MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, August 18, 2026
6:00 PM CST
Council Chambers, City Hall

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

Invocation - Mayor Liese

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

PRESENT
Mayor Anna Liese
Ward 1 Shane Finley
Ward 2 Ricky Sheppard
Ward 3 Jessie Harwood
Ward 4 Austin Clark

ABSENT
Councilmember-At-Large Gerard Maher

Confirm or Adjust Agenda Order

Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to adjust the agenda adding the following items to the consent agenda:

9a. **2026-167:** Motion to accept and award low bid received from LJ Construction Inc. in the amount of $1,276,885.21 for the Bank Stabilization Project and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract for same and to issue the notice to proceed as appropriate.

9b. **2026-168:** Motion to enter into subscription for one (1) year with Caliber Public Safety in the amount of $8,550.00 for the Diamondhead Police Department Reporting Management System.

Voting Yea: Mayor Liese, 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 September 1, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at City Hall.

b. Proclamation - Hancock County Sheriff's Office

c. Frank Bordeaux, Gallagher Insurance - Insurance Proposals

CITY MANAGER REPORT
August 18, 2026

1. Gazebo – The town green gazebo is currently under renovations with an expected completion before Christmas on the Town Green Event. Much of the support structure has been compromised by termites and rot. The public works department is working on making the repairs.
2. Dredging Meeting – Today I met with Brent Anderson, Jay McKnight, Hancock County, Port & Harbor and City Administrations to discuss a new SMPDD project to create a county wide USACE permit for dredging. This permit would help speed up dredging project once funding is received.
3. Canal Dredging – The contract is for 240 days with the current end date of October 24th. The contractor provided a detailed letter explaining his position regarding the project. I have spoken with the engineer regarding the letter. The city is waiting for a formal response from the engineer regarding the contractor's request. The engineer will have to determine if it is reasonable and allowable within the contract. Once all documentation is provided, the city will discuss all options with DEQ to determine if a change order is allowable and necessary.
4. Jourdan River Boardwalk – The contract is for 180 days with the current end date of October 17th. The contractor is working on the final section of the boardwalk. The subcontractors are installing the electrical wiring and lighting in step with the contractor.
5. Montjoy Creek Nature Trail – The contract is 180 calendar days with a current end date of October 10th. The subcontractor is working on the raised boardwalk area. The path has been widened to the 12-foot mark to allow for the rock base to be installed. The rest of the path has been grated to level for soil and sod installation. Residents need to remain off the trail until all work is completed.
6. Rotten Bayou Nature Trail – The engineer is working on final design and permitting. I have moved the expected advertisement for bids on this project to October. This agenda includes a request to extend the grant from MOSTF for six months due to the permitting process not being completed.
7. Bank Stabilization – Tonight's agenda included awarded this project to the lowest bidder. Once approved, the engineer will work with the contractor to get all insurances and contracts signed.
8. Pelican Cove – A pre-bid meeting was held this week. Contractors were able to ask questions and get clarification regarding the project. The bids are due on August 26th. This project will clean the detention pond to allow for more capacity and reconfigure the weir to allow better regulate the release of stormwater during a rain event.

No additional updates on remaining projects.

9. Fitness Park – The city received the exercise equipment. Public Works will start working on installing everything.
10. East Aloha Drive – The MDOT meeting scheduled for August 19th is usually the final step before bidding/construction can begin. The design is complete and ready to be submitted for advertisement.
11. West Aloha Drive – I am working with American Towers to finalize the egress into the driveway access to North Bay Auto and AutoZone.
12. Commercial District – The engineer is completing the final design. Additional sewer realignment is needed to finish the project.

13. Landscaping Project – 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.
14. Unit Price Contracts

    Crooked Stick – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
    Mauna Loa Drive – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
    Ewa St @ Hilo Way – A design has been created. A work directive will be submitted.
    Koula Drive – A design has been created. An OPC has been issued for budget needs.
15. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – The kickoff meeting with FEMA was held two weeks ago for the Outdoor Emergency Siren System. The project is waiting on a period of performance extension from FEMA. The bid advertisement and specifications will be on the agenda at the next council meeting for your review and approval.
16. MDOT Projects – The contractor is currently paving the multimodal path and the expansion of the Interstate to six lanes. Lane shifts are expected, so drivers need to use caution.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

Council Comments.

Policy Agenda.

Minutes:

1. Motion to approve August 4, 2026 Recess Meeting Minutes.

   Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to approve August 4, 2026 Recess Meeting Minutes.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Motion to approve August 4, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

   Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve August 4, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions:

3. **2026-163:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-023 thereby appointing Chad Dorn to fill an unexpired term as Commissioner to represent the City on the Hancock County E-911 Commission.

   Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Ward 4 Clark to adopt Resolution 2026-023 thereby appointing Chad Dorn to fill an unexpired term as Commissioner to represent the City on the Hancock County E-911 Commission.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **2026-164:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-024 authorizing the City Manager to execute deeds and related closing documents for certain surplus real property sold through the city's sealed bid process.

   Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to adopt Resolution 2026-024 authorizing the City Manager to execute deeds and related closing documents for certain surplus real property sold through the city's sealed bid process.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Ward 3 Harwood, Seconded by Ward 2 Sheppard to approve the following consent items:

5. **2026-159:** Motion to declare surplus equipment and proceed with proper disposal, remove from inventory equipment that has been upgraded and/or lost, missing or unrecoverable.

6. **2026-160:** Motion for approval and ratification of support letters to the Mississippi Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Grant Program for the Diamondhead Water and Sewer District .

7. **2026-161:** Motion to accept proposal for Law Enforcement Liability from Indian Harbor Insurance Company written through Gallagher Insurance in the amount of $20,432.20 (2 million per occurrence/4 million annual aggregate) effective September 1, 2026.

8. **2026-162:** Motion to accept and approve the resignation of Bob Armstrong as Commissioner representing the City on the Hancock County E-911 Commission effective August 18, 2026.

9. **2026-165:** Motion to request a time extension for the 2024 Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund Grant for six months (October 10, 2026).

9a. **2026-167:** Motion to accept and award low bid received from LJ Construction Inc. in the amount of $1,276,885.21 for the Bank Stabilization Project and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract for same and to issue the notice to proceed as appropriate.

9b. **2026-168:** Motion to enter into subscription for one (1) year with Caliber Public Safety in the amount of $8,550.00 for the Diamondhead Police Department Reporting Management System.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Action Agenda.

10. **2026-166:** Motion to accept the form of the FY27 Budget, set the public hearing for September 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. and approve the advertisement providing public notice of same.

    Motion made by Ward 1 Finley, Seconded by Mayor Liese to accept the form of the FY27 Budget, set the public hearing for September 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. and approve the advertisement providing public notice of same.

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

    MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Routine Agenda.

Claims Payable

11. Motion to approve Docket of Claims (DKT234007-DKT234034) in the amount of $214,489.99.

    Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve Docket of Claims (DKT234007-DKT234034) in the amount of $214,489.99.

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

    MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Motion to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM000275 in the amount of $30,558.36, PRCLAIM000276 in the amount of $31,279.61, PRCLAIM000277 in the amount of $3,030.37, PRCLAIM000278 in the amount of $32,274.68, PRCLAIM000279 in the amount of $33,522.10, PRCLAIM000280 in the amount of $3,030.37, DKT233871 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233923 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233954 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233984-DKT233993 in the amount of $53,155.25 and DKT233994-DKT234004 in the amount of $53,219.32.

    Motion made by Mayor Liese, Seconded by Ward 3 Harwood to approve Payroll Payables PRCLAIM000275 in the amount of $30,558.36, PRCLAIM000276 in the amount of $31,279.61, PRCLAIM000277 in the amount of $3,030.37, PRCLAIM000278 in the amount of $32,274.68, PRCLAIM000279 in the amount of $33,522.10, PRCLAIM000280 in the amount of $3,030.37, DKT233871 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233923 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233954 in the amount of $90.72, DKT233984-DKT233993 in the amount of $53,155.25 and DKT233994-DKT234004 in the amount of $53,219.32.

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

    MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Reports

a. June 30, 2026 Financials

   Motion made by Ward 2 Sheppard, Seconded by Ward 1 Finley to approve June 30, 2026 Financials.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. July 2026 Financials

   Motion made by Ward 4 Clark, Seconded by Mayor Liese to approve July 2026 Financials.

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

   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None

Council Closing Comments

Adjourn/Recess.

At 6:47 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, Ward 1 Finley, Ward 2 Sheppard, Ward 3 Harwood, Ward 4 Clark

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anna Liese
Mayor

Jeannie Klein
City Clerk