

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF LEFLORE
CITY OF GREENWOOD**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL was held this Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Greenwood City Hall, it being the time and place for holding said meeting.

There were present at this meeting, Mayor Carolyn McAdams, Attorney Don Brock, Jr., Councilpersons Johnny Jennings, Ronnie Stevenson, Andrew Powell, David Jordan, and Carl Palmer, City Clerk Kim Williams and Council Clerk Tamira Brown. Councilpersons Lisa Cookston and Charles E. McCoy, Sr. being absent.

Also present were: Kimberly Smith, Trish Bosarge, Deveda Dillon, Anjuan Brown, Riley Overend, Tommy Gregory, Chris Williams, Taxpayers Channel and Gerard Edic, Commonwealth Newspaper.

Also present were: Mayor's Secretary Bettie Ray, Public Works Director Susan Bailey, Fire Chief Marcus Banks and Police Chief Jody Bradley.

IN RE: AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilperson David Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Carl Palmer, to adopt the agenda. A vote was taken, Councilpersons Johnny Jennings, Ronnie Stevenson, Andrew Powell, David Jordan, and Carl Palmer all voted YEA. Councilpersons Lisa Cookston and Charles E. McCoy Sr. being absent. The President declared the motion passed and adopted.

Council President Ronnie Stevenson opened up addressing housekeeping. He asked about the next Council meeting, asking what days are good for them to meet. Collectively, they agreed on Thursday, November 5, 2020 for the first Council meeting in November.

Motion was made by Councilperson David Jordan, seconded by Councilperson Carl Palmer, to change the meeting date of the November 3, 2020 Council Meeting to November 5, 2020. A vote was taken, Councilpersons Johnny Jennings, Ronnie Stevenson, Andrew Powell, David Jordan, and Carl Palmer all voted YEA. Councilpersons Lisa Cookston and Charles E. McCoy Sr. being absent. The President declared the motion passed and adopted.

Council President Ronnie Stevenson encourages everyone to fill out the census.

Councilperson David Jordan explained briefly on how much money Greenwood lose when people do not fill out their census properly.

Councilperson Lisa Cookston entered the meeting.

Council President Ronnie Stevenson suggested that we post an advertisement encouraging people to fill out their census.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

IT IS ORDERED that claims and accounts appearing on the Docket of Claims be allowed and paid out of the funds as shown. That said Claims appearing in Claims Docket Book 66, and evidenced by Claims Numbers 6458 through 6608 inclusive be paid by Check Numbers 13689 through 13823 inclusive.

IN RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor McAdams welcomed everyone and started her report by introducing to the podium Kimberly Smith, Director of Crime Stoppers.

Ms. Smith explained that Crime Stoppers have been through many changes over the years; however, they are still thriving with a functional board. Ms. Smith invited Trish Bosarge, the Executive Director of Crime Stoppers, to the podium to explain what Crime Stoppers was and how it functioned.

Ms. Bosarge stated that she has held her position for seventeen years and though Crime Stoppers, for the State of Mississippi, has gone through administrative changes it has been one of the steady tools to help with budget issues. She said that there are currently thirty two (32) active programs in the State and explained that earlier she asked Chief Jody Bradley

what crime does he think the City of Greenwood struggle with most and concluded that gang violence and drug related crimes was our number one problem.

Council President Ronnie Stevenson stated that we have an even more serious problem and that murder was our number one concern.

Ms.Bosarge agreed and explained that she thinks the more serious issue is that citizens are simply afraid to report or give any leads and tips on crimes because people are afraid of retaliation from gangs. She also stated that the State of Mississippi is the most organized state and there are a law in place to garnish the way funding is spent. There is also a two dollar assessment fee for every misdemeanor fine, felony fine, municipal law enforcement ticket, county ticket or fine given by a justice court judge, or NHP ticket that is given in Leflore or Carol County added to fund the Crime Stoppers program and as for the board, it is usually formed by recruitment of prestigious or active members of the community. However, it is the responsibility of Board of Supervisor and the public officials in the area to nominate good citizen. Once a Crime Stoppers is functioning, they are required to get audited each year, turn in financial quarterly reports, and file an IRS Tax returns because this program is a non-profit through the Secretary of The State Office. There are also bylaws in place that explain how a member of Crime Stoppers can have their position terminated.

Councilperson Charles E. McCoy, Sr. entered the meeting

Councilperson Johnny Jennings asked how we can convince citizens that their identity is concealed.

Ms.Bosarge explained that calls are answered by a national call service ran out of Texas, operators are bilingual, and crime stoppers also uses the P3, an anonymous crime reporting app, that compiles tips and leads. She also stated that when someone calls in to report a crime that their number is scrambled and there is no way for the "tipster" to be located.

Councilperson Johnny Jennings said that citizens need to know the integrity of the system and be made aware that they will remain anonymous.

Councilperson Andrew Powell suggested that we could possibly advertise Crime Stoppers to make known this program is a safe way to report crimes.

Ms.Bosarge explained your local program funds Crime Stoppers advertisements and suggested press release or newspaper advertisement to raise awareness.

Council President Ronnie Stevenson asked how can we move forth and get Crime Stoppers up and running.

Ms.Smith answered by saying we would need the community, police and sheriff involvement along with willing citizens.

Councilperson Lisa Cookston asked how can someone collect their reward and remains anonymous.

Ms.Bosarge explained by saying that they usually try to have a member on the committee who is a bank teller and tips and leads are weighed differently. This all depends on how helpful a tip is. All tips are typically given a tip number that a "tipsters" can call their Crime Stoppers line and check for updates on a particular case. Then they would be given direction as to when and where to pick up their reward.

Ms. Smith stated that any crime can be reported and if they the tip leads to an arrest, the tipster can be rewarded.

Ms.Bosarge reminded everyone that you cannot report a crime to the police directly and get a reward from Crime Stoppers, this also dissolves the immunity policy and you can be called to testify against that person or crime you reported.

Ms.Bosarge ended her presentation by saying that she believes Crime Stoppers is a great tool and she needs the help of willing police, sheriff and citizen to make this functional.

Mayor McAdams announced that our sales tax allocation this month was \$402,570. This is an increase of \$9,107 or 2.3% from September 2019. She said for the year, we have collected \$402,570, which is an increase of \$9,107, or 2.3% over this month last year.

Mayor McAdams asked Attorney Don Brock to talk to the Council about pan handling.

Attorney Don Brock reminded the Council about a resolution that was voted on last year about pan handling. He also mentioned a U.S. Supreme court case call Reed versus Gilbert that challenges pan handling ordinance.

Attorney Don Brock stated that Cities and ACLU's have used this case to argue that ordinances that try to regulate speech based on content involving pan handling unconstitutional.

Attorney Brock stated that ACLU is pressuring them to rid the pan handling ordinance and sixteen states were asked to remove it. He also stated that we have not enforced this ordinance either.

Councilperson Ronnie Stevenson stated that this matter will be addressed at the next meeting.

IN RE: PUBLIC AGENDA - NONE

IN RE: POLICY ISSUES AGENDA – NONE

IN RE: ROUTINE AGENDA

IN RE: CONSENT AGENDA

IN RE: MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilperson Charles E, McCoy Sr., seconded by Councilperson Ronnie Stevenson, to adopt October 06, 2020 Council Meeting. A vote was taken, Councilperson Johnny Jennings, Ronnie Stevenson, Charles E. McCoy, Sr., Andrew Powell, David Jordan, and Carl Palmer all voted YEA. The President declared the motion passed and adopted.

**ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL
RECEIVING THE PRIVILEGE
LICENSES REPORT OF THE
CITY CLERK FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2020**

- Adopted Unanimously

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT
OF \$2,500.00 TO MVSU LEFLORE
COUNTY ALUMNI CHAPTER
FOR AN EVENT SPONSORSHIP
IN THE HOMECOMING GOLF
CLASSIC**

- Adopted Unanimously

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
AND CITY CLERK TO DO ALL THINGS
REASONABLE AND NECESSARY TO PAY
ALL OBLIGATIONS ON THE DOCKET OF
CLAIMS**

WHEREAS, the City from time to time incurs necessary reasonable expenses;
and,

WHEREAS, all lawful obligations should be timely paid.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI:**

SECTION 1: The Mayor and the City Clerk should be and they are hereby authorized to do all things reasonable and necessary to pay all those obligations listed in the **“DOCKET OF CLAIMS,” BOOK 66, CITY OF GREENWOOD, OCTOBER 20, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.**

The above and foregoing resolution, after having been first reduced to writing and read by the Clerk of the Council, was introduced by Councilperson Charles E. McCoy, Sr., seconded by Councilperson Ronnie Stevenson, and was adopted by the following roll call to-wit:

YEAS

NAYS

Johnny Jennings
Lisa Cookston
Ronnie Stevenson
Charles E. McCoy, Sr.
Andrew Powell
David Jordan
Carl Palmer

**IN RE: ROUTINE ITEMS AGENDA
RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL SELECTING
CERTAIN PROFESSIONALS FOR
SERVICES REQUIRED IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
2016 HOME INVESTMENT
PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAM**

- Adopted Unanimously

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF
GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI,
ESTABLISHING LIMITATIONS
AND SETTING GUIDELINES
FOR TRICK OR TREATING**

- Adopted Unanimously

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF
GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI,
CANCELLING HALLOWEEN
TRICK-OR-TREATING FOR
OCTOBER 31, 2020**

- No action was taken

IN RE: STUDY AGENDA – NONE

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THIS MEETING WAS
ADJOURNED**

RONNIE STEVENSON, PRESIDENT

JOHNNY JENNINGS, VICE PRESIDENT

LISA COOKSTON

CHARLES E. MCCOY, SR.

ANDREW POWELL

DAVID JORDAN

CARL PALMER

CERTIFIED BY:

**KIM Y. WILLIAMS,
CITY CLERK**

--	--

--	--

