

# 17.1

**MUNICIPAL MINUTES, CITY OF TUPELO**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

**MARCH 17, 2015**

Be it remembered that the regular meeting of the Tupelo City Council was held in Council Chambers at the City Hall Building on Tuesday, March 17, 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.

Councilman Buddy Palmer introduced Rev. Terry Ledbetter, Pastor of North Star Church, who led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Mike Bryan.

**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 and a second by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to confirm the agenda and agenda order, amended as follows:

ADD: #4.4.A Proclamation in Recognition of "Building Safety Month"  
DELETE: Executive Session

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**

Mayor Shelton presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Stephanie Threlkeld of the Tupelo Public Works Department for ten years of dedicated service to the citizens of Tupelo.

Mayor Shelton next presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Sgt. Katarsha White of the Tupelo Police Department for going above and beyond the call of duty in representing the Tupelo Police Department in the city. Sgt. White had recently received special recognition in the news for her outstanding work, particularly in community

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outreach with focus on children in promoting safety awareness and in helping bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community as a whole.

Fire Chief Thomas Walker was recognized by Mayor Shelton for his humanitarian deed at the recent BBQ Duel Festival in helping make a young boy's dream come true to become a fireman one day. Working with the "Make a Wish Foundation", Chief Walker went above and beyond the call of duty in seeing that eight-year-old Bryer Floyd had a great day in serving as a real fireman and hero for the day. Several city council members were on hand at the event, also.

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECOGNITIONS**

The following public recognitions were made:

Councilwoman Davis – Thanked the citizens of Tupelo for allowing her the opportunity to attend the annual National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D. C. She said it was her wish that other council members and citizens would have the chance to visit our nation's capitol for an unforgettable experience.

Mayor Shelton introduced Patricia Neely-Dorsey, a local author and poet, who was recently honored by Governor Bryant and the Mississippi State Legislature for her efforts in promoting the state through her writings. On behalf of the City of Tupelo and the City Council, Mayor Shelton recognized Ms. Neely-Dorsey as a Goodwill Ambassador for the city in appreciation for her community involvement and literary works.

Several members of the popular group, the Lane Chapel Quintet, were present and recognized by Mayor Shelton. He stated they had been a part of the Tupelo community for many, many years and had always represented the city exceedingly well on many occasions. Recently, in Washington, D. C., the Quintet performed at the Congressional dinner in coordination with the National Prayer Breakfast, having been invited to this event by U. S. Senator Roger Wicker. They received two standing ovations for their performances. Mayor Shelton named the group as Ambassadors for the City of Tupelo in appreciation for their dedication and willingness to showcase their beautiful talents across the City, State and Nation.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF "AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH"**

The month of March 2015 has been dedicated as "American Red Cross Month" and in recognition of our everyday heroes who reach out and help people in need, Mayor Shelton presented a proclamation to Patty Tucker, Director of the local chapter of the

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American Red Cross. This organization responds to disasters across the country and around the world to help victims recover, including offering comfort to those who end up in hospitals, to those needing blood, to lifeguards saving a drowning child and to someone who steps up and helps a heart attack victim.

Ms. Tucker thanked the Mayor and City Council for the support the local Chapter receives from the City of Tupelo.

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF "BUILDING SAFETY MONTH"**

Mayor Shelton next read a proclamation recognizing the month of May 2015 as "Building Safety Month" in the City of Tupelo. Each year in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider projects to improve building safety and sustainability at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all citizens by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property. The International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety, energy and fire prevention codes in the nation, are used by most U. S. cities, counties and states; these modern building codes also include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wild land fires, floods and earthquakes.

Shane Hooper, Director of the Development Services Department, accepted the proclamation from Mayor Shelton in memory of Mr. David Wammack, Tupelo's Chief Building Inspector, who died suddenly last week. Mr. Wammack had worked for the city for over twenty years.

**IN THE MATTER OF MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Shelton began his report by offering his sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of David Wammack, Chief Building Inspector of the City of Tupelo. Mr. Wammack died suddenly on Monday, March 9, 2015. He had been an employee of the city for over twenty years.

The Mayor, other members of administrative staff and City Council members Nettie Davis and Willie Jennings, had attended the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D. C., this past week.

The BBQ Duel Festival had been held this past weekend with the city's own "All American Hoggens" coming in second place in the chicken category.

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Mayor Shelton once again thanked Fire Chief Thomas Walker for his participation with the "Make a Wish Foundation" in allowing Bryer Floyd to serve as a city fireman and hero for the day. Bryer was recognized at the BBQ Fest and had a great day.

The Mall at Barnes Crossing celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, March 7, 2015.

At an Urban Forestry Workshop held recently, Chuck Williams, Director of the Tupelo Public Works Department, received the Mississippi Urban Forestry Local City Government award. Mayor Shelton said as a result of the hard work of the Public Works Department, he, himself, had received the "Green Mayor" award.

A meeting is planned by city leaders in the area on March 26, 2015, to discuss plans for a Cherry Blossom Festival later on this year.

Following are upcoming events in Tupelo:

...Thursday, March 19 – "West of Shake Rag Comedy" improv show at the Link Center

...March 19 – 21 – "The Trip to Bountiful" will be presented at the Lyric Theatre

...Friday, March 20, "A Novel Affair" sponsored by the Lee County Library will be presented at the BancorpSouth Center

...Saturday, March 21 – Tupelo Craft Beer Fest to be held at Fairpark

...Other events coming up in the near future:

Tupelo Symphony presents "My Fair Lady" – Tupelo High School

Tupelo Coppelia Ballet and Doll Tea – Civic Auditorium

Regional Rehab Center St. Paddy's 10K/20K run – Rockwell Center

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mustache Bash – J. J. Rogers Building

Passion – Story Tell – the Link Centre

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

5. **PUBLIC AGENDA**

**(NO ITEMS)**

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(President Bryan closed the Public Agenda and the council returned to regular session.)

6. **ACTION AGENDA**

(NO ITEMS)

7. **ROUTINE AGENDA**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Upon a motion by Councilman Beard, seconded by Councilman Jennings, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/PAY BILLS**

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded 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, L. Bryan, Beard, Palmer, and M. Bryan:

Check Nos. 128388 through 128715 (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/ACCEPT CITY OF TUPELO AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

Councilman Whittington moved to accept the City of Tupelo Audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2014; the motion was seconded by Councilman Beard and unanimously approved by a vote of the council members. Franks, Franks, Jarrell and Wilemon, P. A., had conducted the audit of the city's financial condition, and Greg Jarrell had earlier reviewed the report for the Mayor and City Council at a work session the preceding day.

According to Mr. Jarrell, this is an unqualified report with no current year reported deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control and/or in the compliance system. Mr. Jarrell stated this was an excellent report and the City of Tupelo had

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received the highest level a city can receive. He, also, noted that the report included a reduction of overall debt from \$88.2 million in FY 2013 to \$81.9 in this FY 2014 report. No new debt was issued during FY 2014. Credit was given to Kim Hanna, Chief Financial Officer and City Clerk, along with her staff, for the assistance given to his audit team in the audit process.

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

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Davis, seconded by Councilman Beard, the council voted unanimously to award the following bids, including alternate bidders, for the Tupelo Public Works Department as recommended by Chuck Williams, Director:

1368PW	Crusher Run		
	Recommendation:	Booneville Trucking	\$17.64/Ton
	Alternate Bidder:	Poe Brothers Trucking	\$19.50/Ton
1370PW	Rip Rap, Surge, and Gabion Stone		
	Recommendation:	Booneville Trucking	
	Alternate Bidder:	Poe Brothers Trucking	

A copy of the complete package is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX A.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE OCTOBER 2015 WHOLESALE RATE CHANGE ELECTION FORM – REVISION #1**

Johnny Timmons, Manager, Tupelo Water and Light Department, had presented to the Mayor and City Council an “October 2015 Wholesale Rate Change Election Form”, allowing for a change in wholesale rate structure with the City electing to remain on the Time of Use Wholesale rate and implementing a 12-month non-fuel retail power cost recovery factor (PCRF). Mr. Timmons noted that the City will not be requesting a local rate adjustment to accommodate this change in the wholesale rates.

Upon a motion by Councilman Jennings, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to approve this document, a copy being attached hereto as **APPENDIX B.**

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**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 – TUPELO**  
**SRF SEWER IMPROVEMENTS FY13 – AREA 1 – BEECH SPRINGS**

Upon a motion by Councilman Palmer, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the council voted unanimously to approve Change Order #1 for the Tupelo SRF Sewer Improvements FY13 – Area 1 – Beech Springs Project.

According to memorandum dated March 11, 2015, from Johnny Timmons, Manager, Tupelo Water and Light Department, this change order removes the service line cleanouts and replaces them with caps and t-post markers at a lesser cost. This change order results in a \$13,620.00 savings which brings the contract amount to \$1,378,125.49. A copy of the change order is attached to these minutes as **APPENDIX C.**

**IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/APPROVE RESOLUTION DIRECTING**  
**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION TO CONDUCT TUPELO PUBLIC**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District adopted a resolution on March 17, 2015, setting forth the need to issue indebtedness, the notice of special election for such purpose and, as required by statute, the holding of such election by the Municipal Elections Commission of the City of Tupelo.

Therefore, upon a motion by Councilman Beard and a second by Councilwoman Davis, the council voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION TO  
CONDUCT SPECIAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015, WITHIN  
AND FOR THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT  
WHETHER THE DISTRICT SHOULD ISSUE BONDS, TO RECEIVE AND  
CERTIFY THE RESULTS AND AFTER HAVING CANVASSED THE SAME,  
FORTHWITH MAKE RETURN THEREOF TO THE BOARD OF THE  
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BY FILING THEREWITH A REPORT  
SETTING FORTH ITS ACTION IN THE HOLDING OF THE ELECTION  
AND THE CERTIFIED RESULTS THEREOF

The special election will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, within the Tupelo Public School District. An executed copy of above resolution is attached to these minutes and incorporated herein as **APPENDIX D.**

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8. STUDY AGENDA

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW/DISCUSS POLICY FOR OUTSIDE WORK OF  
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

At the request of Council Members Davis and Jennings, this item will be moved to the next agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, upon a motion by Councilman Beard, seconded by Councilman Palmer, the council voted unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR