



## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026**

**6:00 PM CST**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

#### **Call to Order.**

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Liese called the meeting to order.

Invocation - Councilmember Maher

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

#### **PRESENT**

Mayor Anna Liese

Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Ward 1 Shane Finley

Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard

Ward 3 Jessie Harwood

Ward 4 Austin Clark

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to confirm the agenda.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

#### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Presentation Agenda.**

- a. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

#### **City Manager's Report.**

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

**January 20, 2026**

1. Coon Branch – The project is substantially complete. The closeout documents are on the agenda tonight for your approval. The contractor is working on the punch list items identified during the walkthrough.
2. Jourdan River Boardwalk – Our monthly phone call will be held tomorrow. The city is waiting on MDEQ to review the bid documents and approve. Once approved, the council will be asked to issue the contract and then it will be submitted to MDEQ for review and approval. After everything is approved, a notice of award will be issued.

3. Montjoy Creek – The project will advertise on Thursday for the next two weeks. Bids will be due February 24<sup>th</sup>.
4. MOSTF 2026 – The city has received a MS Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund grant for 2026. The \$500,000 grant will be used to design and build a trailhead for the Montjoy Creek Natural Trail at the end of Banyan Place. The MOU is on tonight's agenda for your approval.
5. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – Meeting with the engineer tomorrow to discuss the redesign of the Nature Trail. A meeting with MDEQ will be scheduled to discuss the project and receive paperwork for the council to review and approve.
6. Dog Park – Public Works has started the construction of the fence and park amenities. The design is for a 4 ½ foot fenced in area separated for large and small dogs. It will include benches, water fountains, and dog agility equipment.
7. Fitness Park – Public Works is continuing with the clearing of the property next to Ochsner Medical and the new multimodal trail for the fitness park. Ochsner has ordered the equipment due to delays from the manufacture, the expected delivery date is in March.
8. Unit Price Contracts
  - Koko Court – Contractor has completed the work on this project. A walkthrough will be conducted this week to determine if any punch list items need to be addressed.
  - Mauna Loa Drive – This work directive will be on next council agenda for approval.
9. East Aloha Drive – The city will need to follow the MDOT right-of-way acquisition process, and the electrical engineering sub-contractor. The engineers are finalizing the design to have project out to advertise as soon as the MDOT requirements are completed.
10. West Aloha Drive – The engineers are working on egress of the roadway to determine best access for vehicle flow. This project will also be ready to advertise in the first quarter of 2026.
11. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – The appraiser has completed the reports on the property acquisition project. The reports have been submitted to Rostan for review and submittal to MEMA.
12. Canal Dredging – **No update this month.** MDEQ has approved the bid documents. The contract has been sent to MDEQ for their review and approval. Once approved, we will be able to issue the notice of award. The contractor has given a February start date due to current tide conditions. The contract will be for 240 days, the estimated completion date is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026.
13. Pelican Cove – **No update this month.** The engineer is completing the final plans and expects to only need a National Wetlands permit to complete this project. The permission to advertise will be on the next council agenda.
14. Commercial District – **No Update this month.** The engineer is completing the final design. I am currently waiting for appraisers to get reports back to me for the additional piece of roadway needed.
15. Bank Stabilization – **No Update this month.** The next step for this project will be to work on easement acquisition. Once complete, the engineers can finalize the design.
16. MDOT Projects – **No Update this month.** The contractor installed the signage last week. Once the engineers update the drawings for the railing along the multimodal path, the contractor will be back out to install and complete the project.

17. Landscaping Project – **No update this month.** Keep Diamondhead Beautiful and their landscape architect company are working on the project scope. The city has expressed that the landscaping cannot obstruct driver's view.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

Council Comments.

**Policy Agenda.**

**Minutes:**

1. Motion to approve December 29, 2025 Recess Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to approve December 29, 2025 Recess Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

Voting Abstaining: Councilmember-At-Large Maher

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Motion to approve January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve January 6, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

Voting Abstaining: Councilmember-At-Large Maher

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Public Hearing:**

**3 PUBLIC HEARING**

**2025-304:** Motion to discuss potential text amendment to the Article IX. Low Speed Vehicles and Golf Carts in the Code of Ordinances.

At 6:08 p.m. Mayor Liese opened the public hearing and called for anyone who would like discussion potential text amendment to the Article IX. Low Speed Vehicles and Golf Carts in the Code of Ordinances.

Bill Atkinson

At 6:12 p.m. Mayor Liese closed the public hearing.

**Resolutions:**

4. **2026-010:** Motion to adopt Resolution **2026-003** thereby abandoning a 5' drainage/utility easement on each side of the common property line between lots 26 and 27, Diamondhead Phase 2, Unit 7, Block 7. The parcel number is 067J-3-36-226.000. The physical address is 8832 Kailua Place.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution **2026-003** thereby abandoning a 5' drainage/utility easement on each side of the common property line between lots 26 and 27, Diamondhead Phase 2, Unit 7, Block 7. The parcel number is 067J-3-36-226.000. The physical address is 8832 Kailua Place.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve the following consent items:

5. **2026-011:** Motion to authorize the administration to enter an agreement with Pyromania Fireworks, LLC in the amount of \$11,250.00 for 4th of July firework display on Friday, July 3, 2026.
6. **2026-012:** Motion to accept substantial completion of the Coon Branch Drainage Improvements - Phase I Project as of January 13, 2026.
7. **2026-013:** Motion to amend Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Sub-Award Agreement Modification No 2 extending the Period of Performance to November 30, 2026 for the Southside Canal Dredging Project.
8. **2026-014:** Motion to approve and accept the Memorandum of Understanding with the Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the Montjoy Creek Trailhead Project and authorize the City Manager to execute same.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Routine Agenda.**

**Claims Payable**

9. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233449- DKT233482) in the amount of \$225,405.97.

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve Docket of Claims (DKT233449- DKT233482) in the amount of \$225,405.97.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Department Reports**

Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to accept and approve the following department reports:

Building

Code Enforcement

Court

Police

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.**

Mark Beisecker - Hi Visible Clothing for Walking

**Council Closing Comments**

**Adjourn/Recess.**

At 6:18 p.m. with no further business to come before the council, motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjourn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, Councilmember-At-Large Maher, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Anna Liese*

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Anna Liese  
Mayor



*Jeannie Klein*

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Jeannie Klein  
City Clerk