REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 10, 2008

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, June 10, 2008. Mayor Phillip C. West presided at the meeting, which was opened with prayer by Reverend Melvin White of Pilgrim Baptist Church.

MAYOR & BOARD PRESENT	ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT	CITY OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS
Phillip C. West **Mayor** **Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis** **Alderwoman, Ward 1** **J. "Ricky" Gray, Jr.** **Alderman, Ward 2** **Bob Pollard** **Alderman, Ward 3** **Theodore West** **Alderman, Ward 4** **David Massey** **Alderman, Ward 5** **Jake Middleton** **Alderman, Ward 6**		Donnie Holloway, City Clerk Everett Sanders, City Attorney Darlene D. Williams, Dep. City Clerk Brett Brinegar, Grants Coordinator Sabrena Bartley, Senior Center Paul Dawes, Building Official Rick Freeman, Traffic Director David Gardner, Water Superintendent Temple Hendricks, Mayor's Secretary Darlene Jones, Comm. Dev. Director John Lewis, City Planer Wilbert Whitley, Recreation Department Eric Smith, Public Works Oliver Stewart, Interim Fire Chief Ralph Tedder, Recreation Director Connie Taunton, Tourism Director Dannie White, Police Commander Darryl White, Tourism Division Natchez Democrat

MINUTES APPROVED

A motion was made by Alderman West to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2008 and approve as submitted. The motion was seconded by Alderman Pollard. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor West said the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor West said he and Mayor Elect Middleton were scheduled to be in Jackson for a ceremony. Mayor West said he was on his way and asked the Mayor Pro-Tempore T. West conduct the meeting.

Mayor West prior to leaving the meeting congratulated incoming Mayor Middleton on his victory. Mayor West said he looks forward to him doing a good job for the City of Natchez. Mayor West said he is willing to work with him and the new administration in the future and wished everyone the very best. Mayor West congratulated Alderman Fields, Alderman Fortenberry and Alderman Dillard

on their victories.

A. Natchez Police Department, Chief Mullins

Mayor T. West requested a motion to go out of the regular order of business to handle a personnel matter.

A motion was made by Alderman Middleton and seconded by Alderman Massey to go out of the regular order of business to discuss a personnel matter. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor T. West requested comments from Chief Mullins.

Chief Mullins noted that it was determined that Natchez Police Department employee #300583 has violated the City of Natchez Personnel Policy & Procedures, Section 10-2-16, Conduct unbecoming to an employee of the City either while on or off duty. Chief Mullins recommended suspension of twenty-four (24) hours for this employee.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderman Massey and seconded by Alderman Pollard to accept the recommendation of the twenty-four (24) hours suspension of employee #300583 due to the violation of the City of Natchez Personnel Policy & Procedures, Section 10-2-16, Conduct unbecoming to an employee of the City either while on or off duty. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Alderman Middleton and seconded by Alderman Massey to return to the regular order of business. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS WELCOMED

Mayor West welcomed all visitors to the meeting. He reminded everyone of the policy that allows all visitors to speak for three (3) minutes before the board.

A. Walter Brown — CCA Resolution and Hotel Assessment

Mayor T. West recognized Walter Brown, Attorney.

Attorney Brown congratulated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on the passage of the proposition that was on the June 3, 2008 ballot, in regard to the hotel assessment. He said there was an overwhelming vote of seventy-one percent (71%), which was a vote of confidence for the community of the board and for the tourism industry. Attorney Brown said a resolution is required to fully implement the effect of Senate Bill 3191 dealing with the Hotel Assessment. He said the resolution is a recitation of the city's compliance of everything that had to be done in connection with the vote. This included that there be an election, the election was held, the results of the

election and the effect of the election by the U.S. Justice Department Civil Rights Division of the contents of Senate Bill 3191. Attorney Brown said following the adoption of the resolution it would be sent to the Mississippi State Tax Commission for the implementation of the tax on August 1, 2008.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Gray for the adoption of the resolution as evidence of the City's compliance with the provisions of Senate Bill 3191 as to notice and conduct of the election, the favorable election results on the proposition and pre-clearance under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTACHMENT

Attorney Brown requested adoption of the resolution dealing with Correction Corporation of America (CCA). He said CCA is underway with construction of the facility and will be completed prior to the end of the year. An application was made with the United States Government for consideration as a site for the incarceration of federal prisoners. The application and data are due in Washington, D.C. on or before June 30, 2008. Attorney Brown said the Adams County Supervisors adopted a resolution and he will ask that the EDA, Chamber of Commerce and all other local entities join in and support the project. He said the resolution states that support is offered for the CCA project and that the facilities are available for the quality of life, health care, and education. The letter of support endorses the project and asks the federal government to consider the incarceration of federal prisoners. Attorney Brown said there is an excellent chance for CCA to be selected.

Mayor West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderman Massey and Pollard for the adoption of the resolution in support of the Federal Bureau of Prisons to select Adams County as the site for the anticipated CAR 8 selection process. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTACHMENT

Mayor West thanked Attorney Brown.

B. Kathleen Jenkins — City / National Park Service issues

Mayor T. West recognized Kathleen Jenkins.

Kathleen Jenkins presented a status update of the partnership projects between the National Park Service and the City of Natchez. She said the first item is the news release regarding the $5,000 grant from the African American Experience fund of the National park Foundation that will enable her to host a workshop with representatives from the city, state, Historic Natchez Foundation and various entities in the black community to help put together a tourism plan for the community. Ms.

Jenkins said this will help with the layout and what the developmental needs are of the historic sites that have not been recognized, what the interpretive needs are, and the ground plan for moving forward.

Ms. Jenkins asked if everyone received the large exhibit packet. She said two years ago when there were environmental problems at the Visitors Center, the National Park Service began looking at how the space was being used. There was the need for upgrades a the center including the exhibits. Since that time the Park Service has contracted for revisions to the lobby exhibits. Ms. Jenkins said the packet includes the revised exhibits. There are corrections to be made in the packer, but the plan is to have it finalized within the next month. A contract will be issued for the fabrication and the installation. Ms. Jenkins said the 20th Anniversary of the Natchez National Historical Park will be in October, 2008 and there will be a year long celebration that will culminate in the installation of the exhibits.

Ms. Jenkins said two years ago the National Park Service acquired a grant through the Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiative to work with the city on updating the existing African American Tourism brochure which is distributed at Welcome Centers. She said she is working with Darryl White on the brochures to include additional information. Ms. Jenkins asked that Mr. White be allowed to provide additional information.

Mr. Darryl White said he has worked closely with Ms. Jenkins in the revision of the Heritage Tourism Brochure that was compiled by the city several years ago. He said the draft document has been enhanced to include information on what is offered at various sites throughout the community and as a tool to educate the local community to the rich heritage of the African American community which has been ignored or overlooked. Mr. White said the plans include providing additional images and background information into the brochure. The layout will be similar to the original brochure, and the information will be made available to organizations in the city, state and region. Mr. White said the city will benefit from the expansion of the African American Heritage Tourism Division as it has become the fastest rising entity within tourism.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

Alderman Gray said while he was at the NAAPAC Museum an elementary class from Jackson, Mississippi was visiting and they were so impressed they told their parent about their experience. Alderman Gray said he did some research and found out that there are children in Natchez who have never gone to the museum. He said there should be a way the schools could use the museum as a teaching / learning center. Alderman Gray said the children should be more knowledgeable about what is available in Natchez. He said he would like to be more knowledgeable about the sites in Natchez.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said she and Mrs. Frances Doss had gotten together with students they taught and brought them to the museum. There are students who have visited all the sites although there are many other students who need to know. Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said she was glad Alderman Gray brought up the matter because that is something that should be kept on that level and expanded throughout the school system through the social studies classes. She

said there was something being done and not there is a need to continue.

Mr. White said he appreciated the support of Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and Mrs. Doss brought to the museum. Mr. White said there are more children in the community that could be served. He noted that he was willing to work with the school system and try and get some things set up for the upcoming year.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and Alderman Gray agreed to work with Mr. White on setting up projects between the museum and the school system.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

GRANTS COORDINATOR, Brett Brinigar

Ms. Brinigar presented two (2) resolutions that pertain to the application for Emergency CDBG funds. She said the application is being made to rehab the emergency problem that occurred with the Silver Street lift station. She said the match will be provided by the Natchez Water Works and will be no cost to the city treasury. Ms. Brinigar said there will be a 35% cash match provided. She said when the CDBG funds are applied for a resolution must be submitted stating that the City of Natchez conforms to the 504 requirements, which is the Americans with Disabilities Act and that the buildings are ADA compliant with an ongoing ADA policy.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Gray to adopt the resolution outlining the elements and general requirements associated with coordinating the City of Natchez Section 504 responsibilities as required for the filing of a Community Development Block Grant with the State of Mississippi under the Community Development Act of 1974. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTACHMENT

Ms. Brinigar said the second resolution is from the Mayor and Board authorizing she and David Gardner to apply for CDBG funds. She said in this case because it is being started under the administration of Mayor West and ending it under the administration of Mayor Middleton the wording was amended to include both the present Mayor and the incoming Mayor as the authorizing entity on all paperwork.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Gray to adopt the resolution authorizing and approving the filing of an application for an emergency Community Development Block Grant program with the State of Mississippi under

the Community Development Act of 1974. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTACHMENT

INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, Paul Dawes

Mr. Dawes presented the Inspection Department monthly report for the month of May, 2008.

ATTACHMENT

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, David Gardner

Mr. Gardner announced that he received a letter from the Corp of Engineers allocating $500,000 for the North Natchez 592 project. The money is available to the city this calender year so they are making plans to proceed. Mr. Gardner said on the same project it was necessary to alter or revise the route location slightly because of a more economical route to provide the same drainage improvements. He said the route would be in a less congested area and in order to do that it will require some additional engineering and surveying. Mr. Gardner said the cost will be three or four times the initial cost in savings on the construction. Mr. Gardner recommended the authorization of the change order in the amount of $33,000 to be paid from the 592 funds for Hartman Engineering to complete the survey and engineering. Mr. Gardner said there would be more work for the money spent.

A motion was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and seconded by Alderman Pollard to approve the change order in the amount of $33,000 for Hartman Engineering to paid from the 592 funds for the completion of survey and engineering work. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gardner requested authorization to advertise for the overlaying and milling of the four major arteries leading in and out of the city, Homochitto Street, Martin L. King Jr. Street, St. Catherine Street, and Franklin Street. The funding is provided through the recent appropriation from the State Legislature. Mr. Gardner recommended authorization for advertising.

Alderman Gray asked Mr. Gardner to check on 1154 Martin L. King Jr. Street and the height difference between the property and the street.

Mr. Gardner said he is aware of the area and they will mill the area. He said when the asphalt is placed it would not be any higher than it is. There are several places on Martin L. King Jr. Street where the street will be lowered to the original street.

Alderman Gray said the water is running down the driveway.

Mr. Gardner said there are plans to correct the problems along the streets that are being repaired.

Mayor T. West requested comments.

A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderman Pollard to authorize the advertisement for the overlaying and milling of the four major arteries into the City of Natchez, Homochitto Street, Martin L. King Jr. Street, St. Catherine Street, and Franklin Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gardner noted that he will not be at the next scheduled meeting and he wanted Alderman West and Alderman Massey to know that he enjoyed working with them for the past 15 ½ years and wish them the best in the future. Mr. Gardner said he is looking forward to working with the new administration.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, Eric Smith

Mr. Smith noted that there was a fallen tree in the area of 1103 - 1105 Eastwood Road that damaged these properties. He said the tree also pulled the meter box from the property at 1101 Eastwood Road. Mr. Smith provided photographs of the damaged properties in the area. He said the city is currently in negotiations with the insurance company regarding the damage.

Mr. Smith said there is a tree on city property at 1107 Eastwood Road that he would like to accept bids for removal prior to it falling and causing damage. Mr. Smith requested permission to deem the removal of the tree an emergency.

A motion was made by Alderman Massey to authorize Public Works Director to accept quotes on an emergency basis and proceed with the removal of the tree in the area of 1107 Eastwood Road on city property. The motion was seconded by Alderman Pollard.

Mayor T. West asked if the quotes would have to be reviewed by the board prior to proceeding with the project although it is an emergency situation. He requested comments from the City Attorney.

Attorney Sanders said it depends on the situation. He asked if Mr. Smith would be getting quotes or bids. Attorney Sanders said the board can authorize Mr. Smith to accept quotes and take the lowest and best quote.

Mr. Holloway said with quotes you accept the lowest submitted for the project not to exceed $15,000.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith said delapidated houses and overgrown lots have been a major concern of the board and he would like to assist with the problem. He said he discussed the problem with Ms. Diane Brooks, WIN Job Center, and she agreed to allow personnel to work on the city crew. Mr. Smith requested authorization from the board to pursue six (6) or eight (8) individuals through WIN Job Center. Mr. Smith said the crew would be provided at no cost to the city. He said the labor will be strictly focused on lot cleaning.

Mr. Holloway questioned the ages of the individuals to work on the crew.

Mr. Smith said all individuals are eighteen (18) or older.

Mayor T. West questioned the liability of the individuals.

Attorney Sanders said the individuals would be covered under the city policy. He said he would like to check on that prior to the individuals being hired.

Mayor T. West asked if the lots have been prioritized for cutting and cleaning.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked if Mr. Smith would be working with the Planning Department and Inspection Department on the existing list of properties.

Mr. Smith said he will prioritize the list according to the older sites.

A motion was made by Alderman Massey and seconded by Alderman Pollard to authorize Public Works Director to accept personnel through the WIN Job Center to assist with the concerns of delapidated houses and overgrown lots. The motion carried unanimously.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

ALDERWOMAN ARCENEAUX-MATHIS

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis said the majority of her concerns were taken care of during the report of the Engineering Department.

ALDERMAN GRAY

Alderman Gray submitted the Natchez Fire Department monthly report to be made a part of the minutes.

ATTACHMENT

Alderman Gray said there is a concern on Old Horseshoe Lane with the houses at the end of the street and the over grown grass and the condition of the properties. He asked Mr. Smith to check and make sure the properties are on the list for cleanup.

Alderman Gray thanked the Public Works Department for the excellent job they are doing for the City of Natchez.

ALDERMAN POLLARD

No Report

ALDERMAN MASSEY

Alderman Massey said Alderman Middleton asked that he present the Recreation Department report.

ATTACHMENT

ALDERMAN MIDDLETON

Not Present

CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DONNIE HOLLOWAY

Mr. Holloway asked that the following properties received from the Recreation Department be placed on the surplus property's list because they are inoperable:

1. 1992 Ford Pick-up
2. 1994 Chevrolet Caprice
3. 1988 Kobota Tractor
4. 1987 Yahama Diesel Tractor
5. 1995 Ford Taurus

Mr. Holloway requested permission to advertise the list of properties for bids to be sold.

A motion was made by Alderman Gray and seconded by Alderman Pollard to place the following inoperable items on the surplus property's list and advertise to accept bids.

1. 1992 Ford Pick-up
2. 1994 Chevrolet Caprice
3. 1988 Kobota Tractor
4. 1987 Yahama Diesel Tractor
5. 1995 Ford Taurus

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Holloway requested approval of the docket #5554 through #6172.

Alderman Massey asked if the docket was reviewed by the City Attorney.

Attorney Sanders said he reviewed the docket.

A motion was made by Alderman Pollard and seconded by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis to approve the docket #5554 through #6172. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Gray asked if there is a way to explain the docket and procedures to the incoming Aldermen. Alderman Gray asked if there are descriptions of some of the item that are placed on the

docket.

Mr. Holloway said there is a workshop scheduled to explain the process and procedures to the incoming Aldermen.

Mr. Holloway asked Attorney Sanders if the Forks of the Road land discussion would be presented.

Attorney Sanders said the item would be presented at the next scheduled meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT, EVERETT SANDERS

No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor T. West said the regular meeting of June 24, 2008 will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. He said a special call meeting will be held on July 1, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. for the induction of City Officials.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis noted that she would not be present at the July 1, 2008 induction ceremony. She said she will be inducted at an earlier date.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Massey and seconded by Alderman Gray to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

PHILLIP C. WEST,
MAYOR

ATTEST:

DONNIE HOLLOWAY
CITY CLERK