

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022 11:30 A.M.**

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**BE IT REMEMBERED** that a 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 10:44 a.m. Tuesday, April 4, 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 11:30 a.m. on April 5, 2022 being the first Tuesday 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: Louis Wright, Chief Administrative Officer; Shanekia Mosley Jordan, Clerk of the Council; Denise Fortner, 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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**President Lindsay** recognized **Council Member Banks** who moved, seconded by **Council Member Stokes** to add an item to the agenda on an emergency basis. Discussion: Update from Martin and Martin, PLLC regarding the matters before the Chancery Court. 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** stated that said item needed to be discussed in Executive Session regarding "Pending Litigation."

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**Council Member Stokes** moved, seconded by **Council Member Hartley** to go into Closed Session to discuss Agenda Items No.1 and Emergency Discussion Item. 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: Order authorizing the Jackson City Council to retain legal counsel and Emergency Discussion Item regarding "Pending Litigation".

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During Closed Session, **Council Member Stokes** moved, seconded by **Council Member Hartley** to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. 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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**Note: Council Member Hartley** left the meeting.

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

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

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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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**Note: Council Member Hartley** returned to the meeting.

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

**ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TO RETAIN LEGAL COUNSEL.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi was named as a defendant in the lawsuit styled “Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs. The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi”; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi has determined that a conflict does exist between the City Attorney’s Office and the City of Jackson; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to defend this lawsuit by retaining the independent legal counsel of \_\_\_\_\_; and

**WHEREAS**, the attorneys with \_\_\_\_\_ will represent the governing authorities in all matters referencing the lawsuit styled “Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi” in the Circuit Court of Hinds County First Judicial District Cause No. 22-194; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities have determined that such representation by outside counsel shall be limited to the City of Jackson, and shall not include the representation of Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba individually or in his official capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, the attorneys with \_\_\_\_\_ are highly experienced with the subject matter involved in this case and have agreed to perform services for the City at an hourly rate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour, based on the skill and experience of the assigned counsel for the charge tasked.

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**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that the firm of \_\_\_\_\_ is retained as the independent legal counsel of the City of Jackson at an hourly rate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour based upon the skill and experience of the assigned counsel for the charged task for the purpose of defending the City of Jackson in the lawsuit styled “Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi”.

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

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**President Lindsay** recognized **Council Member Stokes** who moved; seconded by **Council Member Foote** to amend said order to add Martin and Martin, PLLC and Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman as Co-Counsel at an hourly rate of \$325.00 per hour for each law firm. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

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Thereafter, **President Lindsay** called for a vote on said Order as amended:

**ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TO RETAIN LEGAL COUNSEL.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi was named as a defendant in the lawsuit styled “Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi”; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi has determined that a conflict does exist between the City Attorney’s Office and the City of Jackson; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to defend this lawsuit by retaining the independent legal counsel of Mr. Deshun Martin of Martin and Martin, PLLC and Mr. John Scanlon of Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman as Co-Counsel; and

**WHEREAS**, the attorneys with Martin and Martin, PLLC and Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman as Co-Counsel will represent the governing authorities in all matters referencing the lawsuit styled “Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi” in the Circuit Court of Hinds County First Judicial District Cause No. 22-194; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authorities have determined that such representation by outside counsel shall be limited to the City of Jackson, and shall not include the representation of Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba individually or in his official capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mr. Deshun Martin with Martin and Martin, PLLC and Mr. John Scanlon of Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman as Co-Counsel are highly experienced with the subject matter involved in this case and have agreed to perform services for the City at an hourly rate of \$325.00 per hour equally, based on the skill and experience of the assigned counsels for the charge tasked.

**WHEREAS**, the City Council President has the authorization to execute a waiver letter from Mr. John Scanlon with Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED** that Mr. Deshun Martin of Martin and Martin, PLLC and Mr. John Scanlon of Mills, Scanlon, Dye and Pittman as Co-Counsel are retained as the independent legal counsel of the City Council of the City of Jackson at an hourly rate of \$325.00 per hour based upon the skill and experience of the assigned counsels for the charged

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task for the purpose of defending the City Council in the lawsuit styled "Chokwe A. Lumumba, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Jackson vs The City Council of Jackson, Mississippi".  
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lee, Hartley, Lindsay and Stokes.  
Nays – Grizzell.  
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 Regular Council Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on April 12, 2022. At 12:45 p.m., the Council stood adjourned.

PREPARED BY:

Shanekia Modley-Jordan  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED:

Ving Benton, 4/12/2022  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT      DATE

ATTEST:

Angela Harris  
CITY CLERK

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