

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST REGULAR MARCH 2009 MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 3, 2009
6:30 P.M.**

The Mayor called the first regular March 2009 meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order. Present were Mayor Gene F. McGee, Alderman Linda Davis, Alderman Gerald Steen, Alderman Ken Heard, Alderman Chuck Gautier, Alderman Kevin Holder, Alderman Larry Roberts, Alderman Scott Jones, City Clerk David W. Overby, and City Attorney Jerry Mills.

The Mayor introduced Police Officer Bradley Sullivan and congratulated him on being selected the Police Department's "Officer of the Month" for the month of January 2009.

Then the Mayor announced that Waggoner Engineering, Inc. and the City of Ridgeland had received The American Council of Engineering Company of Mississippi Excellence Honor Award for the City of Ridgeland's Historic Jackson Street District Enhancement project (Olde Towne Parking).

The Mayor and Board were furnished a copy of the minutes from the February 24, 2009 meeting of the Architectural Review Board.

The first order of business was the matter of accepting the minutes from the February 17, 2009 meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. The minutes were accepted with no corrections.

LAMAR ADVERTISING DIGITAL BILLBOARDS

There next came for consideration the matter of a site plan submitted by Lamar Advertising which includes the removal of their 6 existing signs at the north section of Interstate 55 and the construction of two new Digital Billboard locations. After discussion, Alderman Jones moved to accept the recommendations of the Architectural Review Board and the Community Development Director and approve said site plan. Copies of the recommendations are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Heard and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Nay
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

There next came for consideration the matter of the items set out on the Consent Agenda. Alderman Steen moved to approve the following Consent Agenda.

- (a) Special Event Permits-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "B"
 - i. Footsteps in Hope 8K Walk/Run

- ii. Shucker's Crawfish Boil
- iii. Shucker's Cajun Fest
- iv. Philip's Crawfish Boil
- v. Ride of Silence
- vi. Balloon Glow
- vii. Heatwave Triathlon
- viii. Dragon Boat Regatta
- ix. Kids Fest
- x. Century Ride
- (b) Surplus Vehicles/Police Department-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "C"
- (c) Check Deposits-Budget Amendments/Police Department-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "D"
- (d) Acceptance of Donation (\$1,000.00)-Cline Tours-Budget Amendment/Police Department-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "E"
- (e) Deputy Clerk Appointments-Anna Walker & Barbara Lopez/Administration
- (f) Harbor Drive Close Out Documents-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "F"
- (g) Community Awareness Committee Appointment/Dawn Hall, 313 Arlington Circle
- (h) Approve CDBG Payment-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "G"
- (i) Emergency Repair Service/E.M.C.R.S./Accept Blurton Banks & Assoc.'s Quote-Order attached hereto as Exhibit "H"

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Gautier and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

There next came for consideration the matter of payment of claims. Alderman Jones moved that claim numbers 74964 through 75288 with the exception of claim numbers 75019, 75020, and 75021 (Cellular South) on claims docket dated March 3, 2009 be paid.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Steen and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

At this time, Alderman Roberts left the room because his wife is employed by Cellular South.

Alderman Gautier moved that claim numbers 75019, 75020, and 75201 on claims docket dated March 3, 2009 be paid.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Steen and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Absent
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Alderman Roberts returned to the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Steen moved that the meeting be closed to determine the necessity for an executive session.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Davis and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The meeting was closed and discussion followed regarding the necessity of going into executive session to discuss economic development.

Alderman Davis moved that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen go into executive session.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The Mayor reopened the meeting and announced that, by unanimous vote, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen were going into executive session to discuss economic development.

The meeting was then closed and the Board went into executive session.

After discussion, Alderman Gautier moved to adopt a resolution drafting introduction and passage of a certain local and private act; and a resolution requesting the introduction and passage of legislation to provide for the creation and financing of a Fine Arts Center.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

Alderman Steen moved that the Board come out of executive session.

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Holder and a vote was taken thereon as follows:

Alderman Davis	Aye
Alderman Steen	Aye
Alderman Heard	Aye
Alderman Gautier	Aye
Alderman Holder	Aye
Alderman Roberts	Aye
Alderman Jones	Aye

The Mayor then declared the Motion carried.

The meeting was reopened, whereupon the Mayor informed the public of the action that was taken during executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen the Mayor declared the regular meeting adjourned.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the _____ day of March 2009.

Gene F. McGee, Mayor

ATTEST:

David W. Overby, City Clerk

