

**REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2007**

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Natchez, Mississippi, was held in the City Council Chamber at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2007. Mayor Phillip C. West presided at the meeting, which was opened with prayer by Assistant Pastor Aaron Wesley of Egypt Baptist Church.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
<b>Phillip C. West</b> Mayor  <b>Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis</b> Aldерwoman, Ward 1  <b>Bob Pollard</b> Alderman, Ward 3  <b>J. "Ricky" Gray, Jr.</b> Alderman, Ward 2  <b>Theodore West</b> Alderman, Ward 4  <b>David Massey</b> Alderman, Ward 5  <b>Jake Middleton</b> Alderman, Ward 6		Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Everett Sanders, City Attorney Darlene D. Williams, Dep. City Clerk Sabrena Bartley, Senior Center Director Brett Brinegar, Grants Coordinator Paul Dawes, Building Official Salina Edwards, Recreation Department Meg Freeman, Engineering Department Henry Harris, Recreation Department Temple Hendricks, Secretary to Mayor Paul Johnson, Fire Chief Darlene Jones, Comm. Dev. Director Mike Mullins, Police Chief Eric Smith, Public Works Administrator Dennis Story, City Planner Katie Sthalcup, Natchez Democrat

**MINUTES APPROVED**

**A motion was made by Alderman West to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 28, 2007 and approve as submitted. The motion was seconded by Alderman Pollard. The motion carried unanimously.**

**BUSINESS OF THE MONTH - TURNING PAGES BOOKS & MORE**

Mayor West recognized Mrs. Mary Emerick, and Mrs. Pat Butler. Mayor West said the September, 2007 Business of the Month is Turning Pages Books & More. He said the Turning Pages Book Store owned by Mary Emerick and managed by Pat Butler opened its doors and has four (4) employees. Mayor West said since establishing the business they have renovated the new location at 520 Franklin Street. The book store provides book searches for customers, gift wrap, shipping and more. He said they have been sponsors for many programs, and are current members of the Natchez Chamber of

Commerce. Mayor West said when asked what the employees are most proud of the response was they are most proud of customers they have established over the years.

Mayor West congratulated Turning Pages Book & More for being chosen September, Business of the Month.

Alderman Pollard presented the certificate

## **ATTACHMENT**

### **VISITORS WELCOMED**

Mayor West welcomed all visitors to the meeting and asked that all comments be limited to three (3) minutes. He thanked all friends and citizens of Natchez Adams County for attending the meeting.

#### **a. Guy Green - Incognito LLC,**

Mayor West recognized Mrs. Guy Green.

Mrs. Guy Green, Co-founder of Incognito, LLC, said the company is a sports marketing company. Mrs. Green said she and her husband, Hugh Green are the owners of the company. Mrs. Green said she was present because of the partnership with USA Partners. The USA Partners are able to provide and help facilitate the funding and building of multi-purpose facilities. She said it is in the interest of all that they have come in contact with each other at the present time. Mrs. Green introduced her husband Hugh Green.

Mr. Hugh Green said the company currently has five major accounts across the company. He said his job is to bring in gentlemen labeled as Legends. Mr. Green said fund-raising events are to continue the process of what has been accomplished. The projects may vary from 200 million to 1.9 billion dollars. Mr. Green said one major project is in Northern Mississippi. He said they were affiliated with the Oak Grove High School facility in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mr. Green said the company follow the directions based on what they do nationally and the success they have in facilitating what Natchez is looking for. Mr. Green introduced Mr. J.D. Daniels of Jacksonville, FL as a major partner and the third partner is Marcus Stallworth. Mr. Green said the key element is not only providing a sports complex but to provide the children in the community with a pool. He said that will fall into place with the complex.

Mr. J.D. Daniels said he has been working with Hugh and Guy Green for several years. He said they suggested many times that they wanted to do something in Natchez. Mr. Daniels said the company has been raising money for ten years after he found the First Tee Program and it now has approximately 200 chapters. He said the idea behind the program was not to promote the sport of golf but to provide and enhance life skills for children. Mr. Daniels said as a company they want to provide a multi-sport facility. He said there is a large amount of funding opportunities available and the trick to the fund raising is assessing

federal funds from the Nike Foundation, PGA Tour, NFL and other large entities. He said the partnership will figure out the best possible way to compete for Natchez.

Mr. Daniels said last year health and human services appropriated over 1.2 billion dollars for youth obesity in America. He said Mississippi is the highest ranked in the category of youth obesity. A statewide program would allow them to compete for funding and help Natchez fulfill the need for a multi-sports facility. Mr. Daniels said the company will not work from consultant fees, we work from the success fee. If the company does not perform it will not be paid. For the past ten (10) years the partnership with Hugh and the Legends it gives the company another dimension. The benefit of youth sport tourism, the idea is bringing tournaments and camps to Natchez. He said there is a ten year track record of projects funded and documentation of where the money came from. The PGA Tour does matching grants. Mr. Daniels said the paperwork would be walked through to the decision makers for funding.

Mayor West requested comments from the Board.

Alderman Middleton questioned the name of the company.

Mrs. Green said the company name is Incognito, LLC, and the web site is [www.we-r-incognito.com](http://www.we-r-incognito.com).

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked what project did they have in the northern part of Mississippi.

Mr. Green said they are currently working with Tammy Davenport who owns a rehab facility for women who were incarcerated in the Vicksburg community. He said Ms. Davenport has been successful and decided that she wanted to give back to the community and founded the center. Mr. Green said in northern Mississippi the partnership is working with the casino group which is a 1.9 billion dollar project including six (6) casinos and six (6) hotel developments.

Mrs. Green said the Vicksburg project is posted on the website along with the Oak Grove facility and the Colorado facility. She said the base idea is coming in and doing one thing and branching out to bigger and better things. The bid is taken and discussed to provide help with the implementation of what is needed in the most costly way. Mrs. Green said the company is the resource the city will need to move a development forward. She said after the conversation with Mayor West it was noted that he would like the city to be better because there is so much to offer. She said the tourism that is established can be played upon. Mrs. Green said she would like to give back to their community.

Mr. Green said with the Hattiesburg project the football field was developed with the crum rubber base which would allow the facility to be used for an emergency evacuation site because it can easily be washed. Mr. Green said the partnership will review the needs of the city and evaluate what funding the City of Natchez will qualify for.

Mr. Daniels said Natchez should qualify for the rebate program. He said if Natchez does not compete the funds will automatically go to Vicksburg or Hattiesburg. Mr. Daniels said Natchez must take

advantage of what the State has in place as well as Federal funds. He said the partners hold fund-raising events and celebrity athletes get involved and give back to the communities. Mr. Daniels said a scheduled event would be a great opportunity for Natchez.

Mr. Green said he would like to know the wish list for the City of Natchez. He said the partnership would like to help complete the list for Natchez. Mr. Green said their successful rate has been extremely high.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis commended Mayor West for presenting the proposal. She said she appreciated Mr. & Mrs. Green for coming home with an idea to benefit Natchez. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said the group has provided a special ore for her to know that the home people care enough about the community.

Alderman Gray said he would like to see Natchez become a destination point. He said he kept the secret until after the recreational proposal was presented by Mayor West. He said he has respect for Mr. & Mrs. Green and he apologized for not providing the information to board before now.

Mr. Daniels said families are concerned with sending their children to events for safety reasons. He said families will not be able to go to New Orleans as a sports destination for ten (10) years so Natchez should be ready to step in and fill the void.

Mrs. Green said the benevolence begins at home, therefore they should be doing something special for the City of Natchez. She said she did not want people to question what they are doing in other places and not in our community. Mrs. Green asked for the opportunity to give back to Natchez.

Mayor West said God works in mysterious ways. Mayor West said he and Mr. Daniels worked on starting the First Tee Program in Natchez before Hurricane Katrina and then everything was put on hold. Mayor West thanked Mr. Daniels for his hard work for the City of Natchez. He said he did not know about the presentation before today until Mrs. Green made an appointment to talk to him the day following the proposal he made to the Board of Aldermen the night before. Mayor West said the commitment made by the partnership is greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Green said she assured Mayor West that whatever funding the City of Natchez would provide for the development the partnership would match. Mrs. Green said she would like to provide greatness for the community and create something to provide cultural awareness to the children.

Mayor West said the Partnership will be contacted for additional information.

Alderman West thanked Mr. & Mrs. Green, Mr. Daniels for the presentation and caring about the City of Natchez.

**b. Andrew Smith - Aubudon Terrace, Round Stone Development**

Mayor West recognized Mr. Andrew Smith and requested comments.

Mr. Andrew Smith said he was representing Round Stone Development, Dallas Texas in the submittal of the development plans submitted to the City of Natchez Planning Department for review. He said as a courtesy to the Mayor & Board of Aldermen he wanted to share the development plans.

Mr. Smith presented the revised development plans to the Mayor & Board for review. He said the developer would like to construct sixty-five (65) affordable homes in the Audubon Terrace neighborhood which will include a clubhouse facility, swimming pool and recreation. Mr. Smith said the development will meet and exceed all the requirements for the development. The developer awaits the review by the Planning Commission. The plans submitted is a copy of the revised site plan. Mr. Smith asked if there were comments.

Mayor West requested comments.

Alderman West asked Mr. Smith if he and the developer were aware of the opposition to the development from the area residents.

Mr. Smith said he was aware that a petition was submitted to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. He said during his tenure with the City of Natchez there was opposition to the development in the area. The Planning Department staff did inform him of the recent petition of opposition.

Alderman Gray questioned the financing of the development.

Mr. Smith said the development is a 8.7 million dollar project. He said it will be financed using affordable housing credits issued by the State of Mississippi Home Corporation.

Alderman Gray asked if the development would use low income tax credits.

Mr. Smith said low income tax credits would be used. He said the Federal Housing Tax Credit program mandates that a certain number of the occupants must fall between the 60-80 percent median income for the census tract for the municipal jurisdiction.

Alderman Gray asked again if the development is strictly for low income residents.

Mr. Smith said the program is geared toward providing affordable housing to individuals in the low to moderate income range.

Alderman Gray asked if each home will be rented or purchased by the individual.

Mr. Smith said the homes will initially be leased for a period of ten (10) years with the maintenance being provided by the project manager. He said the development will be handled by a property management company who will be responsible for the maintenance of the property during the lease period.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Smith if he was familiar with the notice of opposition and the environmental study that indicated that the site may contain contamination from the Krouse Metal Company. Alderman Gray said he was informed of residents who filed a lawsuit regarding the condition of the property from the metal company. He said he could not agree with a development being brought in that would endanger the lives of the residents in the community. Alderman Gray said he was tired of people wanting to develop property in the black community that will eventually harm the families. He said good money is not always good money, the lives of the citizens is more important. Alderman Gray said the residents in the community do not want the development in the area and submitted a petition in opposition. He said he was amazed to see that Mr. Smith would be working for the developer knowing of the situation.

Mr. Smith said he did appreciate the concerns of Alderman Gray and truly respect his position. Mr. Smith said there was a Phase I environmental assessment in terms of what the developer shared with him. The Phase I assessment required a Phase II assessment because of the possible concerns on the site. Mr. Smith said based on information he received from the Geo-Technical engineer was the concern with the existing railroad. He said the railroad was constructed using crossties for the cross ties. Mr. Smith said all departments will receive a copy of the assessment and if contamination is found he would be assured that the City of Natchez would not be in agreement with the development of the site.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Smith if he was aware of David Strange and the public hearing held for the residents to inform them of the proposed development. Alderman Gray noted that Mr. Smith is working for a company that is telling lies to the community residents. Alderman Gray said he has personally known Mr. Smith as a good person but the developer has lied and it does not look good in the community.

Mr. Smith said his purpose was to share the information of the development. He said if there are concerns from the Mayor and Board of Alderman he would encourage them to address them with the developer. Mr. Smith said David Strange is no longer associated with the development. He said the concerns have been heard loud and clear and he encouraged the process be allowed and the opposition will be heard. Mr. Smith said he received calls regarding the proposal and the comments he made were the application was submitted for consideration on behalf of Round Stone Development and all concerns would be addressed by the developer.

Alderman Gray said there are programs in place to address the concerns of housing. He said the city is trying to clear out the abandoned properties. He said if the community is in need of housing, a non-profit group should assist the city in the construction of houses. Alderman Gray said it is unfair for citizens to rent/lease property for 10-15 years and then be offered the opportunity to purchase it. Alderman Gray said drugs are bad for the community and you know this, and this is very similar it is a bad situation and you know it. He said he will not agree with to have the residents of Ward 2 put in the situation of losing their lives by living on a contaminated site.

Alderman West asked why the developer is interested in placing the development on the site and packing additional housing in an area that is over crowded.

Mr. Smith said it is his understanding that when it comes to affordable housing tax credit programs the development location must be in a certain census tract to qualify for the tax credits. He said the census tracts that qualify in the City of Natchez are in the minority areas of the community. He said the current housing stock must be reviewed and the existing housing conditions. Mr. Smith said the reason the site was chosen was because of the variables associated with the census tract.

Alderman West noted that a public hearing was held last year and many residents vocally opposed the development. He said there were other meetings held and petitions submitted for the record objecting to the development. Alderman West asked if it was the intent of the developer to push the project on the residents know of the opposition.

Mr. Smith said he understood everything said and the position of the developer is they purchased the large tract of land and they have gone through the process for review for the development of the housing project. He said whether the developer will move forward with the development knowing that there is a recommendation prepared by the Board of Aldermen that would moralize the position, he could not speak to that. Mr. Smith said his responsibility was to provide the information regarding the development and he will respect the position of the city.

Mr. Smith said if there is a uniformed message the developer will be amenable to that.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said the city is in the process of proceeding with demolition of vacant abandoned and burned properties. She said there was a meeting held and a group visited the Hope 6 Project in Meridian, Mississippi and Memphis, Tennessee. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said there is the philosophy to do scattered housing. She asked if the developer would look at breaking the housing development throughout the census tract.

Mr. Smith said if the City of Natchez assembled lots and approached a tax credit approved developer and noted that there are sixty lots in the land bank. The developer would possibly consider the scattered lots instead of a site development as long as it would meet the census tract requirements. Mr. Smith said any lot North of Madison Street bordered by the railroad tract would meet the requirements.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked if the city would have to own the land to have a land bank. She asked if the developer would purchase lots within the census tract.

Mr. Smith said the developers would not be interested in the purchase of individual lots.

Alderman West asked Attorney Sanders if it would be in order for the Board to make a formal motion objecting to the development.

Attorney Sanders said a motion would not be in order at this time. He said the request was not presented to the Board for a formal decision. Attorney Sanders said the presentation was for informational purposes only.

Mayor West said the normal process of the review would not begin with the Board of Aldermen. He said the site plan request would be reviewed by the Planning Commission before coming before the Board of Aldermen. Mayor West said any motion at this time would be out of order.

Alderman Gray said the Board must send out a message indicating the type of housing needed within the community. He said the developer is aware that the residents do not want a development in the area that will stack hundreds of residents in one subdivision.

Mayor West said the City Planning Commission is listening to what has been presented and from a legal aspect if and when a ruling is made and it comes to the Board of Aldermen that would be the time for action. Mayor West said if there are matters of litigation the City will be in a better position if no formal action is taken at this time. Mayor West said if a motion or recommendation is made at this time it could be considered as being biased.

Mayor West thanked Mr. Smith for the presentation.

### **c. Walter Brown**

Mayor West recognized Attorney Brown and requested comments.

Attorney Brown noted that the United States Justice Department approved the Charter Amendment presented on July 17, 2007, to alter the composition of the Natchez Metropolitan Planning Commission. He said the approval would go into effect immediately. Attorney Brown said the new Natchez City Planning Commission will consist of the current city appointed members and the five (5) Board of Adjustment members who will serve until their terms are over. There will be a fourteen member commission serving by attrition until the five Board of Adjustment members terms expire, and the final number of members will be nine (9).

Attorney Brown asked that the information be placed on the minutes. He said the Planning Commission will convene with the new members to go about the work of the commission.

### **ATTACHMENT**

Attorney Brown said the proposed Development Code is being finalized, and it will include the planning regulations into one composite document. He thanked Mr. Story, Ms. Fox and everyone who participated in the development of the document.

Attorney Brown said the Development Code is before the Mayor and Board along with four (4) recommendations from the Planning Commission. He said the code is before the board for action as you deem appropriate within the next weeks to consider and adopt it. Attorney Brown said it will take thirty (30) days for the code to go into effect. He said pending action at the September 25, 2007 board meeting the Development Code would go into effect November 1, 2007. The adoption of the Development Code will end forty (40) years of the Natchez Metropolitan Planning Commission. There will no longer be



jurisdiction outside of the city limits.

Attorney Brown asked that the Board formally receive the Development Code and take up the adoption as soon as possible.

Alderswoman Arceneaux-Mathis said the board decided to hold a work session to discuss the amendments presented by the Planning Commission prior to the adoption of the Development Code. She asked that a work session date be set to review the code and understand what they are adopting.

Mayor West said the work session will be scheduled following the finalization of the budget.

Attorney Brown said the litigations for the First Baptist Church were not processed because there is a new owner. He said the owners are present and were advised to meet with Mr. Story, Planning Director, Mr. Dawes, Building Official and the Natchez Preservation Commission to understand fully what the requirements are in respect to the historic building.

Attorney Brown introduced Mr. Jim Thompson, Dream Homes as the new owner of the Old First Baptist Church Building, Main Street.

Mr. Thompson said he and his sister purchased the property and would like to make plans to renovate the site. He said there are no immediate plans other than to clean the building and make the necessary repairs to secure and stabilize it. Mr. Thompson said the major plan is to provide a structure that is worthy for the community. He said he understood that the church has a large amount of history and his family would like to add to that history.

Mr. Thompson introduced his sister Judy Weathersby.

Mrs. Weathersby noted that the property would be renovated into a mixed use facility and townhouses/condominiums for the second floor. She said they are in the process of having an architect review the structural damage and they will follow the proper procedures. Mrs. Weathersby asked if they would be allowed to remove the stained glass windows from the building during renovations and have them stored for safety reasons. She said there are approximately one hundred windows to be removed and stored. The small equipment that will be needed to work on the roof may cause damage to the windows.

Mayor West thanked Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Weathersby for their interest in the community. He said everyone is excited about the site being cleaned up and renovated.

Alderman Gray questioned the name of the company.

Mr. Thompson said the company is Dream Homes.

Mrs. Weathersby said they were born and raised in Holly Springs, Mississippi. They recently purchased a home in Natchez following Hurricane Katrina and are proud to be here in the beautiful historic

town. Mrs. Weathersby noted that while cleaning up around the building they received a stop work order from the Building Official. She said there are no plans at the current time to be approved, and once the architect can evaluate the damage then plans will be made.

Mayor West asked Mr. Dawes why the stop work order was issued during the initial clean-up of the property.

Mr. Dawes said the Natchez Preservation Commission issued the order because a Certificate of Appropriateness was not issued.

Alderman West asked if the order was issued based on an inspection stand point. He asked Mr. Dawes if there was a problem with the windows being removed and stored until they can be used at a later date.

Mr. Dawes said he did not have a problem with the proposed work to clean up the building.

Mr. Thompson said they are looking for a place to store the windows until they are reinstalled.

Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis suggested that the property owners meet with Mr. Story, Mr. Dawes, and Preservation Commission to discuss the stabilization of the building. She asked that a place be located to store the windows and allow the owners to proceed with their clean up plans. Alderman Arceneaux-Mathis welcomed the new property owners to Ward 1, and noted that she would assist with finding a location to store the windows.

Mayor West asked Mr. Story if there would be a problem with the continuation of the cleanup of the building in an expeditious manner.

Mr. Story said he will contact the Preservation Chairperson and discuss a plan for Mr. Thompson to proceed with the clean up of the site.

#### **d. JKW Real Estate, LLC Resolution Approving Bond Proceeds Exemption**

Mayor West requested comments from Attorney Sanders.

Attorney Sanders said JKW Real Estate and Heritage Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Inc. have sought financing for the new auto dealership enterprise pursuant to the Mississippi Business Finance Act by the issuance of bonds by the Mississippi Business Finance Corporation for the purpose of financing.

Attorney Sanders said the Adams County Supervisors adopted a Resolution granting a five (5) year tax exemption corresponding with the bonds. Attorney Sanders asked that the Board adopt the resolution as presented.

Mayor West requested comments.

**A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderman West to adopt the Resolution approving, consenting and granting a certain ad valorem property tax exemption to JKW Real Estate, LLC and Heritage Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Inc. for the auto dealership enterprise. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

#### **INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, Paul Dawes**

Mr. Dawes presented the August, 2007 monthly report for the Inspection Department.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

Mr. Dawes said the air conditioner system at the Armstrong Library is in poor condition and is in need of having parts replaced in the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Dawes requested authorization to proceed with the repairs.

Mayor West requested comments.

Alderman Gray said since the city is in the process of finalizing the budget, he suggested that no funds be appropriated.

Mayor West said it was agreed upon that the system could continue to work over the next months and at that time the request would be addressed.

Mr. Dawes said the system is currently working and he will bring any changes to the attention of the board.

#### **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, Meg Freeman**

Mrs. Freeman requested the opening and acceptance of the bids submitted to the City Clerk for the six month supplies and allow them to be taken under advisement until the next scheduled meeting.

Mayor West said the bids would be opened and taken under advisement at the end of the meeting.

#### **PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, Patricia Gibson**

Mrs. Gibson submitted the Personnel Reports for July, 2007 and August, 2007 to be spread on the

minutes.

ATTACHMENTS

### **MUNICIPAL COURT, Judge Blough**

Judge Blough submitted the monthly report for August, 2007 to be spread on the minutes.  
ATTACHMENTS

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, Eric Smith**

Mr. Smith submitted monthly report for August, 2007 to be spread on the minutes.  
ATTACHMENTS

## **CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

### **ALDERWOMAN ARCENEUX-MATHIS**

Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis read the attached statement.

ATTACHMENT

Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said she would like to review the overtime budget because there are problems with crime. She said she would like to have additional officers on the streets for protection. She asked that the department look into the possible grants that would be available for additional safety. Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked that several vacant buildings along Martin L. King Jr. Street be considered as a Natchez Police Department Sub-Station.

Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis presented photographs of the pond located in the Beverly Hills Subdivision. She said there were questions presented before about what could be done to correct the situation and have the pond drained. Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said the pond is on private property and asked what could be done legally to have the property owner drain the pond. She said the pond could possibly carry the West Nile virus. Aldерwoman Arceneaux-Mathis requested comments from Mr. Story.

Mr. Story said the matter was discussed with Mr. Willie B. Jones, Code Enforcement Specialist and he asked that he be allowed to address the board.

Mayor West recognized Mr. Jones.

Mr. Willie B. Jones said he mailed several certified letters to the property owner, George Morrison during the first of the year and there was no response. Mr. Jones said he was later informed that Mr. Morrison was in jail. Mr. Jones said he discussed the matter with Judge Blough and was told to wait until the property owner was released from jail and have a constable hand deliver the documents to him.

Mr. Jones said he discussed the matter with Mr. Story and suggested that chemical be placed in the pond to kill the algae and fungus and adjudicate the cost onto the property taxes.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis thanked Mr. Jones for the information and asked Mr. Story if there are other avenues to take in regard to having the pond cleared. She asked that a meeting be held to discuss the situation with Attorney Sanders, Mr. Jones, Mr. Smith and Mr. Dawes. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said something must be done because the residents are complaining about the standing water.

## **ALDERMAN GRAY**

Alderman Gray presented the monthly report for the Natchez Fire Department.

## **ATTACHMENT**

Alderman Gray said there is a new list of abandoned properties that should be demolished or boarded up. He asked if there is a time frame for Mr. Dawes to receive the information to be presented to the Mayor and committee for review.

Mayor West said Mr. Dawes was authorized to mail out letters to a determined list of properties.

Attorney Sanders said he is drafting a letter for Mr. Dawes to mail out to the property owners.

Mayor West asked Alderman Gray to give the list of properties to Mr. Dawes to assure that there are no duplicates.

Alderman Gray questioned the role of the City of Natchez in the Guardian Shelter. He said there was a complaint from a young lady who said she was put out of the apartment complex and was issued a voucher for one day. Alderman Gray said the lady was put out on the street with two children. He asked that Mayor West look into the situation.

Mrs. Brinigar said the City of Natchez is the funding source. She said the contact person is Mrs. Sue Ann Brown.

Mayor West asked Ms. Brinigar to get a copy of the letter from Alderman Gray and they will discuss the matter.

Alderman Gray said in regard to the Civil Service Commission he would like the Board to consider videotaping the process and interviews for promotions with the Police and Fire Departments.

Alderman Gray requested information on the process for the renaming of streets within the City of Natchez.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Smith to look into the drainage situation from Martin L. King Jr. Street

onto the properties on Dale Court.

Alderman Gray thanked Mr. Smith and the Public Works Department for their hard work in Ward 2.

#### **ALDERMAN POLLARD**

**NO REPORT**

#### **ALDERMAN WEST**

Alderman West noted that the Natchez Police Department is currently working without seven (7) officers. He requested comments from Chief Mullins in regard to when the officers would be returning to duty.

Chief Mullins said there are seven (7) officers off duty, four (4) on military leave and three (3) on the injured list. Chief Mullins said all positions should be returned to full duty by December.

#### **ALDERMAN MASSEY**

Alderman Massey thanked Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis for her factual report on the budget.

#### **ALDERMAN MIDDLETON**

**NO REPORT**

#### **CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DONNIE HOLLOWAY**

Mr. Holloway requested approval of the docket # 7924 through 8701.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked if Attorney Sanders reviewed the docket.

Attorney Sanders said he did review the docket.

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Pollard to approve Docket # 7924 - 8701 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Holloway asked that the Board grant authorization to enter into an administrative service Insurance Assignment with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the fiscal year 2007-2008 for health insurance.

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Pollard to authorize the City Clerk to enter into an administrative service Insurance Assignment with**

**Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the fiscal year 2007-2008 for health insurance. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, EVERETT SANDERS**

Attorney Sanders presented a lease agreement between the City of Natchez and the United Way of the Greater MS-Lou in connection with the AB Motor Company Building. He said the lease is for five (5) years with a five (5) year renewal. Attorney Sanders recommended approval of the lease.

**A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Massey to approve the lease agreement. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor West said he agreed with the comments made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and he will respond in due time.

#### **1. Six Month General Supply Bids**

Mayor West asked that the bids be opened for materials and services as needed to be delivered to the site of various projects within the corporate limits of the City of Natchez for a six (6) month period beginning October 1, 2007 and ending March 31, 2008. Mayor West noted that the following bids were opened and taken under advisement.

Camo Construction  
Wilkinson Welding  
Consolidated Pipe Company  
Blain Company  
American Cast Iron  
Central Pipe  
Cintas, Inc  
Adapco  
Mid Golf Construction  
United States Pipe & Foundry

**A motion was made by Alderman Massey and seconded by Alderman West to take the above referenced bids under advisement for materials and services for Public Works, Water Works as needed to be delivered to the site for a six (6) month period beginning October 1, 2007 and ending March 31, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor West reminded everyone that the Budget Public Hearing would be held on Monday, September 17, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Alderman Pollard and seconded by Alderman Massey to adjourn the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.**

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**PHILLIP C. WEST,  
MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**DONNIE HOLLOWAY, CITY CLERK**