

City of Hattiesburg, MS

*200 Forrest St.
P.O. Box 1898
Hattiesburg, MS 39401*



Minutes Report

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

City Council

I. Call to Order

BE IT REMEMBERED that the regular meeting of the Hattiesburg City Council was held at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, 2017, in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Those present included Mayor Toby Barker and members of the City Council Jeffrey George, Ward 1; Deborah Delgado, Ward 2; Carter Carroll, Ward 3; Mary Dryden, Ward 4; and Nicholas Brown, Ward 5. Others in attendance included Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Jones; Director of Administration/City Clerk, Kermas Eaton; Police Chief, Anthony Parker; Assistant Police Chief, Frank Misenhelter; Director of Public Works, Larry Barnes; Director of Federal and State Programs, La'Keylah White; Director of the Water Department, Chadwick Frierson; Director of Parks and Recreation, Clemon Terrell; City Attorney, Annie Amos; Chief Communications Officer, Samantha McCain; Clerk of Council, Debbie Bernardo; Deputy Clerk of Council, Lisa Luu; media; and the public.

The MEETING was called to order by Council President Carroll.

II. Call to Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

The prayer was given by Pastor Michael Jordan of Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Parker.

III. Agenda Order

THE MATTER OF THE AGENDA ORDER came before the Council.

Amendments to the Meeting Agenda: Add Policy Agenda Items V.18 - V.21 at the request of the Administration as follows:

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Add Policy Agenda Items V.18 - V.21 at the request of the Administration as follows:

Council member Delgado stated that she will not vote in favor of items V.18 and V.20.

Council President Carroll said the Council can **vote on whether to add each item to the agenda.**

No vote was taken on the Motion.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Add Policy Agenda Item V.18 at the request of the Administration as follows:

IV.1. 2017-569 Adopt a Resolution setting Public Hearing before City Council on at 5 p.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2017 to determine if the property at 1101 Main Street, Mt. Carmel Church, is in such a state of imminent danger so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community and providing for notice to owners and authorize publication of the notice hearing.

1. EM RES - 1101 Main St., Mt. Carmel Church
2. Memo- Mt.Carmel PH
3. Publication

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

Yeas: 3 - George, Carroll and Dryden

Nays: 2 - Delgado and Brown

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Add Policy Agenda Item V.19 at the request of the Administration as follows:

- IV.2. 2017-571** Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Planning Commission for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

1. Dulana Reese Resume

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

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

Nays: 0

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Add Policy Agenda Item V.20 at the request of the Administration as follows:

- IV.3. 2017-570** Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Board of Adjustment for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

1. Dulana Reese Resume

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

Yeas: 3 - George, Carroll and Dryden

Nays: 2 - Delgado and Brown

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Add Policy Agenda Item V.21 at the request of the Administration as follows:

IV.4. 2017-549 Review and comment on the 2017 Annual Action Plan Draft. {Entitlement}**1. 2017 Annual Action Plan Draft**

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

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

Nays: 0

IV. PRESENTATION AGENDA

The PRESENTATION AGENDA came before the Council.

There were no presentations at this time.

V. POLICY AGENDA

The POLICY AGENDA came before the Council.

- V.1. 2017-508** TAKE FROM THE TABLE AND Adopt a resolution to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan 2008-2028, Chapter – 7 Land Use and Development, Map 2. Future Land Use, changing the designated “Future Land Use” of Bay Street from the intersection of Hall Avenue to Gordon’s Creek from “Neighborhood Business” to “Neighborhood Conservation District 1”, filed by Tara Poole, President, HHNA. The Planning Commission recommended to APPROVE on June 7, 2017.

1. RES-Amendment Comp Plan Future Land Use Map
2. June HPC BOA Minutes (draft)
3. Comp Plan Amendment Report - Future Land Use Map
4. Comp Plan Amendment - Future Land Use Map - Petition Against Change
5. HPC Voting Results 6-7-17
6. Analysis of Failed Motion from Attorney Jim Gladden, 7-18-17

Attorney Gladden read aloud a statement regarding the procedural and parliamentary issues involved with Policy Agenda Item V.-1. He recommended that the Council take no action other than to notify the Planning Commission that the matter should not have been brought before the Council, as it was a tie vote and failed, and therefore is still a Planning Commission matter.

Attorney Gladden subsequently responded to several follow-up questions from Council members.

No action was taken on Policy Agenda Item V.1.

- his letter is attached to this item. We also need the information Ginger sent on the Planning Commission votes from June attached to this item.

- V.2. 2017-551** Adopt an Ordinance amending Section 7.12.8.3 of Ordinance Number 3209, the Land Development Code, adopted February 21, 2017 and found at Minute Book 2017 pages 76-77, to read: "7.12.8.3 Paving. Parking shall be hard surface as approved by the Engineering Department. Additional parking may be paved with pervious pavers/pavement as approved by Site and Design Review Committee." and to amend Section 7.12.10 to read: "7.12.10 Section Reserved." The Planning Commission voted to APPROVE on July 5, 2017.

1. July HPC BOA Minutes (draft)
2. Staff Report - Land Development Code
3. Ordinance - LDC Text Amend - Sec 7 Parking

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Adopt an Ordinance (#3215) amending Section 7.12.8.3 of Ordinance Number 3209, the Land Development Code, adopted February 21, 2017 and found at Minute Book 2017 pages 76-77, to read: "7.12.8.3 Paving. Parking shall be hard surface as approved by the Engineering Department. Additional parking may be paved with pervious pavers/pavement as approved by Site and Design Review Committee." and to amend Section 7.12.10 to read: "7.12.10 Section Reserved." The Planning Commission voted to APPROVE on July 5, 2017.

Council member Delgado expressed disappointment that the new Land Development Code, which she said took five years to complete, is already being amended. She said there were hearings and reviews, and that this is not the first time the code has been amended. She said there was a hired consultant, and that the consultant did not work in isolation but worked with experienced staff and legal counsel.

Following discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 4 - George, Carroll, Dryden and Brown

Nays: 1 - Delgado

- V.3. 2017-550** APPROVE or DENY a petition filed by Terrell Garner, Representative, on behalf of Garner Properties and Development to request a variance from Section 6 Table 6.1 (Minimum zoning buffer for B-3) of the Land Development Code, which states the minimum buffer required is thirty (30) feet and instead allow a buffer of seventeen (17) feet for a variance of thirteen (13) feet for certain property located at 4358 Lincoln Road (Parcel 056M-23-005.000, PPIN 28409, Ward 3); the Board of Adjustments recommended to Deny on July 5, 2017.

1. July HPC BOA Minutes (draft)
2. Staff report - 4358 Lincoln Road

A MOTION was made by Council President Carroll and seconded by Council Member Delgado to **DENY** a petition filed by Terrell Garner, Representative, on behalf of Garner Properties and Development to request a variance from Section 6 Table 6.1 (Minimum zoning buffer for B-3) of the Land Development Code, which states the minimum buffer required is thirty (30) feet and instead allow a buffer of seventeen (17) feet for a variance of thirteen (13) feet for certain property located at 4358 Lincoln Road (Parcel 056M-23-005.000, PPIN 28409, Ward 3); the Board of Adjustments recommended to Deny on July 5, 2017.

Council President Carroll stated that the Board of Adjustments recommended to Deny.

Council Vice President Dryden stated that the petitioner has said that theft is the reason for the variance request; she said she hopes the Administration will ask the Hattiesburg Police Department to work with Mr. Garner regarding the issue.

Following discussion, the Motion **to Deny** received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

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

Nays: 0

- V.4. 2017-547** Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of FY18 154 Alcohol Grant for \$66,504.00 from the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety to the Hattiesburg Police Department to reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities and alcohol-related injuries by the end of 2018.

1. Grant Agreement

A MOTION was made by Council Member Delgado and seconded by Council Member George to Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of FY18 154 Alcohol Grant for \$66,504.00 from the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety to the Hattiesburg Police Department to reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities and alcohol-related injuries by the end of 2018.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.5. 2017-556** Adopt a Resolution authorizing Requisition No. 72 from the Project Fund Construction Account in connection with a certain loan agreement, dated October 19, 2013, by and between the Mississippi Development Bank and the City of Hattiesburg.

1. 2013 Bond Resolution No. 72

A MOTION was made by Council Member Delgado and seconded by Council Member George to Adopt a Resolution authorizing Requisition No. 72 from the Project Fund Construction Account in connection with a certain loan agreement, dated October 19, 2013, by and between the Mississippi Development Bank and the City of Hattiesburg.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.6. 2017-557** Adopt a Resolution authorizing Requisition No. 7 from the Project Fund Construction Account in connection with a certain loan agreement, dated August 18, 2016, by and between the Mississippi Development Bank and the City of Hattiesburg.

1. 2016 Bond Resolution No. 7

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member Brown to Adopt a Resolution authorizing Requisition No. 7 from the Project Fund Construction Account in connection with a certain loan agreement, dated August 18, 2016, by and between the Mississippi Development Bank and the City of Hattiesburg.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.7. 2017-553** Approve Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Shows, Dearman, & Waits, Incorporated for the 2017 Water Improvements Project, changing the agreement amount from \$90,286.00 to \$145,785.00.

1. Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Approve Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and Shows, Dearman, & Waits, Incorporated for the 2017 Water Improvements Project, changing the agreement amount from \$90,286.00 to \$145,785.00.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.8. 2017-552** Authorize Mayor to execute contract between City of Hattiesburg and Warren Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$1,036,771.00 for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport Taxiway A Extension (A.I.P. Project No. 3-28-0031-0024-2017).

1. Contract for Execution
2. Taxiway Spec Book

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Authorize Mayor to execute contract between City of Hattiesburg and Warren Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$1,036,771.00 for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport Taxiway A Extension (A.I.P. Project No. 3-28-0031-0024-2017).

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.9. 2017-554** Approve and authorize Mayor to execute Grant Agreement 3-28-0031-024-2017 between the City of Hattiesburg and U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration in the amount of \$1,016,850 for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport Taxiway A Extension Project.

1. Grant Agreement to be executed

A MOTION was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member George to Approve and authorize Mayor to execute Grant Agreement 3-28-0031-024-2017 between the City of Hattiesburg and U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration in the amount of \$1,016,850 for the Hattiesburg Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport Taxiway A Extension Project.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.10. 2017-546** Approve and authorize Mayor to execute in triplicate a Contractor and Owner Agreement and a Housing Repair Grant Award to Reveita Moore of 206 South 14th Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 according to the Housing Rehabilitation and Housing Programs Manual Section VIII (E). {Entitlement}

1. Housing Repair Grant Award - 206 South 14th Avenue

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member Delgado to Approve and authorize Mayor to execute in triplicate a Contractor and Owner Agreement and a Housing Repair Grant Award to Reveita Moore of 206 South 14th Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 according to the Housing Rehabilitation and Housing Programs Manual Section VIII (E). {Entitlement}

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.11. 2017-545** Approve the sale of a personal service weapon Glock22 .40 caliber, Asset ID17290 serial number MUY548, to retired Lieutenant Jon Traxler, pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated 45-9-131.

1. Purchase of Service Weapon - Lt. Jon Traxler

A MOTION was made by Council Member George and seconded by Council Member Brown to Approve the sale of a personal service weapon Glock22 .40 caliber, Asset ID17290 serial number MUY548, to retired Lieutenant Jon Traxler, pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated 45-9-131.

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

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

Nays: 0

V.12. 2017-558 Designate the 2017 El Grito Latin Festival, to be held Saturday, August 19, 2017, in Town Square Park as part of the city's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, as a city-approved event for the purposes described in Ordinance Number 3148.

1. Vendor Letter
2. EGLF Flyer 2017

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Designate the 2017 El Grito Latin Festival, to be held Saturday, August 19, 2017, in Town Square Park as part of the city's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, as a city-approved event for the purposes described in Ordinance Number 3148.

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

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

Nays: 0

V.13. 2017-559 End the State of Emergency occurring as a result of a tornado on January 21, 2017.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member Brown to End the State of Emergency occurring as a result of a tornado on January 21, 2017.

Council member Delgado asked Mr. Barnes if everything is done; he replied in the affirmative and said there is one more day of clean-up.

Following discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

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

Nays: 0

V.14. 2017-563 Adopt a Resolution appointing Andrew Ellard as Director of Urban Development for the City of Hattiesburg.

1. Ellard-Resume
2. Ellard-Resolution

A MOTION was made by Council Member George and seconded by Council Vice President Dryden to Adopt a Resolution appointing Andrew Ellard as Director of Urban Development for the City of Hattiesburg.

Council member Delgado made comments that applied to Policy Agenda Items VI.-14, VI.-16 and VI.-17. She said that this item bothers her with regard to salary because the salary of city employees has always been an issue, and a problem when most of the people doing the work are not being paid a living wage. She said she understands the value of combining two departments, but said this candidate has a lack of experience in planning, so the city will need a person with considerable experience in planning to buttress him.

Council member Delgado said that creating new positions is also a problem. She said that have not talked about the budget yet and appreciates that budget talks will be open. She said that, for example with Item 16, a new position is being created for \$50,000 when the city needs more police officers. Regarding Item 17, she said that the salary was not as high, but still involves creating a new position when salaries of employees have not been addressed. She said this is not the time, and distributed information to the Mayor, Council, City Clerk and City Attorney about an HPD officer who she said has taken on additional duties but not received additional pay. She concluded by saying that she does not disagree with the urban development director's salary, but asked if the city can afford it when employees are critically underpaid.

Following discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

Yeas: 3 - George, Carroll and Dryden

Nays: 2 - Delgado and Brown

V.15. 2017-564 Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Delores McNair (W2) to the Hattiesburg School Board for a term beginning July 18, 2017 and ending March 3, 2022. (7-18-17- 3/3/2022).

1. Resume- McNair
2. Data Sheet- McNair

A MOTION was made by Council Member George and seconded by Council Vice President Dryden to Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Delores McNair (W2) to the Hattiesburg School Board for a term beginning July 18, 2017 and ending March 3, 2022. (7-18-17- 3/3/2022).

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

Yeas: 4 - George, Carroll, Dryden and Brown

Nays: 1 - Delgado

V.16. 2017-565 Approve or deny to create the position of Public Information Officer in the Police Department of the City of Hattiesburg at an annual salary of \$50,000.00, in accordance with Ordinance Number 3154.

1. Public Information Officer - Worksheet

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Approve to create the position of Public Information Officer in the Police Department of the City of Hattiesburg at an annual salary of \$50,000.00, in accordance with Ordinance Number 3154.

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

Yeas: 3 - George, Carroll and Dryden

Nays: 2 - Delgado and Brown

- V.17. 2017-566** Approve or deny to create the position of Community Initiatives Coordinator in the Municipal Court of the City of Hattiesburg at an annual salary of \$35,000.00, in accordance with Ordinance Number 3154.

1. Community Initiatives Coordinator - Worksheet

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Approve to create the position of Community Initiatives Coordinator in the Municipal Court of the City of Hattiesburg at an annual salary of \$35,000.00, in accordance with Ordinance Number 3154.

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

Yeas: 4 - George, Carroll, Dryden and Brown

Nays: 1 - Delgado

- V.18. 2017-569** Adopt a Resolution setting Public Hearing before City Council on at 5 p.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2017 to determine if the property at 1101 Main Street, Mt. Carmel Church, is in such a state of imminent danger so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community and providing for notice to owners and authorize publication of the notice hearing.

1. EM RES - 1101 Main St., Mt. Carmel Church
2. Memo- Mt.Carmel PH
3. Publication

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Mary Dryden and seconded by Council Member Jeffrey George to Adopt a Resolution setting Public Hearing before City Council on at 5 p.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2017 to determine if the property at 1101 Main Street, Mt. Carmel Church, is in such a state of imminent danger so as to be a menace to the health and safety of the community and providing for notice to owners and authorize publication of the notice hearing.

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

Yeas: 3 - George, Carroll and Dryden

Nays: 2 - Delgado and Brown

- V.19. 2017-571** Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Planning Commission for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

1. Dulana Reese Resume

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Planning Commission for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

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

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

Nays: 0

- V.20. 2017-570** Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Board of Adjustment for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

1. Dulana Reese Resume

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Ratify and confirm the Mayor's appointment of Dulana Reese (Ward 1) to the Board of Adjustment for a term (July 18, 2017 through July 17, 2020) beginning July 18, 2017 and ending July 17, 2020.

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

Yeas: 4 - George, Carroll, Dryden and Brown

Nays: 1 - Delgado

V.21. 2017-549 Review and comment on the 2017 Annual Action Plan Draft. {Entitlement}**1. 2017 Annual Action Plan Draft**

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council Member George to Review and comment on the 2017 Annual Action Plan Draft. {Entitlement}.

Council Vice President Dryden requested that the portions of the plan that mention Tenant-Based Rental Assistance be removed.

Clarence Williams stated that the request had been made to move \$50,000 from rehabilitation funds after the , but that prior to that, only about \$3,000 a year had been used . He asked Council Vice President Dryden if she wanted that removed, and she replied in the affirmative; she said that the city needs to focus on how people acquire ownership in homes and encourage them to rehab homes. Mr. Williams said that will be the mayor's decision; Mr. Williams said he will take it under consideration.

Following discussion, the Motion received the affirmative vote of the Council as follows:

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

Nays: 0

VI. ROUTINE AGENDA

THE ROUTINE AGENDA came before the Council.

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council member Delgado to approve the Routine Agenda.

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

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

Nays: 0

VI.1. 2017-542 Acknowledge receipt of monthly budget report for the month ending June 30, 2017.

- 1. Expenditure 6-30-17**
- 2. Revenue 6-30-17**

- VI.2. 2017-543** Authorize and approve issuance of manual check for CDBG Program Claim per the attached memorandum. {Entitlement CDBG}
1. Request for Payment for Breakthrough Community Services.
- VI.3. 2017-540** Approve the sale of grave spaces per attached memos and receipts.
1. Grave memo-7-18-17
 2. Deeds (07-18-17)
 3. Receipts 7-18-17
- VI.4. 2017-555** Approve claims docket for the period ending July 14, 2017.
1. DOCKET 17.07-14
 2. Docket Addendum, 7-13-17
 3. MEMO - Docket Addendum for July 5, 2017

Executive Session

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council member George to consider the need to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters **related to the GRN lawsuit and negotiations on water rates**, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (b).

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

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

Nays: 0

A MOTION was made by Council Vice President Dryden and seconded by Council member George to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters **related to the GRN lawsuit and negotiations on water rates**, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (b).

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

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

Nays: 0

Those present for the Executive Session were Mayor Barker; Council members George, Delgado, Carroll, Dryden and Brown; Ms. Jones; Mr. Eaton; Attorney Amos; Keith Turner and Louis Lanoux of Watkins & Eager law firm; Attorney John Scanlon from Pyle, Mills, Dye and Pittman Attorneys at Law; and Ms. Bernardo.

Attorneys Turner and Lanoux left the room at 5:51 p.m. and returned at 6:17 p.m.

Attorney Scanlon left the room at 6:15 p.m.

Council member George left the room at 6:17 p.m. and returned at 6:18 p.m.

Attorneys Turner and Lanoux left the room at 6:30 p.m.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

A MOTION was made by Council member Delgado and seconded by Council Vice President Dryden to come out of Executive Session and re-open the meeting to the public at 6:32 p.m.

Adjourned

By unanimous consent, Council President Bradley adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m., this the 18th day of July, A.D., 2017.