

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023 10:00 A.M.**

529

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 9:28 a.m. Monday, January 9, 2023 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) Discussion: Pending Litigation. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers located at 219 S. President Street at 10:00 a.m. on January 10, 2023 being the second Tuesday of said month, when and where the following things were had and done to wit:

Present: Council Members: Ashby Foote, Council President, Ward 1; Angelique Lee, Council Vice President, Ward 2; Kenneth I. Stokes, Ward 3 (via teleconference); Brian C. Grizzell, Ward 4; Vernon Hartley, Ward 5; Aaron Banks, Ward 6 (via teleconference) and Virgi Lindsay, Ward 7. Directors: Shanekia Mosley-Jordan, Clerk of the Council, Sabrina Shelby, Chief Deputy Clerk of Council and Terry Williamson, Legal Counsel.

Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by **President Foote**.

President Foote recognized several members of the Council who opened the meeting in memory of **Mrs. Ineva May Pittman**.

President Foote recognized **Council Member Hartley** who moved, seconded by **Vice President Lee** to go into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

President Foote announced to the public that the Council voted to go into Closed Session to discuss litigation.

During Closed Session, **Council Member Hartley** moved and **Vice President Lee** seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

President Foote announced that the Council voted to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

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

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

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

Council Member Hartley moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to authorize the Clerk of Council authority to publish the statements from the City Council members that the Mayor took no action. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

Statements from Council Members

Vice President Lee stated the Mayor failed to act after the measure was voted down twice, which is why we are in the predicament we are now in and that's trying to figure out how we will get garbage collected in our city.

Council Member Grizzell did not provide a comment.

President Foote stated that the Mayor abandoned the negotiation process, there was no action taken and he agreed with **Vice President Lee** that the Mayor did not take action following the rejection of the vendor presented to the Council.

Council Member Hartley stated that the process keeps us going through; the Council votes eight (8) times and nothing happens – no backup plan and we are still where we started. Tax dollars have to have guidelines and guidelines we used RFP to ensure fairness and observe the process which has not yet been done.

Council Member Banks stated that the Mayor took no action – 1st occasion letter was submitted to Council by **Terry Williamson**. City Attorney stated that there is no plan. Also, **Dr. Omari** stated waste management would never get a contract as long as they were here (meaning this administration).

Council Member Lindsay stated that since September 2021 – non-productive cycle. The judge made a decision to settle without going into a hearing. Agreed on another RFP to enter into a six (6) month emergency contract. During, the emergency, the current RFP was issued the Mayor did not get the votes to enter an agreement with Richard's, now we are back where we were during September 2021 with less time to prepare; we may not have a vendor on the ground. We have not heard any source of urgency from the Administration really concerned about the time once the ruling comes down. Also, worried about the next move due to nothing being said by the Mayor and the administration. 1) Mayor has not brought anything to the City Council. (2) Make sure we do everything we can for our citizens. It's imperative that we prepare our outside legal counsel with the necessary tools to fight for our citizens.

Council Member Stokes stated that he agreed that we must be prepared and have something in place. Citizens are already upset and the City Council must have a plan. Let's listen to our lawyers.

Council Member Hartley moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to authorized the City Council's outside legal counsel to seek the ruling that City Council has the legal authority to move forward with RFP when (replace with when) Mayor takes no action. Furthermore, independent special counsel request that the Court keep jurisdiction of the matter until the solid waste disposal and garbage collection RFP process is completed by the City of Jackson. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

Council Member Hartley moved, seconded by **Vice President Lee** to give executive authority to **President Foote** to work with special independent counsel. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

There were no reports/announcements provided during the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was unanimously voted to adjourn until the Regular City Council Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on January 17, 2023. At 11:18 a.m., the Council stood adjourned.

PREPARED BY:

Frankie Masley Jordan
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED:

[Signature] 1/31/2023
COUNCIL PRESIDENT DATE

[Signature]

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Kenneth L. Stokes

COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 3

COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 4

[Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 5

[Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 6

[Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 7

ATTEST:

[Signature]
CITY CLERK
