

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, July 8, 2019 2:00 P.M.

Present: Committee Members: Chairperson, Aaron Banks; Vice Chair, Ashby Foote; Melvin Priester, Jr., Council President and Virgi Lindsay, Council Vice President. Guest: Charles H. Tillman. Angela Harris, Deputy City Clerk, Shanekia Moseley, Deputy City Clerk; and Monica Allen, Special Assistant to the City Attorney.

Absent: De'Keither Stamps.

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The meeting was called to order by **Chairperson Aaron Banks**.

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There came on for Discussion Agenda Item No. 1:

DISCUSSION: JOINT ECONOMIC STRATEGIES FOR THE METROCENTER BY THE CITY OF JACKSON AND HINDS COUNTY: Said item was removed at the request of **Council Member Tillman**.

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There came on for Discussion Agenda Item No. 2:

DISCUSSION: COSTCO: Said item was removed from the agenda.

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There came on for Discussion Agenda Item No. 3:

DISCUSSION: THE LANDMARK BUILDING: Said item was removed from the agenda.

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There came on for Discussion Agenda Item No. 4:

DISCUSSION: FARISH STREET: Said item was removed from the agenda.

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ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI ESTABLISHING THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND WITHIN THE CITY OF JACKSON.

➤ Said item died for a lack of a motion and second.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, July 8, 2019 2:00 P.M.

There came on for Discussion Agenda Item No. 6:

DISCUSSION: BLACK ON BLACK CRIME: Said item was removed from the agenda.

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ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF THE JACKSON MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITY, COMMONLY KNOWN AS UNION STATION FROM THE JACKSON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO THE CITY OF JACKSON.

➤ Said item died for a lack of a motion and second.

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Chairperson Banks recognized **President Priester** who moved, seconded by **Vice President Lindsay** to amend the agenda to add a discussion item regarding the sales of alcohol by restaurants on Sundays. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Priester and Lindsay.

Nays- None.

Absent- Stamps.

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DISCUSSION: SALES OF ALCOHOL BY RESTAURANTS ON SUNDAYS:

Chairperson Banks stated that several business owners expressed concerns regarding ABC (Alcohol Beverage Control) not allowing alcohol to be sold during certain hours in the City of Jackson. **Chairperson Banks** recognized the following individuals who provided public comments during the meeting:

- **Steven Duane O’Neil**, owner of the Manship Wood Fired Kitchen expressed concerns regarding the current State law that governs hours of operation for alcohol sales and requested that the City amend their laws to extend the hours on Sundays for alcohol sales.
- **Lance Gammill**, Executive Chef for Capitol Grill, expressed concerns regarding the hours for serving alcohol and requested an amendment.
- **David Conn**, representative of JSA Holdings, stated that businesses and the City of Jackson are losing tax dollars and requested that the City amend its law to allow alcohol sales from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
- **Mike Burton**, a representative of Westin Hotel, stated that the information regarding the hours of operation for various municipalities could be found at www.dor.ms.gov.
- **Kodie Baker**, a representative of Sam’s Lounge, stated that her business was connected to a hotel and that her business be included in the amendment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, July 8, 2019 2:00 P.M.

- **Dana Koenig**, representative of Bulldog Jackson, expressed concerns regarding amending the law to expand the hours of operation of alcohol sales on Sundays.
- **Peter Shaw**, a representative of Fairview Inn, spoke in support of the City amending its law to allow extended alcohol sales on Sundays.

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Chairperson Banks recognized **Council President Priester** who inquired of the Planning Department regarding the oversight of current alcohol sales. **Jordan Hillman**, Deputy Director of Planning, stated that the Planning Department’s only ability to regulate alcohol sales is when the business come before the Planning Department for a Use Permit. When issuing a Use Permit, restricted hours can be applied. **Ms. Hillman** stated that amendments to the Zoning codes will be forthcoming that would update the definitions of restaurants and bars.

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Chairperson Banks inquired of the Legal Department, the Council’s ability to amend their laws to accommodate the request of various business owners. **Monica Allen**, Special Assistant to the City Attorney, stated that further research would have to be conducted on said request.

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Chairperson Banks posed the recommendation of allowing resort status for various businesses as an alternative for extended alcohol sales and inquired of the Council for comments. **Vice President Lindsay** stated that her office was working alongside various businesses within the Farish Street District to obtain resort status.

Chairperson Banks recognized **Steven Duane O’Neil**, who stated that a resort status would allow the business to operate alcohol sales 24 hours.

Chairperson Banks recognized **Shannon Cockrell**, owner of Olde Tyme Grocery and Two Sisters who spoke in support of a resort status.

After a thorough discussion, **Chairperson Banks** stated that an ordinance would be presented at the next Council meeting addressing the concerns of the business community.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.