

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that a Special Meeting of the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, was convened in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 3:30 p.m. on October 31, 2017, being the fifth Tuesday of said month, when and where the following things were had and done to wit:

Present: Council Members: Charles Tillman, Council President, Ward 5; Melvin Priestler, Jr., Vice-President, Ward 2; Ashby Foote, Ward 1; Kenneth 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: None.

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The meeting was called to order by **President Charles Tillman**.

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**President Tillman** recognized **Council Member Stokes** who inquired whether or not the Council could go into Executive Session to discuss certain aspects of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding.

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**President Tillman** recognized **Monica Allen**, City Attorney, stated that there were no allowable exceptions according to the Open Meetings Acts to warrant going into Executive Session.

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Thereafter, **Council Member Stokes** left the meeting.

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**President Tillman** recognized **Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba** and **Dr. Robert Blaine**, Chief Administrative Officer, who provided Council with an overview of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding among the Office of the Governor, Office of the Mayor, Jackson Public Schools and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

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After a lengthy discussion, **President Tillman** requested that the Clerk read the Order:

**ORDER RATIFYING THE EXECUTION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI AND OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI AND JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION.**

**WHEREAS**, The Office of the Governor of Mississippi ("Governor"), the City of Jackson, Mississippi, by and through the Office of the Mayor of Jackson ("Mayor"), Jackson Public School District ("JPS"), and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation ("WKKF") (each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties") have a common interest in helping transform Jackson Public Schools to assure that all children in Jackson, Mississippi, have access to a quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, JPS was placed on probation in August 2016 for violating numerous state accreditation standards by the Commission on School Accreditation. In September 2017 the State Board of Education requested the Governor to declare a state of emergency for JPS and start the process of a state takeover. However, the Governor, the Mayor and JPS propose a different approach - one that involves a collaborative effort of knowledgeable parties committed to bringing about the needed changes to the JPS while retaining local control. Under this approach, the Parties support the development of an action plan informed by sound research and voices from all sectors and a bold implementation strategy. In light of WKKF's strong commitment to Jackson, Mississippi, and the exceptional work supported by WKKF in the field of education, racial equity and community engagement, the Governor, the Mayor (on behalf of the City of Jackson) and JPS have agreed that WKKF will assist with the transformation efforts of JPS; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose if the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), attached hereto as "Exhibit A", is to create a collaboration among the Parties to support the development of a community vision for JPS of quality education for all children from birth to college and career readiness which includes the implementation of an educational transformation initiative (the "Goal"). In addition, the MOU outlines the understandings and intentions of the Parties with respect to working toward the Goal. The parties seek to share their respective strengths, experiences, and resources in order to achieve the Goal; and

**WHEREAS**, time was of the essence in all of the parties executing the afore-mentioned MOU in advance of the formal approval of the City Council.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Memorandum of Understanding among Office of the Governor of Mississippi and Office of the Mayor of Jackson, Mississippi and Jackson Public School District and W.K. Kellogg Foundation is hereby ratified.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all other documents required or necessary in furtherance of the MOU which do not require the expenditure of City funds not otherwise approved by the governing authorities.

**Council Member Banks** moved adoption; **Vice President Priester** seconded.

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester, Stamps and Tillman.  
Nays- None.  
Absent- Stokes.

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There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was unanimously voted to adjourn until the next Regular Council Meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 and at 5:08 p.m., the Council stood adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

*Keiti Moore*  
CITY CLERK

*Robert L. Stamps* <sup>H50</sup> 11-15-17  
MAYOR DATE

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