

RECESSED REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2014, 8:30 A.M.

PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

The City Council of the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, met at City Hall in a recessed regular meeting on Monday, October 20, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. Mayor Blevins called the meeting to order with the following officials present:

Mayor Harry J. Blevins
Councilman Burt Hill
Councilman Freddy Jackson
Councilman Marvin Pickett, Sr.
Councilwoman Brenda Simkins
Councilman David Tadlock
Councilman Scott Tipton

City Manager Joe Huffman
City Attorney Eddie Williams
Asst. City Clerk Brenda Reed
City Clerk/Comptroller Bobby Parker

Mayor Blevins welcomed everyone to the meeting. The invocation was given by Councilman Hill and the pledge of allegiance was led by Councilman Tadlock. Several opening remarks were given by members of the Council.

Mayor Blevins stated the City of Pascagoula has received the 2014 "Healthy Hometown" Grant Award for \$25,000.00 from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation. He congratulated Jen Dearman, Community and Economic Development Director, and her staff for working on the project.

Jaci Turner, City Engineer, led a discussion on the proposed Market Street project. She presented several options for consideration and also reviewed the utility needs in this area. The Council discussed dividing the project into 4-5 phases and starting from the south end of Market Street. A lengthy discussion followed which included parking options, roundabouts, utility work, economic development, and etc. The Council felt public input would be very important, and they discussed having a meeting in early 2015 for this purpose. Ms. Turner stated the Market Street project is in the preliminary stage at this time and cost estimates will be forthcoming.

Bobby Parker, City Clerk/Comptroller, provided the Council with a utility rate increase analysis handout. He stated our current base rate is very low and there is a need to increase the rate to cover the debt service amount for the bond. The proposed amounts are as follows:

	<u>Current Monthly Demand Fee</u>	<u>Proposed Increase to be Segregated for Debt Service</u>	<u>Proposed New Monthly Demand Fee</u>
<u>Water</u>	\$5.20	\$2.25	\$7.45
<u>Sewer</u>	\$6.24	\$2.70	\$8.94

Mr. Parker advised that he is currently in the process of receiving rate information from other municipalities and will send it to the Council. A question and answer session followed. The general consensus of the Council was to increase the base rate at the amounts shown.

Mayor Blevins recommended that the Council meet on another date to discuss the prepared food tax referendum timeline. The Council agreed to meet on Monday, November 10, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. regarding this item.

After general comments and there being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Councilman Hill made a motion to recess until Tuesday, October 21, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. to transact such business as may lawfully come before the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pickett and received the following vote: Mayor Blevins "AYE". Councilmen Hill "AYE", Jackson "AYE", Pickett "AYE", Simkins "AYE", Tadlock "AYE", and Tipton "AYE".

The meeting ended at 10:17 a.m.

APPROVED:

Harry J. Blevins, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda J. Reed, Asst. City Clerk