

# City of Natchez

115 S. Pearl St  
Natchez, MS 39120

## Minutes Board of Mayor and Aldermen Finance Committee Meeting

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**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

**9:30AM**

**Council Chambers**

**Building**

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Mayor Grennell called meeting to order and paused for a few moments of silent prayer.

*James Johnson – Community Development*

### **My Brother's Keeper, Inc.**

Friendly reminder that this Saturday marks the opening of the Downtown Natchez Farmer's Market, which will be open every Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 PM, (initially) through the end of August!

Eddie Burkes is the market coordinator, with funding for his wages and the roadside being funded through a grant from My Brother's Keeper, Inc.

The farmers market will be located on Commerce Street, between Main & State.

Mr. Burkes has secured several sponsors for the Downtown Natchez Farmer's Market. They are title sponsor Home Bank, the Natchez Democrat, United Mississippi Bank and Home Hardware. Efforts to obtain additional sponsors are ongoing.

**IN ADDITION**, the roadside stand is arriving Thursday morning. Based on conversation with Natchez Public Works the vendor is desiring to deed the stand to the city at that time. Permission to sign the deed and other paperwork on behalf of the city and then have the paperwork spread upon the city minutes.

***Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderman Dillard***

### **Diabetes & Heart Disease Intervention Program 2017 Humana Foundation**

The board has been provided a copy of the Baseline Evaluation Report, prepared by Monique White, PhD, MPH for you to read at your convenience.

Approximately 100 residents have enrolled in the program. Classes are being conducted at Copiah Lincoln Community College, Natchez campus Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening beginning at 5:30. The senior class is being conducted only on Tuesday evening.

The board is more than welcome to visit to observe the class!

### **Joint Operations & Maintenance of Natchez Visitor Reception Center FY18 US Dept. of the Interior (National Park Service & Natchez National Historical Park)**

The time is again approaching for the City of Natchez to submit its FY18 Cooperative Agreement to the National Park Service for funding consideration. This cooperative agreement is part of the original five year cooperative agreement approved in FY15 for a performance period from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2019. This agreement sets out the 52.45% NPS/47.55% City 'shared' cost for use of the building by the National Park Service.

**The amount of funds being requested from the National Park Service totals \$120,105.00 with the City of Natchez providing \$108,884.00 in in-kind services.**

Please find provided for your review a copy of the original FY15 agreement as well as the proposed FY18 budget, which is modeled after previous year's budget(s).

Also attached is a summary of the costs that are charged to the NPS Cooperative Agreement.

**The goal of the cooperative agreement is to promote, facilitate and improve the public's understanding of the cultural and historic significance of the City of Natchez, MS by providing the public with a jointly operated and maintained visitor reception center by the National Park Service and the City of Natchez.**

Motion will be requested to submit to the National Park Service the FY18 application for funding consideration.

Note that this is the proposed budget being submitted to the National Park Service. The NPS may receive a cut in funds for FY18; if so our request may be reduced as well.

*Deferred until next board meeting*

#### **Bulletproof Vest Application**

##### **US Department of Justice**

Staff is requesting permission to work with Natchez Police Department to prepare and submit a Bulletproof Vest Program application for up to twelve (12) vests. The program provides fifty percent (50%) of the cost of a vest. Each vests cost approximately \$685.00. These vests will be purchased for new police officers.

*Motion by Alderwoman Irving, second by Alderman Davis*

#### **Regional Recycling Cooperative Grant**

##### **MS Department of Environmental Quality**

Staff is requesting permission to extend this grant, from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018 to continue the regional recycling efforts in the City of Natchez, City of Brookhaven and Wilkinson County.

*Motion by Alderwoman Mathis, second by Alderman Davis*

#### **Blight Elimination Program**

##### **MS Home Corporation**

Work on this potential application is continuing. Met with one potential bight partner last week and meeting with another next week.

Have spoken to several blighted property owners to explain the program and to see if they are willing to participate.

Spoken to Secretary of State's Office about both tax deeds and land patent's; will need to speak with Mr. Latham to address.

Properties being considered for participation in the program are either owned by the State of Mississippi, come with a tax deed or are privately owned. Streets where some of these properties are located are Garden Street, N. Union Street, West Stiers, Beaumont Street, Dr. ML King, Bowman, etc. Note – this is not an inclusive list. Just a sampling.

Will be asking permission to sign deeds and spread upon the minutes.

*Interim Clerk Megan Edmonds – discussion of city financial matters*

Ms. Edmonds stated that Deanne Tanksley has been provided the paperwork and she is waiting to hear back.

The Clerk's Office is working on getting things ready for FY18 budget.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked if the Personnel Director would be involved. Ms.

Edmonds confirmed she would be.

Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis asked her to check into whether or not we have over projected.

There was discussion about franchises and sales tax

Alderman Dillard mentioned that July is the statutory time to revise the budget. He then asked if the Clerk's Office is reconciling the bank statements.

Ms. Edmonds stated yes.

There was further docket and budget discussion.

Alderman Frazier asked how many vehicle accounts (notes) we have and how much are we paying per month.

Ms. Edmonds was to get that information to him

MOTION was made by Alderwoman Arceneaux-Mathis and SECONDED by Alderman Davis to close determination for Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Darryl V. Grennell, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Megan Edmonds, Interim City Clerk