



City Council | Minutes

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 – 1:30 PM

City Hall – Council Chambers
2309 15th Street, Gulfport

1:30 PM Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order

The Mayor and Members of Council met at City Hall at 1:30 PM, on the above date, same being an adjourned meeting from a Special Call Meeting on September 15, 2025, at 3:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Hugh Keating, CAO Wayne Miller, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers, Deputy Clerk of Council Brittany Thomas, **Councilmembers:** Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, and Johnny Hoggatt. **Absent:** Councilmember Ron Roland

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

Agenda Order Confirmation or Adjustment of the Agenda Order

Motion to Accept the Agenda with the following adjustments; add item 6 - A - Resolution - approving extension of Contract for Domestic Violence Investigator, and for related purposes., add item 7 -A - Resolution - authorizing a donation of funds to TrainTastic, pursuant to Miss Code Ann. § 21-17-1(8) (Rev. 2015), and for related purposes., and add 13 - A - Budget Amendment (final for FYE 2024) - adjusting various funds' revenue and expenditure budget line-item balances to match actual balances for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024., Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., Seconded by Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Presentation Agenda

- Mayor's Report

Policy Issues

Minutes / Appointments

- 1 Ratification - of appointment to the Gulf Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners.

Motion to Ratify, Greg Holmes, to the Gulf Regional Planning Commission Board of Commissioners, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, Seconded by Johnny Hoggatt

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Appointment Letter - Gulf Regional Planning Commission - Board of Commissioners - Greg Holmes](#)

Hearings / Appeals

- 2 Code Enforcement Hearing - on resolution to declare that certain properties are in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and to authorize advertisements for bids and lot clean-ups and/or demolitions.

Motion to Open the Code Enforcement Hearing, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., Seconded by Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

There being no one present to object or address the Council, Motion to Close the Hearing and Approve the Resolution, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, Seconded by B.J. Sellers Jr.

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 2 - Signed](#)

Recommendations

Ordinances

- 3 Ordinance - amending Chapter 6, Article XV, Sections 6-372 and 6-380 of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi's Code of Ordinances, and for related purposes.

Motion to Adopt Ordinance, Moved By Johnny Hoggatt, Seconded by B.J. Sellers Jr.

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Ordinance 3516 09162025 3 - Signed](#)

- 4** Ordinance - establishing a plan to exempt ad valorem taxes for qualifying capital improvement investments in qualifying structures in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 17-21-5, as amended, excluding School District taxes, and urging the Harrison County Board of Supervisors to provide for exemptions qualified by the City of Gulfport, and for related purposes.

Motion to Adopt Ordinance, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Johnny Hoggatt

Motion to Amend Ordinance for 5 years with 50% on ad valorem taxes, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, **Seconded by** Kendal Buckner

Motion to Table, Moved By Carrissa Corbett, **Seconded by** Kendal Buckner

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Resolutions

- 5** Resolution - approving Professional Legal Services Agreement with Lee Russell, Esq., of Russell Law Firm, PLLC, to provide Public Defender Services in the Gulfport Municipal Court, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 5 - Signed](#)

- 6** Resolution - approving Professional Services Agreement with Charles E. Bodie, Jr., to serve as Video and Discovery Clerk in support of the Prosecutor's Office, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, **Seconded by** Johnny Hoggatt

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 6 - Signed](#)

- 6 - A** Resolution - approving extension of contract for domestic violence investigator, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 6-A - Signed](#)

- 7 Resolution - authorizing designation of fifteen (15) minute parking spaces, in accord with Section 6-380 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 7 - Signed](#)

- 7 - A Resolution - authorizing a donation of funds to TrainTastic, pursuant to Miss Code Ann. § 21-17-1(8) (Rev. 2015), and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 7-A - Signed](#)

- 8 Resolution - authorizing an expenditure for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Gulfport, by and through the Gulfport Police Department, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 8 - Signed](#)

- 9 Resolution - authorizing the City of Gulfport to accept the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety (MOHS) FY 2026 Police Traffic Services Grant, Grant Number PT-2026-PT-21-41, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 9 - Signed](#)

- 10** Resolution - authorizing the City of Gulfport to reimburse the City of Pass Christian for certain officer training expenses pursuant to Rule 6.2 C of the Board on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Training Professional Certification Policies and Procedures, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Ella Holmes-Hines

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 10 - Signed](#)

- 11** Resolution - expressing its appreciation to U.S. Senators Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith for their support of the return of Amtrak service to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the Gulf South, and for related purposes. (EHH)

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, **Seconded by** Johnny Hoggatt

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 11 - Signed](#)

- 12** Resolution - reconfirming and extending the status of a State of Emergency due to the impacts of Hurricane Zeta on the City of Gulfport, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, **Seconded by** Carrissa Corbett

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 12 - Signed](#)

Budget Amendments / Docket of Claims

- 13** Budget Amendment #108 - increasing funds for Employee Health Insurance costs.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #108, Moved By Johnny Hoggatt, **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Budget Amendments 2025 -108](#)

- 13 - A** Budget Amendment (final for FYE 2024) - adjusting various funds' revenue and expenditure budget line-item balances to match actual balances for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment (Final for FYE 2024), Moved By Johnny Hoggatt, **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Final BA FY24 Fund Schedules](#)

- 14** Docket of Claims - to be approved through September 17, 2025.

Motion to Approve Docket of Claims, in the amount of \$7,551,210.91, Moved By Kendal Buckner, **Seconded by** Carrissa Corbett

Vote: Motion Passed By The Following Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Nay: Ella Holmes-Hines

Absent: Ron Roland

Attachment(s):

[Resolution 09162025 14 - Signed](#)

Routine Agenda

Motion to Approve Routine Agenda, as presented, Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Johnny Hoggatt

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

- 15** Acknowledgment - of previously approved and subsequently executed Agreements, Contracts, and/or Documents - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Architectural Review Committee \(ARC\) Bylaws 09022025 22 - Executed](#)
[DNA Underground, LLC - Repair and Replacement Unit Price Contract 09022025 20 - Executed](#)
[Sixth Amendment to License Agreement - Verizon 09022025 26 - Executed](#)
[DNA Undergorund, LLC Change Order 2 Old Hwy 49 at ONeal Road Intersection Improvements 09022025 24 - Executed](#)
[Certificate of Partial Substantial Completion MIMA Paving Infrastructure Project 09022025 23 - Executed](#)
[MDEQ Subaward Agreement - Harbor Expansion Parking Area \(Jones Park\) Project 0805202025 13 - Executed](#)

- 16** Code Enforcement Notice(s) - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Code Enforcement Chapter 3 Notices](#)

- 17** Letter - regarding bid awarded by Purchasing to Gulf Coast Business for cleaning and office supplies for multiple locations - Leisure Services Department - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Cleaning and Office Supplies - Gulf - LS](#)

- 18** Letter - regarding bid awarded by Purchasing to Headrick Companies for Lyman Community Center Sign - Leisure Services Department - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Lyman CC Sign - Headrick Companies - LSD](#)

- 19** Letter - regarding bid awarded by Purchasing to Lewis Trailer Sales for a trailer - Events Division - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Trailer - Lewis Trailer Sales - Events Division](#)

- 20** Letter - regarding bid awarded by Purchasing to McDaniel's General Merchandise for Landscape Equipment - Leisure Services Department - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Landscape Equipment - McDaniel's - LS](#)

- 21** Letter - regarding bid awarded by Purchasing to Parish Tractor Company for 18-inch Sod Cutter - Leisure Services Department - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[18-inch Sod Cutter- Parish Tractor Company - LS](#)

- 22** Privilege License Report - for the month of August 2025- to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Privilege License Report - August 2025](#)

- 23** Request - authorization for issuance of special checks for FY 2026 Debt Service payments.

Attachment(s):

[Request for Special payment of FY26 Debt Payment Schedule](#)

- 24** Request - authorization to reject all bids in connection with Grounds Maintenance.

Attachment(s):

[Request - reject all bids for Grounds Maintenance](#)

- 25** Year-to-Date Budget Reports - for the month ended August 31, 2025 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[YTD Budget Report for Council as of 9-4-2025](#)

Public Agenda

The President called for comments during the Public Agenda.

The following Citizen(s) addressed the Council:

Daniel Nelson - 1708 41st Avenue
Richard Marsh - 8128 34th Avenue
Nancy Evans - 4619 Arkansas Avenue
Eric Cooper - 1607 19th Street
Kealvin Barnett - 129 Holly Circle
Sandra Wyche - P.O. Box 1224
Ruth Robinson

This Concluded the Public Agenda.

Council Comments

Memorial Adjournment

- [Mr. Henry R. Berumen Sr.](#)
- [Mr. Peter Jacob Umbdenstock](#)
- [Mr. Ronald Ronny David Broussard](#)
- [Mr. William Alex Brady](#)
- [Mrs. Cheryl Foundation Johnson](#)

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 B.J. Sellers Jr., Seconded by Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

The Council entered Closed Session at 3:06 P.M. In attendance: Councilmembers: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, and Johnny Hoggatt, Mayor Hugh Keating, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers, and Deputy Clerk of Council Brittany Thomas.

Motion to Exit Closed Session at 3:07 P.M., Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, Seconded by Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

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 3:07 P.M. for (1) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation associated with the Envolv Communities, LLC and the vacation of streets and/or alleys; (2) strategy session associated with the ongoing opioid litigation; (3) strategy session with respect to prospective litigation arising out of damage to City property (traffic sign) caused by a vehicle being operated by Georgia Idom; and (4) discussion of personnel matters related to the Clerk of Council and Deputy Clerk of Council, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, Seconded by Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

The Council entered Executive Session at 3:07 P.M. In attendance: Councilmembers: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, and Johnny Hoggatt, Mayor Hugh Keating, CAO Wayne Miller (in at 3:21 P.M.), City Attorney Jeff Bruni, Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers (out at 3:23 P.M.), and Deputy Clerk of Council Brittany Thomas (out at 3:23 P.M.).

Motion to Exit Executive Session at 3:27 P.M., Moved By B.J. Sellers Jr., Seconded by Carrissa Corbett

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

No official action was taken during Executive Session.

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

Motion to authorize the City Attorney's Office to accept the sum of \$104.77, from and/or on behalf of Georgia Idom and GEICO Secure Insurance Co, in settlement of the City of Gulfport's claim for property damage arising out of an incident that occurred on June 27, 2025, when Georgia Idom damaged a City stop sign, and that the Mayor and City Attorney's Office be authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate this settlement on behalf of the City, including, without limitation, any releases, **Moved By** B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Motion to authorize the attorneys representing the City in the ongoing opioid litigation to accept the proposed settlements with Purdue and certain of its affiliates and the Sackler family in this litigation, on the terms and conditions discussed with the City's attorneys, and to authorize these attorneys to take whatever steps are necessary to effectuate these settlements, including the execution and submission of th Participation Form and any settlement agreements or releases as well as the approval of any dismissal of claims involving these settling parties on the City's behalf, **Moved By** B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Motion to authorize the attorneys representing the City in the ongoing opioid litigation to accept the proposed settlements with certain Secondary Manufacturers (for Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Invidvior, Mylan, Sun and Zydus) in this litigation, on the terms and conditions discussed with the City's attorneys, and to authorize these attorneys to take whatever steps are necessary to effectuate these settlements, including the execution and submission of the Participation Form and any settlement agreements or releases as well as the approval of any dismissal of claims involving these settling parties on the City's behalf, **Moved By** B.J. Sellers Jr., **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Setting of Next Meeting and Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Motion to Adjourn in memory of Mr. Henry R. Berumen Sr., Mr. Peter Jacob Umbdenstock, Mr. Ronald "Ronny" David Broussard, Mr. William Alex Brady, and Mrs. Cheryl Fountain Johnson, until October 7, 2025, at 1:30 P.M. for a Regular Meeting, Moved By Ella Holmes-Hines, **Seconded by** Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Passed By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kendal Buckner, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, B.J. Sellers Jr., Carrissa Corbett, Johnny Hoggatt

Absent: Ron Roland

Agenda Adjustments

- 6 - A** Resolution - approving extension of contract for domestic violence investigator, and for related purposes.
- 7 - A** Resolution - authorizing a donation of funds to TrainTastic, pursuant to Miss Code Ann. § 21-17-1(8) (Rev. 2015), and for related purposes.
- 13 - A** Budget Amendment (final for FYE 2024) - adjusting various funds' revenue and expenditure budget line-item balances to match actual balances for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.