



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

**Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:00 PM**

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### **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, May 12, 2026, 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 May 12, 2026, 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, Planning and Zoning Director Caine Dearman, Chief of Police Barry Hale, and City Attorneys John Scanlon and 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) Presentation of K9 Officer Eric Huff to the Position of Sergeant**

Chief Hale recognized K9 Officer Eric Huff for his dedication, professionalism, and service to the Gluckstadt Police Department and announced his promotion to the rank of Sergeant. Chief Hale noted Sergeant Huff's four years of service, leadership, and commitment to the department and community.

The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Eric Huff, and he was pinned by his father, Michael Huff.

No action taken.

**B) Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Recognizing Presley Merkich on Being Named MHSAA 7A Miss Softball (Alderman Powell)**

The Mayor recognized Presley Merkich for being named the Mississippi High School Activities Association 7A Miss Softball. The Board noted her accomplishments as a senior catcher/shortstop for the Germantown High School softball team, including leading the Lady Mavericks to a Region 2-7A title and signing with Copiah-Lincoln Community College to continue her softball career.

The Mayor requested a motion to adopt the resolution recognizing Presley Merkich (Exhibit "B"). Alderman Powell made a motion to adopt the resolution recognizing Presley Merkich, 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.

**C) Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming May 11th - May 17th as Law Enforcement Appreciation Week (Alderman Powell)**

Alderman Powell presented a resolution recognizing May 11<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as Law Enforcement Appreciation Week and commended the men and women of the Gluckstadt Police Department and Madison County Sheriff's Department for their dedication, service, and commitment to public safety.

The Mayor requested a motion to adopt the resolution recognizing May 11<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as Law Enforcement Appreciation Week (Exhibit "C"). Alderman Powell made a motion to adopt the resolution recognizing May 11<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as Law Enforcement Appreciation Week, 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.

**D) Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming May 3rd - 9th as National Municipal Clerks and Deputy Clerks Week (Alderwoman Campbell)**

Alderwoman Campbell presented a resolution proclaiming May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as National Municipal Clerks and Deputy Clerks Week in recognition of the valuable service and dedication provided by municipal clerks and deputy clerks to the City and community.

The Mayor requested a motion to adopt the resolution proclaiming May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as National Municipal Clerks and Deputy Clerks Week (Exhibit "D"). Alderwoman

Campbell made a motion to adopt the resolution proclaiming May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as National Municipal Clerks and Deputy Clerks Week, 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.

#### **E) Germanfest Vendor Applications, Now Open**

Staff announced that vendor applications for Germanfest 2026 are now open. Applications are available through the City's website and social media platforms and are subject to committee approval. Vendors interested in participating were encouraged to contact City Hall or the City Clerk's office for additional information.

No action was taken.

#### **4. Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

A) Approval of Claims Docket

B) Approval of 4/14/26 Regular Meeting Minutes and 4/23/26 Special Called Meeting Minutes

C) Request Approval for Training and Travel Reimbursement for Hostage Negotiations with the Empathy Impaired and Psychopaths Training (Brian McCarty)

D) Requesting Approval to Remove and Add an Item to Fixed Assets

E) Request to Transfer Police Department Debt Service Payment from General Fund to Debt Service Account

F) Consideration of Increase in Cyber Security Coverage (Scott Insurance Services, Inc.)

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the consent agenda, amended to include two additional items: authorization for the City Clerk and the Human Resources Director to attend the Phelps annual employment conference, and approval to install GPS tracking systems on all police department vehicles (Exhibit "E"). Alderman Taylor made a motion to approve the amended consent agenda, 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.

#### **5. Monthly Budget Report**

##### **A) Monthly Budget Reports**

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

No action taken.

## **B) Monthly Bank Reconciliations**

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

No action taken.

## **C) Request to Amend FY26 Municipal Budget (MOSTF Grant Transfer to Newly Created Fund)**

The Mayor presented a request to amend the FY26 Municipal Budget related to the Mississippi Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund grant. The amendment would transfer grant funds and matching funds from the general fund into a newly created grant fund and bank account, as required by the grant program. Additional amendments included accounting for School Resource Officer revenue and budget adjustments within the Police Department.

The Mayor requested a motion to adopt the resolution to amend the FY26 Municipal Budget (Exhibit "H"). Alderwoman Bates made a motion to amend the FY26 Municipal Budget, 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.

## **6. New Business**

### **A) Consideration of AMS Collection Services Agreement (Delinquent Fines & Fees)**

The Mayor and Board considered a proposed collection services agreement with AMS Collection Services for the collection of delinquent municipal court fines and fees. Legal counsel advised that the agreement complies with state law and explained that the City would receive 100% of the fines collected, with the collection agency authorized to collect an additional fee, as permitted by statute.

After consideration, the Mayor requested a motion to approve the agreement with AMS Collection Services (Exhibit "I"). Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to approve the agreement with AMS Collection Services, 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.

## **7. Old Business**

### **A) Consideration of Request by Dana Jones, Extension of Time Period for Fireworks Celebration - United States 250th Anniversary**

The Mayor recognized **Ms. Dana Jones** and **Mr. Bill Jones**, who addressed the Board regarding a request to temporarily extend the permitted discharge period for fireworks in

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recognition of the United States 250th Anniversary celebration. The applicants requested that the City consider aligning the discharge period with allowances under Mississippi state law for the 2026 holiday season.

Legal counsel reviewed the applicable state statute and advised that municipalities have discretion to authorize fireworks discharge during the state-authorized sales period. Following the discussion, the Board considered extending the discharge period for the 2026 Independence Day holiday only.

The Mayor requested a motion. Alderman Taylor made a motion to temporarily extend the permitted fireworks discharge period from July 3, 2026, through July 5, 2026 (Exhibit "J"). Alderman Powell seconded the motion.

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

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

### **A) Monthly Update, General Administration (City Clerk)**

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

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 "L").*

No action taken.

### **C) Discussion of Amendments to Leave Accruals, Employee Handbook (Tabled in April)**

The Mayor and Board discussed proposed amendments to the City's leave accrual policy to align more closely with the State of Mississippi leave model and improve employee recruitment and retention. The proposed amendments would allow employees to accrue additional vacation leave after three years of service, rather than waiting for five years. They would establish a separate accrual schedule for Police Department employees working 12-hour shifts to provide equitable leave benefits. Sick leave accruals and the six-month probationary period would remain unchanged.

After discussion, the Mayor requested a motion to adopt the amendments to the City's leave accrual policy (Exhibit "M"). Alderman Taylor made a motion to adopt the amendments to the City's leave policy, 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.

#### **D) Monthly 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 "N").*

No action taken.

#### **E) Request to Approve BCBS Grant Award and Authorize Mayor to Sign Grant Agreement Documents (City Park)**

Staff announced that the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation approved grant funding for playground equipment and a fitness area at the City Park. Staff reported the project will include approximately 27,000 square feet of playground and fitness space and noted the grant award totaled approximately \$2.3 million.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the grant award and to authorize the signing of the agreement documents (Exhibit "O"). Alderman Powell made a motion to approve the grant award and authorize the signing of the agreement documents, 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.

#### **9. Planning and Zoning Director, P&Z/ Building Matters (Caine Dearman)**

##### **A) Planning and Zoning Update**

*The Planning and Zoning Department Director addressed the board to provide a status update on planning and zoning matters.*

No action taken.

##### **B) Request for Approval of Site Plan Amendment-The Oaks Memory Care Addition**

The Mayor presented a request for approval of a site plan amendment for The Oaks to allow construction of an 11,000-square-foot memory care addition. The P&Z Director explained that the addition would complement the existing facility and that the original conditional use approval had been granted in 2025. The proposed amendment was reviewed by the Architectural Review Committee and the Planning and Zoning Commission, both of which recommended approval.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the site plan amendment for The Oaks Memory Care Addition (Exhibit "P"). Alderwoman Bates made a motion to approve the site plan amendment for The Oaks Memory Care Addition, 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.

Following the vote, the Board discussed exterior building renovations and the Architectural Review Committee's role in reviewing exterior building and landscaping improvements. Alderman Powell requested that the proposed parameters and recommendations be brought back to the Board for further consideration at the June meeting.

## **10. Public Works Director, Public Works Matters (Chris Buckner)**

*Amended at the Mayor's discretion to add Item 10C*

### **A) Request for Approval, Gluckstadt Road Paving Cost Amendment**

The Mayor requested a motion to amend the contract amount for the Gluckstadt Road paving and overlay project previously approved by the Board (Exhibit "Q"). The Public Works Director explained that the updated term bid pricing, effective April 1, increased asphalt costs. The project cost increased from \$472,221.15 to \$509,970.00. It was also noted that the project will be funded through the City's \$750,000 state legislative allocation and not through local capital outlay funds. Alderman Taylor made a motion to approve the cost amendment, 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.

### **B) Request for Approval, Signing SS4A Support Letter**

The Public Works Director presented a request for the Mayor to sign a support letter for a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant application being pursued by Madison County for improvements at the Highway 51 and Yandell Road intersection. It was explained that the project was not selected during a previous funding cycle, but the County intends to continue applying for grant funding. The requested letter of support would demonstrate the City's support for the project and could improve the application's competitiveness.

The Mayor requested a motion to authorize signing the SS4A support letter (Exhibit "R"). Alderman Taylor made a motion to authorize signing the SS4A support letter, 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.

### **C) Request for Approval, The Final Plat for The Oaks**

The Mayor and Board revisited the request for approval of the final plat for The Oaks, which had been tabled at the April meeting pending approval of the associated site plan amendment for the memory care facility. The Public Works Director explained that the proposed plat would subdivide the existing approximately five-acre parcel into three lots: one for the existing Oaks facility, one for the memory care addition, and one for future development.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the final plat for The Oaks (Exhibit "S"). Alderman Powell made the motion to approve the final plat for The Oaks, 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)**

*Amended at the Mayor's discretion to add Item 11B*

##### **A) General Update, Police Department (Chief Barry Hale)**

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

No action taken.

##### **B) Good Neighbor Grant, Request for Approval of Grant, Exxon Mobile (Kerry Minninger)**

The Mayor and Board were presented with a request for authorization to apply for the ExxonMobil Good Neighbor Grant Program. The grant seeks \$5,000 to purchase a gas monitor for the City's emergency command trailer.

The Mayor requested a motion to approve submission of the grant application (Exhibit "T"). Alderman Powell made the motion to approve submission of the grant application, 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.

#### **12. Public Comment**

##### **Edward Bouldin, 23069 Lot - Parcel (Entire Parcel)**

Mr. Edward Bouldin addressed the Mayor and Board regarding property located at 142 Old Jackson Road. He requested permission to place a mobile home on a portion of his property where one had previously been located. Mr. Bouldin stated that the proposed mobile home would be used as a rental property.

Staff reviewed the request and advised that the property is zoned **R-1 Residential**. Under Section 1000.1(F) of the Zoning Ordinance, only one principal dwelling is permitted per lot. Staff further explained that hardship provisions allowing a manufactured home are limited to specific circumstances, such as temporary housing following storm damage or for certain family medical needs and are only temporary. Because the property already contains a residence and the proposed mobile home would constitute a second dwelling on the same parcel, the request did not meet the ordinance's requirements.

The Mayor invited discussion and stated that any motion made by the Board would be considered. No motion was offered by any member of the Board. The Mayor encouraged staff to continue working with Mr. Bouldin to determine whether any alternative options may be available under the City's ordinances.

### **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 Alderwoman Bates to enter closed session to determine the need for executive session, and it was seconded by Alderman Powell. *After calling for and taking a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.*

The Board then considered entering executive session. Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to enter executive session to *discuss personnel matters for the Public Works Department and a potential real estate transaction.* The motion was seconded by Alderman Powell. *A public announcement was made that the Board had voted to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters for the Public Works Department and a possible real estate transaction.*

#### **A) Resignation of Damey Kelly-McElroy (Public Works)**

The Mayor requested a motion to accept the resignation of Damey Kelly-McElroy from the position of Crew Leader with the Public Works Department, effective April 24, 2026. Alderman Taylor made a motion to accept the resignation of Damey Kelly-McElroy, 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) Request to Appoint Christopher Lockett Interim Crew Leader (6 months)-Public Works**

The Mayor requested a motion to approve the appointment of Christopher Lockett to the position of Interim Crew Leader for a period of six (6) months. This appointment does not include a salary change and will be revisited at the end of the six (6) month period. Alderman Powell made a motion to approve the appointment of Christopher Lockett to the position of Interim Crew Leader for a period of six (6) months, 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.

#### **C) Bear Creek Property, MOU**

The Mayor and Board were presented with a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to the potential acquisition of the Bear Creek property. Legal counsel reviewed the proposed terms and explained that the MOU would establish the framework for a future lease-purchase agreement.

The Board discussed the general terms of the proposed transaction, including the purchase price, financing structure, insurance responsibilities, and anticipated payment schedule. The MOU would allow the parties to continue working toward a final agreement while outlining the basic terms of the proposed acquisition.

The Mayor requested a motion to accept the MOU for the Bear Creek Property (Exhibit "U"). Alderman Powell made the motion to accept the MOU for the Bear Creek Property, 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.

The Mayor then requested a motion to exit executive session. Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to exit executive session, and it was seconded by Alderwoman Bates. *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 had accepted the resignation of one individual from the Public Works Department, named an Interim Crew Leader for the Public Works Department, and accepted the terms of a real estate transaction.*

#### 14. Adjourn

Alderwoman Campbell made a motion to adjourn, 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.

ATTEST:

  
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LINDSAY D. KELLUM  
CITY CLERK

DATE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

WALTER C MORRISON, IV  
MAYOR

[Seal]

