

**EMERGENCY SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 9:00 A.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED** that an Emergency Special Meeting of the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, was called by a majority of the City Council Members and notices having been placed by the Clerk of Council at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, March 10, 2022 in the Clerk of Council's Office, electronic notifications to all Council Members, on the City's website and on the public bulletin board in City Hall, relative to: (1) Order authorizing the Jackson City Council to retain legal counsel. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers located at 219 S. President Street at 9:00 a.m. on March 10, 2022 being the second Thursday of said month, when and where the following things were had and done to wit:

Present: Council Members: Virgi Lindsay, Council President, Ward 7; Angelique Lee, Council Vice President, Ward 2; Ashby Foote, Ward 1; Kenneth I. Stokes, Ward 3; Brian C. Grizzell, Ward 4; Vernon Hartley, Ward 5 and Aaron Banks, Ward 6. Directors: Safyia Omari, Chief of Staff; Shanekia Mosley Jordan, Clerk of the Council; Constance White, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Council; and Catoria Martin, City Attorney.

Absent: None.

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

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**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL TO RETAIN  
LEGAL COUNSEL.**

**WHEREAS**, the Jackson City Council reasonably believes that no emergency exists as it relates to solid waste collection and that actions taken by the Mayor were not in accordance with the emergency contract as it stated in section 10.2, "upon execution of this agreement, the parties agree that should City Council fail to approve the need for continuing the local emergency or fail to authorize compensation for this agreement and performance under this agreement is suspended or terminated and on section 2 under terms, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of a fully executed agreement that has been approved by the City Council or otherwise authorized by a court of competent jurisdiction, the City of Jackson shall issue a Notice to Proceed"; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the opposing views of the executive and legislative bodies that govern the City of Jackson as it pertains to the aforementioned matter, the Office of the City Attorney has a conflict with respect to providing guidance in said matter as it represents the city as a whole; thus, recommending that the Jackson City Council immediately secure conflicts counsel to assist with resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to operate in complete transparency; thereby, retaining the independent legal counsel of Martin and Martin PA (Deshun Martin); and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities of the City of Jackson have determined that the law firm Martin and Martin PA are highly experienced with the subject matter involved in this conflict, and possess the necessary expertise to provide legal services.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that the firm of Martin and Martin PA is retained as the independent legal conflicts counsel of the City of Jackson based upon the skill and experience of the assigned counsel for the task of providing required services to assist in conflict resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that Deshun Martin’s attorney’s fees at a rate of \$250.00 per hour and other expenses, including but not limited to expert witness fees, copying, faxes, filing fees, courier charges, travel expenses of attorneys, telephone calls, and other disbursements customarily charged to clients shall be subject to approval by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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**President Lindsay** stated that said item needed to be discussed in Executive Session regarding “Pending Litigation.”

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**Council Member Hartley** moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to go into Closed Session to discuss Agenda Items No.1. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lee, Grizzell, Hartley, Lindsay and Stokes.  
Nays – None.  
Absent – None.

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**President Lindsay** announced to the public that the Council voted to go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item No. 1 regarding “Litigation Matters”.

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During Closed Session, **Council Member Banks** moved, seconded by **Council Member Hartley** to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation matters. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lee, Grizzell, Hartley, Lindsay and Stokes.  
Nays – None.  
Absent – None.

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An announcement was made to the public that the Council voted to go into Executive Session to discuss Litigation Matters.

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

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lee, Grizzell, Hartley, Lindsay and Stokes.  
Nays – None.  
Absent – None.

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**President Lindsay** announced to the public that the Council voted to come out of Executive Session and action was taken.

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During Executive Session, the Council took action on Agenda Item No. 1:

**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL TO RETAIN LEGAL COUNSEL.**

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suspended or terminated and on section 2 under terms, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of a fully executed agreement that has been approved by the City Council or otherwise authorized by a court of competent jurisdiction, the City of Jackson shall issue a Notice to Proceed"; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the opposing views of the executive and legislative bodies that govern the City of Jackson as it pertains to the aforementioned matter, the Office of the City Attorney has a conflict with respect to providing guidance in said matter as it represents the city as a whole; thus, recommending that the Jackson City Council immediately secure conflicts counsel to assist with resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to operate in complete transparency; thereby, retaining the independent legal counsel of Martin and Martin PA (Deshun Martin); and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities of the City of Jackson have determined that the law firm Martin and Martin PA are highly experienced with the subject matter involved in this conflict, and possess the necessary expertise to provide legal services.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that the firm of Martin and Martin PA is retained as the independent legal conflicts counsel of the City of Jackson based upon the skill and experience of the assigned counsel for the task of providing required services to assist in conflict resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that Deshun Martin's attorney's fees at a rate of \$250.00 per hour and other expenses, including but not limited to expert witness fees, copying, faxes, filing fees, courier charges, travel expenses of attorneys, telephone calls, and other disbursements customarily charged to clients shall be subject to approval by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi.

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

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley and Stokes.  
Nays – Lee and Lindsay.  
Absent – None.

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There were no reports/announcements provided during the meeting.

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There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was unanimously voted to adjourn until the next Zoning Council Meeting at 2:30 p.m. on March 21, 2022. At 11:27 a.m., the Council stood adjourned.

**PREPARED BY:**

Shanika Malen-Jordan  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

**APPROVED:**

W. Lindsay, 3.29.22  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT                      DATE

**ATTEST:**

Angela Harrier  
CITY CLERK

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