



City of Gulfport, Mississippi

Minutes City Council

2309 15th Street
Gulfport, MS 39501

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

1:00 PM

*Gulfport City Hall
Council Chambers*

1:00 P.M.

The Mayor and Members of Council met at City Hall at 1:00 PM, on the above date, same being an adjourned meeting from a Regular Meeting on April 16, 2024 at 1:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Wayne Miller, General Counsel Hugh Keating, Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers, Deputy Clerk of Council Brittany Thomas, **Councilmembers:** Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines (Teleconference), Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, and Richard Kosloski. **Absent:** Councilmember Myles Sharp

The President announced a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Declaration of Special Call Meeting

Motion to Declare a Special Called Meeting and to have the meeting notice thereof appended as Exhibit "A" to these minutes, and Accept the Agenda as presented, Moved By R. Lee Flowers, **Seconded by** Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Policy Issues

- 1 Renewal - of Property and Liability Insurance and Risk Management Program for the City of Gulfport for 2024 - 2025.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ron Roland, **Seconded by** Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 04302024_1 - Signed](#)

- 2 Resolution - approving and acknowledging the Employee Luncheon Event, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By R. Lee Flowers, **Seconded by** Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 04302024_2 - Signed](#)

- 3 Resolution - approving Location Agreement for a filming event in Jones Park, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ron Roland, **Seconded by** Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 04302024_3 - Signed](#)

- 4 Resolution - authorizing an expenditure (via in-kind donation) for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Gulfport in connection with the City of Biloxi's First Friday event, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ron Roland, **Seconded by** Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 04302024_4 - Signed](#)

Executive Session

Upon the advice of General Counsel, Motion to Enter Closed Session to make a preliminary determination of the necessity for Executive Session, Moved By Kenneth Casey, **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

The Council entered Closed Session at 1:18 P.M. In attendance: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines (teleconference), Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski, Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Wayne Miller, General Counsel Hugh Keating, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, Assistant City Attorney Margaret Murdock, and Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers.

Motion to Exit Closed Session at 1:19 P.M., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

No official action was taken during Closed Session.

Upon hearing from General Counsel regarding the nature of the request for Executive Session, Motion to Enter Executive Session at 1:20 P.M. for 1) strategy session with respect to litigation and acquisition of real property interests involving Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain; (2) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation associated with the fire that occurred at the City's Fire Station No. 2; (3) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Chris Witherspoon; (4) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Charles Bucher; (5) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Holly Plaice; (6) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Dennis Fretwell; (7) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Richard Wells; (8) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Leland Thomas; (9) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Micah Sanders; (10) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with Edward Braaten; and (11) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of a harbor slip lease/use agreement with David Clark., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

The Council entered Executive Session at 1:21 P.M. In attendance: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines (teleconference), Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski, Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Wayne, General Counsel Hugh Keating, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, Assistant City Attorney Margaret Murdock (out at 1:22 P.M.), Fire Chief Billy Kelly (in at 1:24 P.M./out at 2:11 P.M.), Director of Finance and Accounting Todd Harman (in at 2:07 P.M./ out at 2:12 P.M.), Cadence Insurance Agent Frank B. (Teleconference)(in at 1:49 P.M./1:54 P.M.) Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers and Deputy Clerk of Council Brittany Thomas (in at 1:24 P.M).

Motion to Exit Executive Session at 2:25 P.M., Moved By Ron Roland, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

No official action was taken during Executive Session.

The President called Recess at 2:26 P.M. - Resumed at 2:32 P.M.

Upon reconvening in an open meeting, the following actions were taken:

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Chris Witherspoon, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Charles Bucher and Guardian Credit Union, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Holly Plaice, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Dennis Fretwell, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Richard Wells, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Leland Thomas, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Micah Sanders, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City Attorney's office to take whatever steps may be required to take and pursue any and all actions necessary, including the submission of claims and the filing of any lawsuits and all actions related thereto, and to authorize the expenditure of monies to go towards the payment of any costs or expenses incurred related to such actions, including court costs and fees and any other expenses, arising out of the rental/lease of a boat slip in the Bert Jones Yacht Basin by or on behalf of Edward Braaten, to include, but not be limited to, the pursuit or recovery of monies owed to the City and any and all other expenses and fees as well as relief on the City's behalf in connection with the same., Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Motion to Authorize the City of Gulfport, by and through the City Attorney's Office/Legal Department, for the reasons discussed in Executive Session, to acquire all real property interests for the Interconnecting Gulfport Project that are required from the Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain for the total sum of \$101,054.00, authorizing the issuance of special check or checks as may be required to complete the required acquisitions, and authorizing the City Attorney's Office/Legal Department to take all other steps as may be required to complete the said acquisitions, Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Nay: Ella Holmes-Hines

Absent: Myles Sharp

Budget Amendment #60 - funding Fire Station 2 Rebuild Capital Outlay Project.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #60, Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

Attachment(s):

[Budget Amendment 2024-60](#)

Setting of Next Meeting and Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Motion to Adjourn until May 7, 2024 at 1:30 P.M. for a Regular Meeting, Moved By R. Lee Flowers, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, R. Lee Flowers, Richard Kosloski

Absent: Myles Sharp

City Clerk

Mayor



City of Gulfport, Mississippi

Agenda City Council

2309 15th Street
Gulfport, MS 39501

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

1:00 PM

*Gulfport City Hall
Council Chambers*

1:00 P.M.

Declaration of Special Call Meeting

Policy Issues

- 1** Renewal - of Property and Liability Insurance and Risk Management Program for the City of Gulfport for 2024 - 2025.
- 2** Resolution - approving and acknowledging the Employee Luncheon Event, and for related purposes.
- 3** Resolution - approving Location Agreement for a filming event in Jones Park, and for related purposes.
- 4** Resolution - authorizing an expenditure (via in-kind donation) for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Gulfport in connection with the City of Biloxi's First Friday event, and for related purposes.

Executive Session

Setting of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Exhibit "A"