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MUNICIPAL MINUTES, CITY OF TUPELO
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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Be it remembered that the regular meeting of the Tupelo City Council was held in Council Chambers at the City Hall Building on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Council Members Markel Whittington, Lynn Bryan, Travis Beard, Nettie Y. Davis, Buddy Palmer, Mike Bryan and Willie Jennings; City Attorney Ben Logan, and Glenda Muse, Clerk of the Council.

The invocation was led by Fire Chief Thomas Walker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Buddy Palmer.

IN THE MATTER OF CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER

President Mike Bryan called the regular City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF CONFIRMATION OR
AMENDMENT OF AGENDA AND AGENDA ORDER

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to confirm the agenda and agenda order, amended as follows:

ADD: Executive Session
DELETE: Routine Item #7.10

4. **PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS AGENDA**

IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNITION OF BOY/GIRL SCOUTS

No scouts were present for recognition.

IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES

No city employees were present for recognition.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS

The following public recognitions were made:

Councilwoman Davis – Expressed appreciation to everyone who assisted in the various events honoring the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the past weekend. Many people attended the tributes to Dr. King over the four days of events held in the

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city, the largest celebration in the State of Mississippi. Councilwoman Davis, also, mentioned that Ora Baldwin, Retirement Director, would be receiving an award at the upcoming Mississippi Municipal League meeting in Jackson during the last week in January.

Councilman Jennings – Echoed Councilwoman Davis' remarks concerning the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. events and especially expressed his appreciation to Councilwoman Davis for her help, specifically her art work at some of the events.

President Mike Bryan recognized Mr. Fred Pitts, former City Councilman, who was present at the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF "KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL MONTH"

Mayor Jason Shelton read a proclamation in recognition of "Kiwans International Month" being observed worldwide during January 2015. This organization is one of the largest service organizations in the world with more than 600,000 members in more than 80 nations. Kiwanians are devoted to improving the world, one child and one community at a time, by seeking primacy to the human and spiritual rather than the material values of life. The first Kiwanis club started in Detroit, Michigan, in 1915 and that chapter is celebrating its Centennial Anniversary of its founding this year. The proclamation encourages all citizens of Tupelo, Mississippi, to render support to the members of this organization and to make themselves aware of the services it provides. Mr. Fred Pitts of the local Kiwanis Club accepted the proclamation from Mayor Shelton.

IN THE MATTER OF MAYOR'S REPORT

Following are highlights of Mayor Shelton's report for this meeting:

...Congratulated the Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Elvis Presley Birthplace for hosting a number of successful events around the 80th birthday of Elvis. Each one was a huge success that brought tourists and locals alike out to commemorate the life of Tupelo's Native Son.

...Tupelo once again hosted the largest program in the state to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He congratulated the Committee for the King, chaired by Ms. Zell Long.

...The Mayor and Councilwoman Nettie Davis have been invited by Senator Roger Wicker to attend the 2015 National Prayer Breakfast and Leadership Institute on

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February 5 and 6 in Washington, D.C. They will, also, be attending in support of Tupelo's Lane Chapel Quintet who will be performing at the event.

...An executive session at tonight's City Council meeting will include the discussion of prospective building of affordable housing in the city through a Federal program that was not recently available in the City of Tupelo. Mayor Shelton stated he had listened to a number of presentations from developers asking for the support of his office for their applications to the Mississippi Home Corporation. Mayor Shelton stated he wanted to be absolutely clear that he had given each a great amount of thought. He said he had met with council members as well as members of the administrative staff. He further stated he felt that an agreement could be met on common ground that will be the best for the entire city. Again, he stated he stood by his goal of bringing young, working families back to the city but wanted to be certain that the best approach is taken that has the greatest potential for long-term success.

...The Mississippi Municipal League will hold its Mid-Winter Conference in Jackson, Mississippi, on January 27 – 29. He and several council members plan to attend this event.

...A new pediatric clinic will have its grand opening on Wednesday, January 21. This clinic is being offered by the University of Mississippi Medical Center through a collaboration with North Mississippi Medical Center and will provide care to children in subspecialties that include cardiology and endocrinology.

...Again, Mayor Shelton reminded everyone of his "open door" policy at City Hall and said he would be happy to schedule regular monthly meetings with City Council members and Department Heads.

(President Bryan then closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Agenda.)

5. PUBLIC AGENDA

No items appeared on the Public Agenda.

(President Bryan then closed the Public Agenda and the City Council returned to regular session.)

6. ACTION AGENDA

No items appeared on the Action Agenda.

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7. ROUTINE AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Upon a motion by Councilman L. Bryan and a second by Councilwoman Davis, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of a special called City Council meeting of Tuesday, January 13, 2015.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/PAY BILLS

Upon a motion by Councilman Jennings and a second by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to approve payment of the following checks, bills having been reviewed at 4:30 p.m. by Council Members Whittington, Davis, Palmer, M. Bryan and Jennings:

Check Nos. 126942 through 127269 (Pool Cash Fund)
Electronic transfers as shown on the face of the docket.
Invoices as shown on the face of the docket.
Requests made by AFLAC to reimburse employees under Flex-One Plan
as shown on the face of the docket.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE APPOINTMENT TO TUPELO PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mayor Shelton had recommended Mr. Ted Moll to serve on the Tupelo Planning Committee to replace Mr. Mitch Ellett whose term expires February 2015. Mr. Moll will serve a four-year term on this committee, ending February 2019. The Mayor requested the City Council to consider this recommendation.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Davis, seconded by Councilman Jennings, the council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. Ted Moll to serve a four-year term on the Tupelo Planning Committee. His bio is attached to these minutes as

APPENDIX A.

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IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE FY2015 BUDGET REVISION #3

Councilman Jennings moved to approve FY2015 Budget Revision #3, which includes the acceptance of two donations, i.e., \$1,350 from AT&T for sponsorship of the Mayor's Youth Council Program and a donation from Freds in the amount of \$420 each for the Fire Department and Police Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Palmer and unanimously approved by a vote of the council. An executed copy is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX B.**

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR
MDOT'S TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

By memorandum dated January 20, 2015, Terri Blissard, Grant Administrator, submitted to the Mayor and City Council a resolution authorizing the submittal of an application to the Mississippi Department of Transportation for 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program grant funding. This application involves two types of downtown improvements:

- (1) Completion of the existing sidewalk around the Bancorpsouth Arena
- (2) Intersection improvements on Troy Street between Front and Green Streets, and on Court Street between Front and Green Streets

According to Ms. Blissard, these improvements will improve pedestrian access to the downtown area, enhance pedestrian safety at intersections, and increase handicap accessibility. The estimated cost of the combined projects is \$583,495. Grant funding, if awarded, would pay for 80 percent (\$466,796) of that total, and the City of Tupelo would be responsible for the remaining twenty percent (\$116,699). The Arena would contribute \$12,569 toward the match, and the remaining \$104,130 would come from the City's capital project fund.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Davis, seconded by Councilman Beard, the council voted unanimously to approve a Resolution of Authorization to Submit Application for 2015 Transportation Alternatives Grant Program to the Mississippi Department of Transportation for funding the above projects. An executed copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX C.**

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IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE 2015 MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH MISSISSIPPI MAIN STREET ASSOCIATION

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Jennings, the council voted unanimously to approve a 2015 Memorandum of Agreement for Continuation in the Mississippi Main Street Association Main Street Program. The agreement is entered into by the Mississippi Main Street Association and the City of Tupelo and sponsoring organization Downtown Tupelo Main Street Association.

According to memorandum from Director Debbie Brangenberg, this agreement is entered into each year and signed by the Mayor and the President of the Board of Directors for Mississippi Main Street. An executed copy of the same is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX D.**

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES OF TUPELO MAJOR THOROUGHFARE PROGRAM MEETING

Upon a motion by Councilman Beard and a second by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program meeting of December 8, 2014, a copy being attached hereto as **APPENDIX E.**

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/AWARD/REJECT BID FOR TUPELO PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington and a second by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to award the following bid for Tupelo Public Works Department, as recommended by Director Chuck Williams:

Bid 1354PW Milling & Overlay

Recommendation: APAC, Mississippi, with an overall bid of \$837,000.00

Only one bidder responded to request for bids. A copy of the bid package is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof as **APPENDIX F.**

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/RATIFY CONTRACT FOR TUPELO SRF FY13 SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – AREA 3 – AUBURN

Upon a motion by Councilman Whittington and a second by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to ratify a contract between the City of Tupelo and Enscor, LLC, for the following project, as recommended by Johnny Timmons, Manager, Tupelo Water and Light Department:

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Tupelo SRF FY13 Sanitary Sewer System Improvements – Area 3 – Auburn.

Bid for this project was awarded by the City Council at a regular meeting on December 16, 2014, in the amount of \$1,970,411.00. A copy of the contract is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof as **APPENDIX G**.

8. **STUDY AGENDA**

No items on the Study Agenda for consideration.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded by Councilwoman Davis, the council voted unanimously of those present to close the regular meeting to determine the need for an executive session. (NOTE: Councilman Whittington left the meeting before the beginning of the executive session.)

Upon a motion by Councilman Jennings, seconded by Councilman Beard, the council voted unanimously of those present to go into executive session to discuss the following matter as stated by the City Attorney:

The Miss. Code, Annotated, Sec. 25-41-7, Subpart (4)(J), states that the transaction of business and discussions or negotiations regarding the location of a business is a proper matter for an executive session. Specifically, there are five (5) businesses proposing the location of Section 42 tax credit housing in certain locations of the City of Tupelo and to look at those specific proposals with any amount of detail would warrant an executive session.

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded by Councilman Jennings, the council voted unanimously of those present to come out of executive session with no action to be taken in the regular meeting.

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IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, upon a motion by Councilman L. Bryan, seconded by Councilman Beard, the council voted unanimously of those present to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:40 p.m.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED:

MAYOR