



REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF GLUCKSTADT, MISSISSIPPI

Tuesday, December 09, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Minutes

This notice and agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen is hereby given by the undersigned. Said meeting shall be held on Tuesday, December 09, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Board Room at City Hall, located at 343 Distribution Drive, Gluckstadt, MS 39110.

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call

The Mayor called the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to order. The Mayor presented the Notice of Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, acknowledged by all Aldermen (Exhibit "A").

Board Members Present: Mayor Walter C. Morrison, Alderman John Taylor, Alderwoman Miya Warfield Bates, Alderman Chip Williams, Alderman Jayce Powell, and Alderwoman Jessie Campbell.

Staff Members Present: City Clerk Lindsay Kellum, Assistant City Clerk Scott Maugh, Deputy City Clerk Chasity Pickett, Public Works Director Chris Buckner, Interim Planning and Zoning Director Mike McCollum, Assistant Chief of Police Jeremy Slaven, Police Lieutenant David Potvin, Executive Assistant Janet Brooks, and City Attorney Zachary Giddy.

2. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Brooks opened the meeting with prayer.

Alderman Powell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

No action taken.

3. Presented Items

A) Recognition of Dispatch Supervisor Kristen Baker, Gluckstadt Police Department Blessing Box

In the absence of Chief Hale, Assistant Chief Slaven and the Board recognized Dispatch Supervisor Kristen Baker for her leadership and initiative in establishing the Gluckstadt Police Department Blessing Box. It was noted that Supervisor Baker spearheaded the community

outreach effort, coordinated donations, encouraged public participation, and ensured the Blessing Box remained stocked and accessible.

A resolution recognizing Dispatch Supervisor Kristen Baker for her dedication and service to the city and the community was presented Exhibit "B"). A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Alderwoman Bates and seconded by Alderman Powell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

B) Gluckstadt Christmas Parade and Jingle Market, Saturday December 13th

The Board was informed that the Gluckstadt Christmas Parade and Jingle Market will be held on Saturday, December 13th. The Christmas Parade is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Jingle Market.

No action taken.

C) Gluckstadt Mayor's Youth Council, Winter Coat Drive (Ongoing until January 5, 2026)

The Board received information regarding the Mayor's Youth Council Winter Coat Drive, which is ongoing through January 5, 2026. Citizens were encouraged to donate gently used winter coats to support those in need.

No action taken.

4) Approval of Consent Agenda Items

A) Approval of Claims Docket

B) Approval of November 10, 2025, Special Called Meeting Minutes

C) Notification of Purchase Order Change, Vada Inc. Material Overrun

D) Request for Approval to Add and Remove Items from the City's Fixed Assets List

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the consent agenda with two amendments (Exhibit "C"):

1. *Approval of registration for the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) Mid-Winter Conference to be held January 13–15, 2026, for Aldermen wishing to attend.*
2. *Approval of travel and training expenses for two Police Department employees to attend a 40-hour dispatcher certification class scheduled for December 15–19, 2025.*

Alderman Taylor made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the stated amendments, and it was seconded by Alderman Williams.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

5. Monthly Budget Report

A) Monthly Budget Reports

The Mayor presented the monthly budget report(s.) (Exhibit "D")

No action taken.

B) Monthly Bank Reconciliations

The Mayor presented the monthly bank reconciliations. (Exhibit "E")

No action taken.

6. New Business

A) Request to Discuss Interpretation of Current Sign Ordinance and Enforcement (Elizabeth Johnson, Blume Floral Company)

Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, owner of Blume Floral Company, addressed the Board regarding the interpretation and enforcement of the City's current sign ordinance, specifically as it relates to temporary or sidewalk-style signs used by small businesses. Mrs. Johnson expressed concerns about inconsistent enforcement and requested clarification of whether such signs fall within the ordinance's definition of prohibited or portable signs.

The Mayor and Board discussed the ordinance language, enforcement practices, and the need for consistency and clarity. It was noted that the Board will review the sign ordinance to determine whether amendments or exemptions should be considered and to provide clearer guidance prior to the next meeting. No immediate enforcement changes were authorized.

No action taken.

B) Consideration of Opting-Out, Safe Solicitation Act (HB 1197, Effective July 1, 2025)

The Board considered a proposed resolution to opt out of the Safe Solicitation Act (HB 1197), recently enacted by the Mississippi Legislature. It was noted that opting out preserves the city's ability to adopt its own local ordinance in the future, while failure to opt out would subject the city to the state statute's permitting and enforcement requirements without recourse. Staff further advised that this meeting represented the final opportunity for the city to opt out prior to the Act taking effect.

After consideration, the Mayor requested a motion to adopt the resolution opting out of the Safe Solicitation Act, reserving the right to adopt a later ordinance (Exhibit "F"). Alderman Taylor made a motion to adopt the resolution opting out of the Safe Solicitation Act, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Campbell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

7. Old Business

A) Discussion, Reconsideration of Denial of Freeport & Industrial Exemptions (Tabled in November)

The Board revisited the prior denial of Freeport and industrial tax exemptions. Mr. Joey Deason, representing MCEDA, addressed the Board regarding the importance of such exemptions for existing and prospective industrial employers, noting their role in economic development and competitiveness with surrounding jurisdictions.

The City Clerk explained that four companies were previously denied exemptions and that, due to statutory timelines, the current tax roll cannot be amended. It was noted that affected companies may reapply during the next application period, beginning in April, and that new applications may be submitted earlier for consideration in the upcoming tax year.

Additional discussion addressed the scope of the Freeport exemption, clarification that the companies pay all other applicable ad valorem taxes, and the potential impact of exemption policy on future industrial recruitment. No applications were before the Board at this time.

No action was taken.

B) Discussion of Amendments to Fireworks Ordinance

The Board discussed potential amendments to the existing ordinance prohibiting the sale of fireworks within the city. It was noted that any change would require repeal of the current prohibition and adoption of a revised ordinance establishing when and under what conditions fireworks may be sold, consistent with state law and applicable fire code requirements.

The Board discussed possible conditions and restrictions, including allowable zoning districts, whether sales should require a conditional use permit, the use of temporary structures (tents) versus brick-and-mortar locations, parking and traffic impacts, proximity to residential areas and sensitive uses, signage/lighting, and compliance with state statutes and the International Fire Code. A representative of the fireworks industry and other attendees provided input regarding operational practices and safety requirements.

The City Clerk and legal counsel were directed to circulate the prior fireworks ordinance (in effect before the prohibition) and to compile Board feedback for a revised draft ordinance for consideration at the January meeting.

No action was taken.

8. City Clerk, City Administration Matters & Grants Update (Lindsay Kellum)

A) General Update, City Administration (City Clerk)

The City Clerk updated the board on city administration matters (Exhibit "G").

No action taken.

B) Monthly Privilege License Report (Assistant City Clerk)

The Assistant City Clerk updated the board with the monthly privilege license report (Exhibit "H").

No action taken.

C) City Grants Update (City Clerk and Assistant City Clerk)

The City Clerk updated the board on general grant administration matters and the status of active grants (Exhibit "I").

Item 8E was presented before item 8D.

D) Homeland Cyber Security Grant Program, Request for Approval of Quotes (Equipment and Professional Services)

The Board considered a request to approve quotes associated with the Homeland Cyber Security Grant Program. The City Clerk reported that required quotes for equipment and professional services had been obtained in accordance with grant requirements. The selected equipment quote from BCI, Inc. totaled \$7,392.71. In addition, professional services related to implementation were proposed through The 20, Inc. consisting of three (3) line items totaling \$42,990. As professional services, these did not require multiple quotes. It was noted that the grant fully funds the project with no local match required and that total project costs are below the grant amount awarded.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the quotes associated with the Homeland Cyber Security Grant Program (Exhibit "J"). Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to approve the quotes associated with the Homeland Cyber Security Grant Program, and it was seconded by Alderman Williams.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

E) Request to Apply for America 250 Public Art Grant, Mississippi Arts Commission

The Board considered a request to apply for an America 250 Public Art Grant through the Mississippi Arts Commission in the amount of \$12,000. The grant would support a public art display in recognition of the America 250 celebration.

The Mayor requested a motion to authorize submission for the America 250 Public Art Grant (Exhibit "K"). Alderwoman Bates made a motion to authorize submission for the America 250 Public Art Grant, and it was seconded by Alderman Powell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

9. Building Official, Planning and Zoning Matters (Mike McCollum)

A) Planning and Zoning Update (Planning and Zoning Administrator)

The Planning and Zoning / Building Dept. Director addressed the board to provide a status update on rentals and other business in his department.

No action taken.

B) Monthly Building Permit Log (Planning and Zoning Administrator & Building Official)

The Planning and Zoning / Building Dept. Director addressed the board to provide a status update on the city's building permit log.

No action taken.

10. Public Works Department (Chris Buckner)

A) Request for Approval, Final Plat for Gluckstadt Business Park

The Board considered the final plat for the Gluckstadt Business Park (also referred to as Gluckstadt Office Park), located on Old Jackson Road. The Public Works Director explained that the property had been divided into three lots and that no new public streets would be added, as access would be provided by a private drive.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the final plat for the Gluckstadt Business Park (Exhibit "L"). Alderman Powell made a motion to approve the final plat for the Gluckstadt Business Park, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Bates.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

B) Authorization to Publish & Advertise for Maintenance Worker Position, Public Works

The Board considered a request from Public Works to advertise for a maintenance worker position to add a fourth employee to assist with right-of-way maintenance. The Public Works Director noted that the position was previously discussed during budget deliberations and delayed until closer to the spring season, with the goal of hiring by February.

The Mayor requested a motion to authorize publication and advertisement for the position of Maintenance Worker with the Public Works Department (Exhibit "M"). Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to authorize publication and advertisement for the position of Maintenance Worker with the Public Works Department, and it was seconded by Alderman Taylor.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

11. Police Chief, Police Department Matters (Chief Barry Hale)

A) General Update, Police Department (Chief of Police)

The Assistant Chief of Police updated the board on law enforcement matters.

No action taken.

12. Public Comment

No members of the public signed up to address the board.

No action taken.

13. Closed Session to Determine Need for Executive Session

The Board considered entering closed session to determine whether to enter into executive session. The Mayor requested a motion. A motion was made by Alderman Powell to enter closed session to determine the need for executive session, and it was seconded by Alderman Taylor.

After calling for and taking a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

The Board then considered entering executive session. Alderman Taylor made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a legal matter and personnel matters for city administration, Planning and Zoning, and the Police Department. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Bates. A public announcement was made by the city clerk that the Board had voted to enter into executive session to discuss a legal issue and personnel matters for city administration, Planning and Zoning, and the Police Department.

A) Discussion Rezoning for Madison County

The Mayor and Board discussed Madison County's decision to rezone a portion of north Calhoun Station Parkway from agricultural to heavy industrial and a notification of public hearing.

No action taken.

B) Discussion Executive Assistant/Project Officer

The Mayor and Board discussed prospective candidates for the Executive Assistant/Project Officer position. After discussion, the Board agreed to postpone filling the position until after the start of the new year.

No action was taken.

C) Compensatory Time for Christian Hall, Building Inspection and Code Enforcement Officer

The Mayor and Board discussed position requirements related to eligibility for compensatory time. It was determined that the position of Building Inspection and Code Enforcement Officer is eligible to earn compensatory time.

Following discussion, the Mayor requested a motion authorizing Christian Hall to earn compensatory time for work performed outside of normal working hours (Exhibit "N"). Alderman

Taylor made a motion that Christian Hall earn compensatory time for work performed outside of normal working hours, and it was seconded by Alderman Powell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

D) Request to Terminate Dispatcher Dawn Meyer, Police Department

The Mayor and Board discussed the job performance of Dispatcher Dawn Meyer. The Board was advised of Ms. Meyer's continued unsatisfactory progress in meeting the training requirements of her position. It was noted that Ms. Meyer had previously received a formal written reprimand from her direct supervisor, as well as the human resources department, and further, was provided with a 30-day job performance improvement plan, which had been reviewed and discussed in a prior executive session. Despite these corrective measures, no significant improvement in job performance was observed within the period allotted, and serious concerns remained regarding officer safety, public safety, and the ability for Ms. Meyer to follow standard operating procedures to the level expected in fulfilment of her employment duties.

Following discussion, the Mayor requested a motion authorizing the termination of Dispatcher Dawn Meyer's employment with the city effective December 10, 2025, and requesting Ms. Kellum certify all of her remaining leave to the Public Employees Retirement System. Alderman Taylor made a motion to authorize the termination, which was seconded by Alderman Williams.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

E) Resignation of Officer David Johnson

The Mayor requested a motion to accept the resignation of Officer David Johnson from the Police Department, effective December 1, 2025. Alderman Taylor made a motion to accept the resignation of Officer David Johnson, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Campbell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

F) Request to Hire Caine Dearman for Planning and Zoning Director

The Mayor requested a motion to hire Mr. Caine Dearman for the position of Director for the Planning and Zoning Department, at an annual salary of \$80,000 with a \$5,000 pay increase upon completion of necessary certifications within six (6) months, plus employment benefits such as Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance and participation in the Public Employees Retirement System. Mr. Dearman will be subject to random drug screenings within the first twelve months of hire, as a condition of his acceptance of employment. A motion was made by Alderman Taylor to hire Mr. Dearman for the position of Director for the Planning and Zoning Department, at an annual

salary of \$80,000 with a \$5,000 pay increase upon completion of necessary certifications with six (6) months, plus employment benefits such as Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance and participation in the Public Employees Retirement System, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Bates.

The Mayor then requested a motion to leave executive session. Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to leave executive session, and it was seconded by Alderman Williams. *After calling for and taking a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.* The Mayor and Board then exited executive session and re-entered open session.

A public announcement was made by the City Clerk that the Board discussed rezoning in Madison County, a personnel matter for city administration, terminated an individual in the Dispatch Department, accepted a resignation of an officer from the Police Department, and hired an individual for the Planning and Zoning Department. No further action was taken.

14. Adjourn

Alderman Taylor made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Alderman Powell.

Voting Yea: Alderman Powell, Alderman Williams, Alderwoman Bates, Alderman Taylor, Alderwoman Campbell

The mayor declared the motion carried.

ATTEST:

DATE:

Lindsay Kellum 11/13/26

Walter Morrison

LINDSAY D. KELLUM
CITY CLERK

WALTER C MORRISON, IV
MAYOR

[Seal]

