Recreation, Betsy Mercier; Chief Communications Officer, John Arender; Clerk of Council, Ronda Kennedy; Deputy Clerk of Council, Lisa Luu Jolly; and Attorney Keith Turner of Watkins & Eager, PLLC.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President George and seconded by Council Member Boney

to **EXIT** Executive Session and **RE-OPEN** the meeting to the public at 5:35 pm.

There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously with the following vote:

Yeas: 5 – George, Boney, Vance, Ware and Brown

Nays: 0

Council President Ware called the meeting back to order in open session and reported that, during executive session, the Council discussed matters pertaining to pending litigation and that no action was taken.

In Memoriam:

A MOTION was made by Council President Ware to Adjourn the meeting in *memory of*:

- Dr. Joseph B. Parker
- Mr. Charles H. (Chuck) Carter, Jr.
- Ms. Patricia H. (Pat) Yelverton
- Ms. Hannah Hopkins
- Dr. James C. Bishop, III
- Mr. Edgar Jackson (Ed) Walker

Meeting Adjourn

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, Council President Ware declared the meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m. on this 6th day of January 2026, by unanimous consent.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 19, 2026.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CERTIFICATION

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

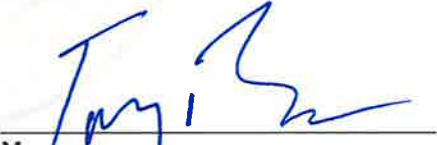

Clerk of Council


Council President

ATTEST AND CERTIFY:

APPROVE:


City Clerk


Mayor
