

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, MOBILE, ALABAMA, MAY 1, 2020

The Council of the City of Mobile, Alabama met remotely via virtual special meeting on Friday, May 1, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman: Manzie
Councilmembers: Richardson, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory
Absent: None

The meeting was called to order. The Council reviewed and discussed the agenda for their special meeting to be held today at 3:00 p.m.

Adopted:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, MOBILE, ALABAMA, MAY 1, 2020

The City Council of the City of Mobile, Alabama met remotely via virtual special meeting, on Friday, May 1, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., in a special meeting.

The meeting was called to order by City Clerk Lisa C. Lambert.

Present on Roll Call:

Chairman: Manzie
Councilmembers: Richardson, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory
Absent: None

STATEMENT OF RULES BY PRESIDING OFFICER:

The Presiding Officer provided an overview of the City Council rules of procedure, to include special provisions to facilitate social distancing because of the Covid-19 virus.

President Manzie stated:

“Good Afternoon.

In response to national, state and local guidance due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act and the Governor’s supplemental emergency proclamation, we are now meeting remotely and will continue to for at least the next 2 weeks.

While we are all in different places, we are able to participate as if we were all in the council chambers at City Hall and in keeping with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act; the public is still able to observe the meeting through the livestream.

All items we will address during this meeting are either necessary to respond to COVID-19, or necessary to perform essential minimum functions of the City.

The public is still able to present comments to the Council by e-mailing them to cityclerk@cityofmobile.org up to 30 minutes prior to the meeting. Public comments which will be acknowledged as received during the meeting, distributed to Councilmembers and included in the meeting minutes.

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As always, the meeting is livestreamed and can be viewed through the city's website or on the Council's Facebook page.

Thank you for joining us."

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Stimpson provided information and answered questions from the Council regarding Resolutions 09-323 and 41-324.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Councilmember Daves moved to adopt the agenda, which move was seconded by Councilmember Richardson and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory

Nays: Williams

The vote was then announced by the City Clerk whereupon the Presiding Officer declared the agenda adopted.

Councilmember Daves moved to declare the items Essential/Covid-19 related, which move was seconded by Councilmember Richardson and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory

Nays: Williams

The vote was then announced by the City Clerk whereupon the Presiding Officer declared the items Essential/Covid-19 related.

SUSPENSION OF RULES FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION OF ESSENTIAL/COVID-19 ITEMS BEING INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

Councilmember Daves moved for the suspension of the rules to consider Resolutions 09-323 and 41-324, being introduced for the first time, the motion was seconded by Councilmember Gregory and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory

Nays: None

The Presiding Officer declared unanimous consent granted for the items.

ESSENTIAL / COVID-19 ITEMS HELD OVER:

AMEND THE FY 2019-2020 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR AN EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19. The following resolution was introduced by Councilmember Richardson.

RESOLUTION: 09-323-2020

Sponsored by: Mayor Stimpson

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY 2019-2020 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR AN EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, by Proclamation dated March 13, 2020, Governor Kay Ivey found that the appearance of COVID-19 in the State of Alabama creates the potential of widespread exposure to an infectious agent that poses a significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people and declared a state public health emergency under Code of Alabama § 31-9-1, et. seq; and

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WHEREAS, by Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency dated March 17, 2020, the City Council of Mobile, pursuant to its authority to provide for the health and safety of persons and property under Code of Alabama § 31-9-10(b)(1) and to preserve the health of the inhabitants of the municipality under Code of Alabama § 11-45-1, declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency in the City of Mobile; and

WHEREAS, Code of Alabama § 11-44C-58 authorizes emergency appropriations to meet a pressing public need for public expenditures to protect the public health, safety and welfare upon recommendation of the Mayor and, Code of Alabama § 11-44C-62 requires certification of the Director of Finance that there is available an unappropriated sum sufficient to meet the appropriation set forth herein; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor has recommended such appropriation as set forth below and the Director of Finance's certification is attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Council finds that the subject of this Resolution is necessary to respond to COVID-19 as contemplated by a Proclamation of the Governor of the State of Alabama issued March 13, 2020, and a Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency adopted by the City Council of the City of Mobile issued March 17, 2020.

2. That the FY 2019-2020 Annual General Fund is hereby adjusted and amended to account for the appropriation set forth herein as follows:

Decrease the General Fund line item "Budgeted Reserve-Zoghby 2% Statutory Reserve" -\$500,000.00

Increase General Fund Account #10049080-49225 COVID RELIEF +\$500,000.00

Councilmember Richardson moved to hold the resolution over until the regular meeting of May 5, 2020, which move was seconded by Councilmember Rich. Following comments from Councilmember Williams the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory

Nays: Williams

The vote was then announced by the City Clerk whereupon the Presiding Officer declared the resolution held over.

CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A SPECIAL EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM KNOWN AS "IGNITE MOBILE." The following resolution was introduced by Councilmember Small.

RESOLUTION: 41-324-2020

Sponsored by: Mayor Stimpson

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, that the City Clerk be, and she hereby is, instructed to publish in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality the attached notice stating the time and place a proposed resolution is to be considered by the City Council and further stating that at such time and place all persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in opposition to or in favor of the proposed resolution.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA:

Notice is hereby given to you that the Mayor of Mobile and the Mobile City Council wish to appropriate funding of \$500,000 to a special emergency grant program known as "Ignite Mobile" providing funds to businesses within the City of Mobile closed by Order of

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the State Health Officer dated April 28, 2020, meeting certain criteria based on demonstrated need to prevent staff reductions and maintain business operations negatively impacted by the effect of COVID-19 on their operations, which program will help offset the negative economic effects of the coronavirus crisis on the City of Mobile's tax base, its citizens and its businesses; in favor of business that support the local economy. The City of Mobile has issued a public notice for a public hearing to be held in the City Council Auditorium (Government Plaza) located at 205 Government Street, Mobile, Alabama and available on Zoom, on the 12th day of May, 2020, at 10:30 a.m., so any citizen or tax payer may be heard on whether the Mobile City Council should or should not authorize and fund this program with the funds on deposit in the City's General Fund as the payment for Ignite Mobile thereunder; the enforceability of the applications; and all proceedings had or taken by the City in connection with the authorization, issuance and funding of said program.

Councilmember Small then moved to call for the public hearing, which move was seconded by Councilmember Richardson. Following comments from Councilmember William the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory
Nays: None

The vote was then announced whereupon the Presiding Officer set the date for the public hearing as May 12, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmembers Small, Gregory, Richardson and Manzie thanked the Mayor and Administration for presenting Resolutions 09-323 and 41-324 to the Council.

Councilmembers Small and Manzie expressed their support for hazard pay for City employees on the front lines of the Covid-19 public health emergency.

Councilmember Richardson asked his colleagues to join him in introducing a resolution to recommend citizens wear face masks.

Councilmember Small moved to adjourn the meeting, which move was seconded by Councilmember Richardson and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Richardson, Manzie, Small, Williams, Daves, Rich and Gregory
Nays: None

The vote was then announced by the City Clerk, whereupon the Presiding Officer declared the regular meeting adjourned at approximately 4:18 p.m.

Adopted:

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK