

FINANCE MEETING
February 11, 2014

The Finance Meeting of the City of Natchez met in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Butch Brown	
Alderman Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis	Ward 1
Alderman Rickey Gray	Ward 2
Alderman Sarah Carter Smith	Ward 3
Alderman Tony Fields	Ward 4
Alderman Mark Fortenbery	Ward 5
Alderman Dan Dillard	Ward 6

ALSO PRESENT:

City Clerk Donnie Holloway
City Attorney Hyde Carby
Temple Hendricks, Board Secretary
David Gardner
James Johnston
Sabrena Bartley
Curtis Norton
Connie Taunton

David Gardner, Engineering Department

Traffic poles-4 poles have been hit in this calendar year, one had insurance, two hit and runs and one driver who owed up to hitting but the driver had no insurance and no driver's license. Mr. Gardner said that his department is checking with Judge Blough to see if the city can get her to pay for pole when she appears in court.

There are 160 poles on the new section of the highway (by the scales) and they will be added to the insurance. There are already 190 poles which are insured for a \$7000.00 yearly premium. Last year 15 incidents occurred.

A discussion was held that the light which was hit by McDonald's will not be replaced-a policy that if a pole is in a location where it can easily be hit, it probably will not be replaced. Mr. Gardner suggested that if a pole is hit and the driver doesn't have insurance, he suggested that the pole not be reinstalled. Mayor Brown said that Curtis Norton reported that three downed poles are repairable. Mr. Norton had had taken the initiative to have components to repair damaged poles. Badly damaged poles are being used for parts.

Discussing street cuts, Atmos, through Miller Pipeline, has been upgrading their system and there are well over 100 street cuts. Mr. Gardner reported that it's a bad time of year to get asphalt and Atmos will fill the cuts with asphalt when available. Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis advised that the gas company had left Elm in such a condition that people's cars are getting stuck.

EWP Project-NRCS reports that they're ready to begin repairs on 213 Oakland, 1246 Daisy, 381 John R. Junkin, Laird Street, 1707 Merrill, Old Metcalf Alley and 502 West Stiers.

Colonnades-Consultant SSR had prepared the necessary environmental documents and paperwork had been submitted to MDOT. Engineering is waiting on a date from MDOT to set up an office review.

Regional Transit Facility came in \$22,000 under budget.

St. Catherine Street Trails-Engineering had submitted the plans which were 95% complete. Engineering had requested an office review from MDOT.

Bridge of Sighs- Engineering had received Preservation's approval on the concept. Now the plans need to be redone to reflect the changes.

Phase II-C : is about 95% complete on Maple and Pearl. A small section on Jefferson Street would be included (Canal Street by the auditorium).

Phase II-D: the design is underway. Area includes Daisy and Marblestone areas and trying to include Inez.

Mr. Carby said that he'd be presenting contracts that need to be executed:

The lease between the city and Yamaha had been finalized with Yamaha paying ad valorem taxes. The \$800.00 for lease of temporary carts would come out of Greg Brooking's budget.

A resolution had been completed which will finalize the TIF on the Holiday Inn Express and the resolution largely declared what had been done in the past so that the minutes can reflect what had occurred. The city can now finance the curb and gutter.

Mr. Carby advised that it's time to renew Jeffrey Ross contracts for two areas other than Duncan Park—city streets and parks and state ROWs. Mr. Gardner said that the flyover would be added in late spring, early summer. The contracts start on March 1.

Mayor Brown reported that the survey and appraisals have been completed on the parcel next to Choctaw. The buyer has said that he'd like to pay the city directly \$25,000.00. The buyer is ready to close on February 28th Mayor Brown will be asking, subject to approval of the city attorney and the appraisal and survey, for him to be approved to close the sale at the convenience of the buyer. Selling the site will not impede any activities at the auditorium. Mr. Carby said that state statute stated that the property can't sell for less than the appraised value.

A motion was made by Alderman Fortenbery to close the Finance meeting to make a determination that a valid reason existed to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carby advised that it had been determined that a valid reason existed to go into Execution Session which was the discussion of Engineering Department personnel

A motion was made by Alderman Fields, seconded by Alderman Dillard, to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderman Fields to remain in Executive Session to discuss personnel related to professional competence and termination of engineering personnel. Alderman Gray seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

After meeting in Executive Session, Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis made the motion to go out of Executive Session and adjourn to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Gray seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Larry L. "Butch" Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Donnie Holloway, City Clerk