

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Hernando met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Chip Johnson presiding. Aldermen present were: Sam Lauderdale, Sonny Bryant, Andrew Miller, Gary Higdon, Michael McLendon, Cathy Brooks, and Jeff Hobbs. Also present for the meeting were: City Clerk Katie Harbin, City Attorney Kenny Stockton, City Engineer Joe Frank Lauderdale, Planning Director Jared Darby, Fire Chief Hubert Jones, Police Chief Mike Riley, Public Works Director Gary McElhannon, Park and Recreation Director Dewayne Williams, Robert Long, Henry Bailey, Tom Valentine, Rubye Walton, Roy Ketchum, Kate Ketchum, John Tippitt, Wade Stark, Carolyn Richards, Rachel Cook, Rosanne Stewart, and Andrea Michael.

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### INVOCATION

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Alderman Miller gave the invocation.

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### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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Agenda  
City of Hernando  
Mayor and Board of Alderman  
Regular Meeting

April 1, 2014

6:00pm

- 1) Call the meeting to order
- 2) Invocation
- 3) Approve Agenda
- 4) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s 102793 – 103028 less 102800, 102801, 102811, 102941 - 102943
- 5) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s (Lauderdale) 102800, 102941 - 102943
- 6) Approve Docket of Claims No.'s (Miller) 102801
- 7) Approve Docket of Claims No. 102811 to Allied Waste Services \$32,169.73
- 8) Approve Minutes
- 9) Consent Agenda

- A) Authorize Gia Matheny and Jared Darby to attend the Closed Gas Station Conference in Orlando, FL on June 3 – 6, 2014, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses (All expenses will be reimbursed by the Brownfields Grant)
  - B) Authorize to set Public Hearing for April 15, 214: City of Hernando, Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, Amendment
- 10) Approve request for sponsorship for the A'Fair from the Optimist Club
  - 11) Approve request for street closings for the A'Fair on May 17,2013
  - 12) Request of a \$1,000.00 contribution to Healing Hearts
  - 13) Request of a \$6,000.000 contribution to the Historic Desoto Foundation
  - 14) Authorize to hire Alex Russell as a full time paramedic
  - 15) Authorize to hire D W Gilbert as the Building Official at \$46,000.00 a year
  - 16) Authorize the Mayor to sign a MOU between the City of Hernando and Desoto County to build the road to the soccer complex
  - 17) Authorize Mayor Johnson to sign the agreement with US Lawns to do the mowing at the interstate exit/entrance ramps
  - 18) Authorize the City of Hernando to apply for a \$10,000.00 overtime grant through the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety
  - 19) Cemetery Committee Recommendations
  - 20) Adjourn

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the agenda as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO.'S 102793 – 103028 LESS 102800, 102801, 102811, 102941 - 102943**

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The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No. 102793 – 103028 less 102800, 102801, 102811, 102941 - 102943 in the amount of \$1,015,935.89 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the docket of claims for payment as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting “Aye”: Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs and Alderman Lauderdale.

Those voting “Nay”: None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO. 102800, 102941 - 102943 (LAUDERDALE)**

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Alderman Lauderdale recused himself and left the room.

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No.102800, 102941 - 102943 in the amount of \$216,959.42 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs, and seconded by Alderman Bryant to approve the docket of claims for payment as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting “Aye”: Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting “Nay”: None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO. 102801 (MILLER)**

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Alderman Miller recused himself and left the room.

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No.102801 in the amount of \$37,979.83 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderwoman Brooks, and seconded by Alderman Higdon to approve the docket of claims for payment as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting “Aye”: Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting “Nay”: None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS NO. 102811 TO ALLIED WASTE SERVICES**

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Mayor Johnson stated that Allied Waste Services has not picked up the remaining cans and trash and he recommended that we do not pay this invoice until the remaining carts are picked up.

The Board of Aldermen were presented with a docket of claims No.102811 in the amount of \$32,169.73 for approval.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to table paying docket number 102811 and to put on the April 15, 2014 agenda. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Lauderdale.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 18, 2014**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Hobbs, and seconded by Alderman Miller to approve the Minutes from the regular Board Meeting on March 18, 2014 as presented. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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- A) Authorize Gia Matheny and Jared Darby to attend the Closed Gas Station Conference in Orlando, FL on June 3 – 6, 2014, and authorize to pay registration and travel expenses (All expenses will be reimbursed by the Brownfields Grant)
- B) Authorize to set Public Hearing for April 15, 214: City of Hernando, Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, Amendment

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderwoman Brooks to approve the consent agenda. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**APPROVE REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP FOR THE A'FAIR FROM THE OPTIMIST CLUB**

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Rachel Cook was present on behalf of the Optimist Club. Mrs. Cook presented the information to the Board.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, and seconded by Alderman McLendon to approve the request for sponsorship for the A' Fair from the Optimist Club in the amount of \$750.00 and City services. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014

**APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSINGS FOR THE A'FAIR ON MAY 17, 2013**

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Rachel Cook was present on behalf of the Optimist Club. Mrs. Cook presented the information to the Board.

Motion was duly made by Alderwoman Brooks, seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the request for street closings for the A' Fair from the Optimist club, on May 17, 2014. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman McLendon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**REQUEST OF \$1,000.00 CONTRIBUTION TO HEALING HEARTS**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Higdon approved the request to contribute \$1,000.00 to the Healing Hearts Child Advocacy Center. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, and Alderwoman Brooks.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**REQUEST OF \$6,000.00 CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORIC DESOTO  
FOUNDATION**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale, seconded by Alderman Hobbs to approve the contribution of \$6,000.00 to the Historic Desoto Foundation. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**AUTHORIZE TO HIRE ALEX RUSSELL AS A FULL TIME PARAMEDIC**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Higdon to authorize to hire Alex Russell as a full time Paramedic at the rate of \$13.65 per hour per the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, following the Fire Chief's recommendation. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, and Alderman Hobbs.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**AUTHORIZE TO HIRE DW GILBERT AS THE BUILDING OFFICIAL AT \$46,000.00  
YEARLY**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize to hire DW Gilbert as the Building Official at a rate of pay of \$46,000.00 per year, per the personnel committee's recommendation, following the recommendation of the Planning Director. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, and Alderman Lauderdale.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN A MOU BETWEEN THE CITY OF HERNANDO  
AND DESOTO COUNTY TO BUILD THE ROAD TO THE SOCCER COMPLEX**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, seconded by Alderwoman Brooks to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign a MOU between the City of Hernando and Desoto County to build the road to the soccer complex. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, and Alderman Bryant.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**AUTHORIZE MAYOR JOHNSON TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH US LAWN TO DO THE MOWING AT THE INTERSTATE EXIT/ENTRANCE RAMPS**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Higdon, seconded by Alderman McLendon to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign an agreement with US Lawns to do the mowing at the interstate exit/entrance ramps. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman Higdon, Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, and Alderman Miller.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF HERNANDO TO APPLY FOR A \$10,000.00 OVERTIME GRANT THROUGH THE MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY**

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Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Bryant to authorize the City of Hernando to apply for a \$10,000.00 overtime grant through the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderman McLendon, Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, and Alderman Higdon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

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Cemetery Committee Chairperson, Alderwoman Brooks, went over the committee's recommendations. The Committee recommended that the City of Hernando retain ownership while looking to get proposals for either a management company to manage the cemetery and/or for contracting the maintenance work out.

Roy Ketchum, 2765 Scott Rd, asked the Board what happens to the money from the sale of lots.

Mayor Johnson answered that it goes into the City's fund to help maintain the cemetery. It is not a perpetual fund.

Roy Ketchum, asked the Board, if it will become a burden when it becomes full?

Alderwoman Brooks answered that it wouldn't at this time.

Alderman Higdon stated that we will recommend hiring out, and being able to create that type of fund to maintain.

Roy Ketchum stated that it seems like a good idea to set up this fund.

Alderman Higdon stated that we will look into it.

Wade Stark, 145 Sweetbriar Ave, stated that he has been a residence since 1977; he thinks we should maintain the cemetery and have someone in house to maintain it. We should maintain ownership.

Carolyn Richards, 339 Kimber Lane, stated that she approves of the City maintaining the cemetery. She asked about the recommendations, if the Board will speak on it later and let the public speak on it.

Mayor Johnson stated that we would approve to accept proposals, and then bring it back to the Board for discussion and approval.

Alderman Miller stated that he was opposed to even putting it out there to a management company and thinks we should keep in house and save the money, use our resources.

Alderwoman Brooks stated that we would just want to see what we could get from a management company.

Alderman Miller stated that he thinks our personnel can handle it and we should keep it in house.

Alderman Higdon stated that we are protecting the tax payer's money by getting the best price.

Alderman Hobbs asked why the committee recommended keeping and not sale.

Alderwoman Brooks answered that the families that are buried there expect/wish for the City to keep the cemetery. Once you give it up, it's gone, we can't get it back. We need to try to do a better job and see if we can keep it maintained better before we sale.

Alderman Hobbs stated that a funeral home would set up a perpetual fund.

Alderwoman Brooks stated that they would have to, but that doesn't mean they would do a good job.

Wade Stark stated that he bought a policy from an insurance company years ago, that is now out of business. Now that policy is not worth anything. The cemetery needs to be a part of the City.

Andrea Michael, 5720 River Pointe Dr Southaven, stated that she is not a resident of Hernando, but her family has been since it was the Town of Jefferson. The founder set aside land for a cemetery, not land for parks, baseball, etc. Every city should provide a cemetery. It should be kept up so it's a welcome place for citizens to come. Citizens are very concerned about the up keep.



Roy Ketchum stated that it is a part of our town, who we are, and where our relatives are. Don't sell it.

Alderman McLendon stated that this wasn't about money. It was about sympathy for grieving families. It was about mistakes. We have to care. Little things can help improve. It's about being proud of something we have.

Dianne Harris Tumbleton stated that her entire family is there, the ones that aren't will be. Someone needs to look over employees that maintain it.

Rubye Walton, 2655 Fields Road Tunica, asked if a portion of the pennies for parks will go towards the cemetery.

Alderman Lauderdale stated that he wanted to keep the cemetery. The committee found that the City can maintain it. A perpetual fund is one of the many things we need to look into.

Motion was duly made by Alderman Miller, seconded by Alderman Lauderdale to table this item for the committee to come back with proposals for a management company and/or proposals for contracting out for maintenance work at the cemetery, with the City of Hernando retaining ownership. A vote was taken with the following results:

Those voting "Aye": Alderwoman Brooks, Alderman Hobbs, Alderman Lauderdale, Alderman Bryant, Alderman Miller, Alderman Higdon, and Alderman McLendon.

Those voting "Nay": None.

ORDERED AND DONE this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2014.

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### ADJOURN

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There being no further business at this time a motion was duly made by Alderman Lauderdale, seconded by Alderman Bryant to adjourn.

Motion passed with a unanimous vote of "Aye".

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MAYOR CHIP JOHNSON

ATTEST:

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KATIE HARBIN, CITY CLERK