

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF MADISON, MISSISSIPPI**

April 7, 2026

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF MADISON**

INTRODUCTION AND ATTENDANCE

The first regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Madison, Mississippi was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of City Hall at 120 Montgomery Street. The attendance in the Boardroom was as follows:

PRESENT

Mayor - Mary Hawkins Butler,

Aldermen - Sandra Strain, Tawanna Tatum, Pat Peeler, Janie Jarvis, Paul Tankersley, Mike Hudgins

ABSENT

Alderman - Guy Bowering

Also present in the boardroom were City Attorney Chelsea Brannon, Public Works Office Manager Guy Strickland and City Clerk/Director of Finance & Administration Nathan Hanson.

Mayor Hawkins Butler called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Following a Prayer led by Nathan Hanson and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Tankersley, the meeting proceeded as follows:

SPECIAL GUEST RECOGNITION

Mayor Hawkins Butler recognized coaches, players, and family of the Madison Ridgeland Academy Girls Basketball Team to congratulate them on winning the state championship in basketball. Mayor Hawkins Butler expressed how proud she was of them and thanked them for representing the City of Madison. Mayor Hawkins Butler presented the team with certificates and took photos.

Mayor Hawkins Butler recognized members of Scout Troop 164 that were in attendance working on their citizenship merit badges. Mayor Hawkins Butler introduced city personnel that were in attendance and the Board of Aldermen also introduced themselves to the troop. Troop leader Chris Gibbs thanked the Mayor and Board for allowing them to be there and gave a background of the troop's history. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen took a group photo with the troop, and the Mayor and Aldermen thanked them for attending the meeting.

Mayor Hawkins Butler recognized members of the Mayor's Youth Council that were in attendance and thanked them for coming.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hawkins Butler introduced Public Works Office Manager Guy Strickland to make a presentation on the property located at 1505 Rice Road. Guy Strickland stated that the property was a part of the Estate of Joe Rice Jr and that the city had received numerous calls about the state of the property. After advising on the condition of the property, Mr. Strickland requested that the city adopt a cleaning resolution to have the property cleaned. City Attorney Chelsea Brannon noted that the primary house had been condemned in December of 2024 and that for safety, the City had padlocked and subsequently posted a notice at the entrance to the property. City Attorney Brannon also stated that there was a previous Public Hearing concerning the condition of the property on January 7, 2025. After the City received notice of the owner's passing and for the last year the city has tried to let the estate handle the property. City Attorney Brannon showed photos of the state of the property to the Mayor and Board. Mayor Hawkins Butler recognized two people representing the estate, Attorney Richard Young and Executor of

the Estate Matt Young. Mayor Hawkins Butler advised they would both be given four minutes to address the board on the state of the property. Attorney Young stated the estate was open for one year and was unaware of the previous issues. Attorney Young asked, due to valuable items on the property, to allow until May 31, 2026, to hold an auction on items on the property. Attorney Young stated he understands the need to clean the property, but they were unaware of the issues previously, he also mentioned that he had heard the City had a quote to clean the property but did not believe that it was accurate to clean the property properly. City Attorney Brannon asked how much has been removed from the property since the estate had been open over a year. Attorney Young stated that they wanted the opportunity to remove items from the property and were awaiting bids from cleaners. Attorney Young said they had contracted with Larry Swales to sell the property and that there was lots of heavy equipment to get off, but they were all for cleaning the property. Mayor Hawkins Butler asked if there were any other questions from the Aldermen. Alderman Strain said it had been a year, why has nothing been done? Attorney Young stated they were still in the inventory phase because of the amount of junk on the property. Attorney Young said that some items were valuable to make money but there was no access to parking to hold an auction on site. Alderman Tatum asked what process are they trying to complete? Attorney Young said they were asking for six weeks until May 31, 2026, to have the items removed. City Attorney Brannon stated that it has been a year and that there was not a feasible, safe way to have an auction on site. Alderman Tankersley stated that he had been summoned to several neighborhood meetings regarding the condition of the property. Surrounding residents want it addressed. Attorney Young stated that some work had been done on the property. Alderman Starin stated that it was an eye sore in Madison. City Attorney Brannon stated that the City had been waiting on the estate during this time to act. Mayor Hawkins Butler stated that the City tried to be kind to Mr. Rice when he was alive regarding the property. Mayor Hawkins Butler stated that the property needed to be cleaned and asked the Board of Aldermen to pass the cleaning resolution. Alderman Jarvis stated that the property was not safe for an auction and she would not be willing to approve holding an auction if it were. Attorney Young stated that the estate's request was to have time to remove items from the property and that it was not going to hinder the city. Alderman Hudgins stated that if they thought of an auction they should have tried over a year ago. Mayor Hawkins Butler stated it appeared as though they had been cherry picking the property rather than properly cleaning it to which Attorney Young agreed. Mayor Hawkins Butler addressed Executor of the Estate Matt Young and asked if he had anything to say. Mr. Young stated he didn't have a lot to say other than he was asking the same thing that had been requested. Mayor Hawkins Butler declared the Public Hearing closed.

Alderman Peeler made the motion for a cleaning resolution and authorized the City to proceed to clean the property in accordance with State law, to include obtaining quotes from contractors to address the property. Alderman Tankersley seconded the motion and unanimously approved by all Aldermen. Mayor Hawkins Butler declared the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION – CONSENT AGENDA – APPROVED

Concerning the Consent Agenda, Mayor Hawkins Butler asked if there were any items which needed to be removed for discussion. There were no items removed and with no further discussion, Alderman Strain made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Accept Meeting Minutes and Notices: -Exhibit A

1. Minutes of Second Regular Board Meeting – March 17, 2026
2. Notice of Public Hearing 1505 Rice Road – April 7, 2026

B. Approve Claims Docket -Exhibit B

1. Computer Checks
Checks: 17367-17554 EFTs: 459
2. Manual Checks
Checks: 17362-17366
3. Payroll Checks
Checks/Disbursements: 2936-2981 EFTs: 43268-43778

- C. Accept the following departmental changes/documents per terms of the Status/Payroll Change Report on file in the Office of the City Clerk: **-Exhibit C**
 - 1. Accept Retirement of Water Department Kelvin Burns effective March 31, 2026
 - 2. Authorization to hire Victoria Lawson as Full-Time Police Dispatcher pending results of testing
 - 3. Authorization to hire Sylvia Davis as Full-Time Police Records Clerk pending results of testing
 - 4. Accept Resignation of Fire Department Firefighter Thomas Clark effective April 11, 2026
 - 5. Accept Resignation of Legal Assistant Claire Bonvillain effective April 17, 2026
- D. Authorize and Approve Police Department renewal of maintenance contract with Vertiv for Uninterrupted Power Supply system **-Exhibit D**
- E. Authorize and Approve Police Department to remove one (1) Sentry Safe property #8804 from Court Services inventory as non-repairable **-Exhibit E**
- F. Authorize and Approve Police Department to remove one (1) 2020 Dodge Durango, Unit 2011, property #9980 from inventory as vehicle proclaimed total loss by Travelers Insurance **-Exhibit F**
- G. Authorize and Approve Police Department Training and Travel calendar in attached memorandum **-Exhibit G**
- H. Authorize and Approve Chelsea Brannon to attend the Mississippi Municipal Attorneys Association Continuing Legal Education Conference from June 28 - June 29, 2026, in Gulfport, MS **-Exhibit H**
- I. Acknowledge Final Acceptance Letter to Lewis Electric for Traffic Signal Project, Project No. STP-7354-00(006) LPA/109219 **-Exhibit I**
- J. Accept the following Irrevocable Letters of Credit: **-Exhibit J**
 - 1. BankFirst, Letter of Credit No. 1349703, 7624 Old Canton Road, Thomas J. Chavez
- K. Accept the following departmental reports: **-Exhibit K**
 - 1. Police Department – February 2026
 - 2. Administration & Finance – Petty Cash – March 2026
 - 3. Administration & Finance – Privilege Licenses – October 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026
 - 4. Administration & Finance – New Privilege Licenses – March 2026
- L. Authorize and Approve Order to approve the Project Activation for the MDOT Transportation Alternative Grant Award for the Main Street Sidewalk Project and to authorize Mayor to sign all documents **-Exhibit L**
- M. Authorize and Approve Order to approve the Madison Avenue Widening Project from Crawford Farms to Railroad and to authorize Mayor to sign all documents **-Exhibit M**
- N. Authorize and Approve received quotes to repair roof at 1239 Highway 51 Denson Robinson Public Works Complex and award quote to Independent Roofing Systems as best quote **-Exhibit N**
- O. Authorize and Approve Petroleum Equipment Companies to do repairs on fuel farm at Bruce Campbell Field **-Exhibit O**
- P. Authorize and Approve contract with The Jackson All-Stars for Strawberry Patch Park music performance July 4, 2026 **-Exhibit P**
- Q. Authorize and Approve advertising for proposal on construction to Rehabilitate Runway 17-35, Improve Runway Safety Area, and Remove Connector Taxiway at Bruce Campbell Airport **-Exhibit Q**
- R. Authorize and Approve advertising for proposal on construction to Expand Terminal Apron at Bruce Campbell Airport **-Exhibit R**
- S. Accept quotes for Ditch and Roadside Spraying within City of Madison for 2026 and Approve and Award lowest quote to ChemPro Services **-Exhibit S**
- T. Authorize and Approve execution of a professional services agreement with JBHM Architecture, subject to review by City Attorney **-Exhibit T**
- U. Authorize and Approve facility use agreement with Central Mississippi Cricket League from April – December 2026 **-Exhibit U**

Alderman Jarvis seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the vote was unanimous in favor of approval. Mayor Hawkins Butler declared the motion carried.

With no further business for discussion, Mayor Hawkins Butler asked for a motion to declare the meeting adjourned. Alderman Strain made the motion which was seconded by Alderman Hudgins and unanimously approved by all Aldermen. Mayor Hawkins Butler declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.



Mary Hawkins Butler, Mayor

Attest:



J. Nathan Hanson, City Clerk

