

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017 1:00 P.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED** that a Special Meeting of the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, was convened in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 1:00 p.m. on August 31, 2017 being the fifth Thursday of said month, when and where the following things were had and done to wit:

Present: Council Members: Melvin Priester, Jr., Vice President, Ward 2; Ashby Foote, Ward 1; Kenneth I. Stokes, Ward 3; De'Keither Stamps, Ward 4; Aaron Banks, Ward 6 and Virgi Lindsay, Ward 7. Directors: Chokwe Antar Lumumba, Mayor; Kristi Moore, City Clerk; Angela Harris, Deputy City Clerk; Allice Lattimore, Deputy City Clerk and Monica Allen, City Attorney.

Absent: Charles Tillman, Council President, Ward 5.

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The meeting was called to order by **Vice President Melvin Priester, Jr.**

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**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF A MATCHING CONTRIBUTION OF \$15,000 TO THE FARISH STREET HERITAGE FESTIVAL OF JACKSON, INC. IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION AND COORDINATION OF THE ARTS WITHIN THE CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE ORGANIZATION.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 39-15-1 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, authorizes and empowers the governing authorities of any municipality, in their discretion, to expend monies from the general fund to match any other funds available for the purpose of supporting the development, promotion, and coordination of the arts within such municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated has requested that the City of Jackson, Mississippi support its efforts to promote and coordinate the arts by donating \$15,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated will feature several stages of live entertainment, present national, regional, and local artists and performers and provide festival patrons with an opportunity to enjoy arts and crafts exhibits featuring vendors from around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities find that the \$15,000 donation to the Farish Street Heritage Festival will benefit the community through unique cultural activities and will support the development, promotion, and coordination of the arts within the City of Jackson; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to support the organization's efforts and award the funds sought.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that a donation of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) to the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated, is authorized to be taken from Account Number 1R-3550, the Municipal General Fund Unrestricted Fund Balance, for the purpose of supporting the musical entertainment of artists and performers, arts and crafts, and other cultural activities during the Farish Street Heritage Festival.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Mayor is authorized to execute a contract agreement with Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated, to memorialize said donation.

**IT IS FINALLY ORDERED** that said expenditures be made on a reimbursement and matching fund basis.

**Council Member Stokes** moved adoption; **Council Member Stamps** seconded.

**Vice President Priester** moved, seconded by Council Member Stokes to amend to reflect the funds coming from Account Number 402006419. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas- Banks, Lindsay, Priester, Stamps and Stokes.  
Nays- Foote.  
Absent- Tillman.

Thereafter, **Vice President Priester** called for a vote on said item as amended:

**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF A MATCHING CONTRIBUTION OF \$15,000 TO THE FARISH STREET HERITAGE FESTIVAL OF JACKSON, INC. IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION AND COORDINATION OF THE ARTS WITHIN THE CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE ORGANIZATION**

**WHEREAS**, Section 39-15-1 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, authorizes and empowers the governing authorities of any municipality, in their discretion, to expend monies from the general fund to match any other funds available for the purpose of supporting the development, promotion, and coordination of the arts within such municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated has requested that the City of Jackson, Mississippi support its efforts to promote and coordinate the arts by donating \$15,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated will present its 37<sup>th</sup> festival on September 23, 2017, which will feature several stages of live entertainment, present national, regional, and local artists and performers and provide festival patrons with an opportunity to enjoy arts and crafts exhibits featuring vendors from around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities find that the \$15,000 donation to the Farish Street Heritage Festival will benefit the community through unique cultural activities and will support the development, promotion, and coordination of the arts within the City of Jackson; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to support the organization's efforts and award the funds sought.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that a donation of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) to the Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated, is authorized to be taken from Account Number 402006419, for the purpose of supporting the musical entertainment, arts and crafts, and other cultural activities during the Farish Street Heritage Festival.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Mayor is authorized to execute a contract agreement with Farish Street Heritage Festival of Jackson, Incorporated, to memorialize said donation.

**IT IS FINALLY ORDERED** that said expenditures be made on a reimbursement and matching fund basis.

Yeas- Banks, Lindsay, Priester, Stamps and Stokes.  
Nays- Foote.  
Absent- Tillman.

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**ORDER APPOINTING DR. MUKESH KUMAR AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.**

**WHEREAS**, on August 21, 2017, the Mayor nominated Dr. Mukesh Kumar as the Director of the Department of Planning and Development for the City of Jackson, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the nomination came before the City Council for confirmation as required by Section 21-8-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has considered the nomination, and a majority of the Council present and voting has determined that the nomination should be confirmed.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, that Dr. Mukesh Kumar as the Director of the Department of Planning and Development for the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

**Council Member Stokes** moved adoption; **Council Member Banks** seconded.

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**Vice President Priester** recognized **Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba** who provided a brief presentation on the qualifications of **Dr. Mukesh Kumar** for consideration as the Director of the Department of Planning and Development for the City of Jackson, Mississippi. **Dr. Mukesh Kumar** read his personal statement and answered questions posed to him by Council Members.

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Thereafter, **Vice President Priester** called for a vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester, Stamps and Stokes.

Nays- None.

Absent- Tillman.

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**ORDER CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION OF LT. COLONEL LUCIUS WRIGHT TO THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD.**

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority Board consists of five (5) members nominated by the Mayor for a term of five (5) years;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Vernon Hartley's term has expired; thereby creating a vacancy; and

**WHEREAS**, LTC Lucius Wright, resident of Ward 3, after evaluation of his qualifications, has been nominated by the Mayor to fill said vacancy.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Mayor's nomination of LTC Lucius Wright to the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority Board be confirmed with said term to expire August 29, 2022.

**Council Member Stokes** moved adoption; **Council Member Stamps** seconded.

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**Vice President Priester** recognized **Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba** who provided a brief presentation on the qualifications of **Lt. Colonel Lucius Wright** for consideration to the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority Board for the City of Jackson, Mississippi. **Lt. Colonel Lucius Wright** read his personal statement and answered questions posed to him by Council Members.

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Thereafter, **Vice President Priester** called for a vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester, Stamps and Stokes.

Nays- None.

Absent- Tillman.

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**Council Member Stokes** left the meeting.

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**DISCUSSION: LITIGATION:** **Vice President Priester** stated that the Council needed to go into Executive Session to receive an update on a pending case.

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**Council Member Stamps** moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to consider going into Executive Session to discuss litigation. The motion prevailed by the following:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester and Stamps.

Nays- None.

Absent- Stokes and Tillman.

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**Council Member Stamps** moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation. The motion prevailed by the following:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester and Stamps.

Nays- None.

Absent- Stokes and Tillman.

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**Council Member Stamps** moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to come out of Executive Session. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester and Stamps.

Nays- None.

Absent- Stokes and Tillman.

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**Vice President Priester** announced to the public that the Council voted to come out of Executive Session and no action was taken.


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There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was unanimously voted to adjourn until the next Special Council Meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 1, 2017; and at 2:47 p.m., the Council stood adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

  
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CITY CLERK

**APPROVED:**

  
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MAYOR      DATE 9/18/17

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