

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF AUGUST 21, 2007  
OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
OF THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Southaven, Mississippi met in Regular Session on the twenty-first day of August, 2007, at six o'clock (6:00) p.m. at City Hall.

**Present were:**

<b>Charles G. Davis</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Greg Guy</b>	<b>Alderman, at Large</b>
<b>James Stark</b>	<b>Alderman, Ward 2</b>
<b>Jim Loftis</b>	<b>Alderman, Ward 3</b>
<b>Paul Ollar</b>	<b>Alderman, Ward 4</b>
<b>Ricky Jobes</b>	<b>Alderman, Ward 5</b>
<b>Randall Huling</b>	<b>Alderman, Ward 6</b>

**Absent was Alderman Lorine Cady, Ward I. Also present were Mark Sorrell, City Attorney, Glenda Smallwood, City Clerk, Chris Wilson, City Administrator, Whitney Choat, City Planner, and Bradley Wallace, Director of Operations. Approximately fifteen (15) other people were present.**

**Mayor Davis called the meeting to order. Alderman Loftis opened the meeting with prayer. Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Guy, a motion was made by Alderman Guy to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2007 with any corrections, deletions, or additions necessary. Motion seconded by Alderman Jobes. Motion passed unanimously.**

**CITIZEN'S AGENDA**

**Ginger Adams, Director of Southaven Chamber of Commerce came before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to request sponsorship for the Athena Awards Program, an International Program held annually and is now in it's fifth year in Southaven. This program recognizes both men and women who demonstrate excellence, creativity, and imitate in their business or profession; provide valuable service by contributing time and Entergy to improve the quality of life for others in the community and actively assist women in realizing their full leadership potential. She reported Alderman Lorine Cady was the first recipient in 2002. She stated that is has just recently come to her attention that the City of Southaven has decided not to sponsor the event this year as it is being held outside the City. She reported the Athena Awards Program was held on the Tunica Queen last year and received favorable comments. She asked that the City of Southaven reconsider their**

sponsorship of the 2007 Athena International Award Event. She thanked the Mayor and Board for allowing her to speak. Mayor Davis called for questions or comments. Alderman Jobs commended Ms. Adams for her excellent presentation. Alderman Jobs asked if the Athena Awards is a Southaven Event or a County wide event. Ms. Adams stated this is a North Mississippi event and the City of Southaven has been a \$5,000 sponsor in the past and that is the request this year. Mayor Davis stated that last year some of the Aldermen were not aware that the sponsorship was going outside of the City and he felt like this should not be an administrative decision but a decision made by the Board. He stated that he feels this is a good program. Alderman Ollar asked Ms. Adams about the viewing from the three levels of the boat. Alderman Jobs stated that the issue is the \$5,000 sponsorship going outside of the City of Southaven. Alderman Ollar asked if \$5,000 was an average sponsorship and Ms. Adams stated it is the top level of sponsorship. Alderman Guy asked if the County or any other City is sponsoring this event. Ms. Adams stated that this is a Southaven Chamber Event and no other City participates in it. Alderman Loftis stated that he does object to the event being held outside of the City. Mayor Davis reported we are going to move to other business and come back to this later in the meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING A PAYING AGENT**

**A motion was made by Alderman Guy to adopt RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN MISSISSIPPI APPROVING A PAYING AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI , AND REGIONS BANK, WHOSE CORPORATE TRUST OFFICE IS IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF COMBINED WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2007, OF THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF FIVE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,400,000). Motion seconded by Alderman Stark. Motion was put to a roll call vote and passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

#### **Roll call was as follows:**

<b>Alderman Guy</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Cady</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Alderman Stark</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Loftis</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Ollar</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Jobs</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Huling</b>	<b>Yea</b>

**A copy of aforesaid Resolution is hereby attached to and made a part of these minutes.**

## **RESOLUTION TO CLEAN PROPERTY**

**A motion was made by Alderman Guy to adopt RESOLUTION TO CLEAN PRIVATE PROPERTY. ADDRESSES ARE: 1203 THAMES DRIVE, 345 GARDEN WALK SOUTH, 1191 SCOTT COVE, 2334 CARROLTON DRIVE, 729 VALLEY SPRINGS DRIVE, 8370 OLD FORGE DRIVE, AND 5717 STEFANIE DRIVE. Motion seconded by Alderman Huling. Motion was put to a roll call vote and passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

**Roll call was as follows:**

<b>Alderman Guy</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Cady</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Alderman Stark</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Loftis</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Ollar</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Jobes</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Huling</b>	<b>Yea</b>

**A copy of aforesaid Resolution is hereby attached to and made a part of these minutes.**

## **BIDS-ALUMINUM POLES**

**Mayor Davis reported that we were not able to negotiate a compromise with Entergy to locate on their existing poles for our Magnolia Wave new mesh network system. A motion was made by Alderman to accept the bid of Hale Electric in the amount of \$288.83 per pole as the lowest and best bid. Motion seconded by Alderman Huling. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

## **PLANNING AGENDA**

**Whitney Choat, City Planner presented the Planning Agenda. Item #1 Application to vacate 154 acres of the Hull Dobbs P.U.D. A motion was made by Alderman Huling to approve item #1. Motion seconded by Alderman Guy. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

**Item #2 Request for a scrivener's error at Snowden Grove for a street name change. The request is to be change Merrimac Street to Corinth Way. We already have a Merrimac Drive. A motion was made by Alderman Guy to approve item #2. Motion seconded by Alderman Huling. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

## **BUDGET REVISION**

- **Mayor Davis reported that before we look at the new budget we need to amend the existing budget. A motion was made by Alderman Guy to adopt RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE AMENDED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 FOR THE CITY OF SOUTHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI. Motion seconded by Alderman Huling. Mayor Davis reported:**
  - **Revenues are increasing by \$1,246,500. We are adding new money to this year's budget.**
  - **All of the revenue projections have been collected except for the General Sales Tax. We have to collect \$300,000 in our next check. He reported we are collecting close to 1M each month.**
  - **Increasing Professional Fees**
  - **Increasing Court Fines that we pay back to the State**
  - **Infrastructure CIP \$600,000. This will allow us to finish the three lanes on Tchulahoma before the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.**
  - **Bond Funded Capital Projects-We received \$50,000 more in grant for the Library**
  - **Tourist & Convention Fund - We collected \$152,000 more**
  - **Sanitation Fund has collected \$85,000 more**
- Police Department got the second largest increase at \$106,000 through several different line items.**
- The motion was put to a roll call vote and passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

**Roll call was as follows:**

<b>Alderman Guy</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Cady</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Alderman Stark</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Loftis</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Ollar</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Jobes</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Huling</b>	<b>Yea</b>

**A copy of aforesaid Resolution is hereby attached to and made a part of these minutes.**

## **FY 08 BUDGET**

- ❖ Mayor Davis reported the highlights of the budget are:
- ❖ **NO PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE THIRD YEAR**
- ❖ **FY 08 BUDGET IS LOWER THAN THE 07 BUDGET AS AMENDED BY SOME \$878,000.**
- ❖ **CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY**
- ❖ **ADDED 5 NEW PATROL OFFICERS, 6 NEW PARAMEDICS WHICH WILL PUT OUR FOURTH AMBULANCE INTO SERVICE**
- ❖ **WE HAVE 1.9M IN THE BUDGET FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS FOR NEXT YEAR**
- ❖ **STREAMLINING OUR PLANNING AND ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTS BY COMBINING THEM THROUGH A RECEPTIONIST AND OFFICE SPACE LOCATION. THAT MOVE ALONE BY NOT FILLING SOME VACANT POSITIONS IS SAVING THE CITY \$58,000.**
- ❖ **IMPROVED OUR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EFFECTIVNESS. WE WILL NO LONGER HAVE A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND AN ANIMAL CONTROL DIRECTOR. WE WILL HAVE A MUNICIPAL CODE ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANIMAL CONTROL AND CODE ENFORCEMENT.**
- ❖ **Healthy reserve balances. Some money will be moved to the CIP Program and some we will use for debt retirement.**
- ❖ **\$4,150 Per employee health care coverage.**
- ❖ **State Retirement match went from 9.50% to 12.50% in the last couple of years.**
- ❖ 

<b>General Millage</b>	<b>20.78</b>
<b>Debt Retirement</b>	<b>17.2</b>
<b>Sanitation Millage</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>Library Millage</b>	<b>0.75</b>
<b>Total Millage</b>	<b>44.73</b>
- ❖ **Assessed Value is approaching the 400M mark with Southaven having the highest assessed value of any other City in the County.**
- ❖ **55% of the General Fund Budget goes to Public Safety.**
- ❖ **Mayor Davis commended the Department of Finance and Administration for working to keep our Health Care Coverage increase down to \$150. The City will pay 100 % on the Health Fund, but if the employee chooses the PPO they will have to pay the difference.**
- ❖ **Taxes do not pay for any utilities. That is a special fund and monies collected from the water bills go back into the water department. The 6 mills collected on property tax for Sanitation must go into Sanitation. Residents 65 and older do not pay taxes**

on the first \$75,000 on their home. We have some 1,400 in Southaven out of 15,000 that pay no property tax and they are also getting their sanitation service free.

- ❖ Mayor Davis reported we bring in 14.2 Million per year in property taxes. We spend 16.6 Million per year on Public Safety. Every dollar we collect plus another 2 Million is spent on Public Safety. Mayor Davis thanked the staff and city employees. They cross trained, combined job duties and worked with this administration so that we can continue to increase our Public Safety budgets to make sure we stay ahead of the curve on crime, on response times, ambulance service, and fire services. Our fire rating is now a 4 because of this.
- ❖ Overall the Library Fund is 1%, Debt Service is 14%, Tourism fund is 1%, Sanitation Fund is 4%, Utility Fund is 25% and General Fund is 56%.
- ❖ We collect more money in sales tax than in property tax.
- ❖ Southaven is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest City in Mississippi and all of Government is only 9% of the entire city budget.
- ❖ Water rates are lower in Southaven than any other city in DeSoto County.
- ❖ Based on a \$100,000 home the cost of living is lower in Southaven by some \$125.00 than any other City in DeSoto County.
- ❖ A retired person (65 or older) living in Southaven in a \$100,000 home spends \$367.00 per year in city services such as tax, water, sewer, and sanitation.
- ❖ City of Southaven property tax rates have stayed the same for three years.
- ❖ City employee raises are 3% in the budget.

Mayor Davis asked for any questions on the budget. Hearing none he reported the meeting will be voted on at the first meeting in September.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATES**

Mark Sorrell, City Attorney, reported that on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007 Mr. Roach's daughter was operating his vehicle on Stateline Road and was hit by a police officer. He reported that after investigation he found the officer to be at fault and his recommendation is to pay the claim of 619.26. A motion was made by Alderman Loftis to pay the claim of Mr. Roach in the amount of \$619.26. Motion seconded by Alderman Jobes. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.

#### **CLAIMS DOCKET**

A motion was made by Alderman Stark to approve docket of claims on this date August 21, 2007 including demand checks, and payroll checks and excluding voucher # 87026 thru 87032, 87079, 87082, 87126, 87272, 87316, 87350, 87361, 87365 87415, 87455, 87501, 87520, 87646, and 87648. Motion seconded by Alderman Loftis. Motion was put to a roll call vote and passed unanimously.

**Roll call was as follows:**

<b>Alderman Guy</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Cady</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Alderman Stark</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Loftis</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Ollar</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Jobs</b>	<b>Yea</b>
<b>Alderman Huling</b>	<b>Yea</b>

**Mayor Davis reported he issued a voluntary water restriction request. He reported we have the capacity to pump 14.5 million gallons per day. We peaked at 11 million gallons being pumped out. The problem was that it was all being pumped out at the same time. He reported we never got into the danger zone. He thanked all of our residents for helping out. He reported we have dropped to 7.7 million gallons. He reported we will continue to monitor it during the heat wave.**

**Next, Alderman Guy moved for a closed determination on the issue of whether or not to go into Executive Session. Hearing no objections, a motion was made by Alderman Guy to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel City wide and an economic development. Motion seconded by Alderman Loftis. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

**Next, a motion was made by Alderman Guy to approve a sponsorship for the Athena Awards Program in the amount of \$2,500 with the stipulation that from this time forward the City will support the Athena Awards Program with a monetary sponsorship only if the Awards Program is held in the City of Southaven. Motion seconded by Alderman Stark. Motion passed unanimously with Alderman Cady being absent.**

**Next, there being no more business to come before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, a motion was made by Alderman Guy to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderman Loftis.**

**Motion passed unanimously. Time 7:00 on August 21, 2007**

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**Charles G. Davis, Mayor**

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**Glenda Smallwood, City Clerk**

