

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 10:00 A.M.

Present: Committee Members: Chairperson, De'Keither Stamps; Vice Chair, Melvin Priester, Jr.; Ashby Foote; Aaron Banks and Virgi Lindsay, Council President. Guest: Charles H. Tillman. Directors: Dr. Safiya Omari, Chief of Staff; Kristi Moore, City Clerk; Angela Harris, Deputy City Clerk; Allice Lattimore, Deputy City Clerk and Kristen Love, Deputy City Attorney.

Absent: None.

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The meeting was called to order by **Chairperson, De'Keither Stamps**.

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DISCUSSION: MINORITY PARTICIPATION: Chairperson Stamps recognized Council Member Banks expressed concerns regarding the reduction of minority participation from Jackson businesses within the City of Jackson.

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DISCUSSION: EBO: Chairperson Stamps inquired about the status of the hiring of a EBO officer. Jordan Hillman, Interim Director of Planning, stated that several interviews have been conducted for the position and policy changes will be implemented within the Planning Department.

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DISCUSSION: GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: Chairperson Stamps stated that said discussion was placed on the agenda to allow Council Members to provide feedback on the various items currently in the committee. **President Lindsay** stated that she would like to have items numbered 11 & 12 taken for consideration. **Council Member Priester** expressed concerns regarding items numbered 10 & 13 relating to the wrecker services and salary increases for Jackson Police officers. **Council Member Priester** stated that according to the agreement that the City has with the Union, if salary increases were provided to the police officers, the same would have to be provided to firefighters.

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Chairperson Stamps requested that the Clerk read Agenda Item No. 13:

ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI MAKING A ONE-TIME BUDGETARY APPROPRIATION OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) TO EACH RANK AND FILE MEMBER OF THE JACKSON POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM CURRENTLY BUDGETED FUNDS.

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

Council Member Foote expressed concerns regarding the shortage of patrol officers in Precinct Four. He stated that the precinct should have 20 officers per shift and they currently have a 38% shortage of officers per shift.

Council Member Banks expressed concerns regarding safety within the City of Jackson and how it adversely affects the revenue of the City.

Council Member Stamps requested an update on the incentive program that the Council designated funding during the FY 18-19 Budget, to offer incentives to the top 150 police officers and firefighters. **Dr. Omari** stated that there were some legal concerns regarding the implementation of such program and further research would be needed.

After a thorough discussion, **Council Members Stamps** and **Banks** withdrew their motion and second.

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Chairperson Stamps requested that the Clerk read Agenda Item No. 11:

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, GOVERNING BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

Council Member Priester moved adoption; **President Lindsay** seconded.

Chairperson Stamps recognized **Jordan Hillman**, Interim Director of Planning, who provided a brief overview of said ordinance.

Council Member Foote left the meeting.

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Council Member Banks moved, seconded by **President Lindsay** to amend to remove the construction board from said ordinance. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

Thereafter, **Chairperson Stamps** called for a vote on said ordinance as amended:

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

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Chairperson Stamps requested that the Clerk read Agenda Item No. 12:

**ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 70 OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**

Council Member Banks moved adoption; **President Lindsay** seconded.

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

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There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting stood adjourned at 11:39 a.m.