

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that a Special Meeting of the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, was convened at City Hall at 3:00 p.m. on March 16, 2020, being the third Monday of said month, when and where the following things were had and done to wit:

Present: Council Members: Virgi Lindsay, Council President, Ward 7; Ashby Foote, Ward 1; Melvin Priester, Jr., Ward 2; Charles Tillman, Ward 5. Directors: Shanekia Mosely, Interim Clerk of the Council.

Absent: Kenneth Stokes, Ward 3 and De'Keither Stamps, Vice President, Ward 4.

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The meeting was called to order by **President Virgi Lindsay**.

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**ORDER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING SECTIONS OF THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL'S REGULAR MEETING AGENDA CONCERNING PUBLIC COMMENTS AND THE PROCLAMATIONS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS HONORING INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, GROUPS OR ORGANIZATIONS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson City Council adopted an ordinance which governs the order of its business, which is codified at Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson City Council also adopted an ordinance which governs public comments, which is codified at Section 2-71( c) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Mississippi Department of Health, and the United States White House have urged that certain emergency measures be implemented in the wake of the COVID-19 spread; and

**WHEREAS**, the emergency measures recommended include, but are not limited to, social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson City Council recognizes that part of ordinances codified at Section 2-64 and Section 2-71 (c) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances are not compatible with the implementation of the recommended measures; and

**WHEREAS**, in *Gannett River States Pub. Corp., Inc. v. City of Jackson*, the Mississippi Supreme Court opined that a municipality is not required to allow public comment (*See 866 So. 2d 462, 469 (Miss. 2004)*); and

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson City Council desires to strike a balance between carrying on the public's business while minimizing risk and exposure to COVID-19 for all.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that public comments, proclamations, special presentations, commendations, and resolutions honoring individuals, businesses, groups, or organizations shall be *temporarily suspended* from the Council's order of business on the agenda until further action of the Council.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the provisions of this order shall remain effective until passage of an order eliminating the suspension.

**IT IS FINALLY ORDERED**, that the provisions of this order shall become effective immediately upon passage so that the public health, safety, and welfare is not jeopardized by the spread of COVID-19.

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

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

Nays- None.

Absent- Stamps and Stokes.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020 3:00 P.M.

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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 at 06:00 p.m. on March 18, 2020; at 3:05 p.m. the Council stood adjourned.

PREPARED BY:

Shanekia Mosley  
INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED:

[Signature], 3/23/2020  
MAYOR DATE

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
CITY CLERK

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