

**Minute Book**

**April 21, 2020**

**BOARD MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR  
AND  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
OF THE  
TOWN OF TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI**

**OFFICERS:**

**Mayor Charles M. Cariker**

**Alderman John A. "Jack" Graves, Jr.**

**Alderman Brad Beach**

**Alderman Andrew T. Dulaney**

**Alderwoman Brooks Taylor**

**Alderman Billy Willis**

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**Town Attorney, Charles B. Graves Jr.**

**Town Clerk Kate Scott Pennock**

**Chief of Police Michael Nichols**

**Town Chaplain Danny Smith**

**REGULAR THIRD TUESDAY APRIL  
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

**BE IT REMEMBERED, that Tuesday, April 21, 2020 being the third Tuesday of said month and the day fixed by Board order for holding the second monthly meeting, said meeting was held in the Boardroom in the Municipal Complex at 909 River Road in the Town of Tunica, Mississippi, beginning at 3:00 p.m. with the following present or absent as indicated below:**

<b>Mayor Charles M. Cariker</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alderman John A. Graves Jr</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alderman Brad Beach</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alderman Andrew Dulaney</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alderwoman Brooks Taylor</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alderman Dan Pierce</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Town Clerk Kate Scott Pennock</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Town Attorney Richard W. Ryals, II</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Police Chief Michael Nichols</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Investigator Chris Cheslock</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Street Supervisor Kelvin Cooke</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Operations Manager Thomas J. Robinson, III</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Town Chaplain Danny Smith</b>	<b>Absent</b>

**Others in attendance are listed on the attendance sheet.**

**APPENDIX A – ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**Mayor Cariker called the meeting to order at 3:00 and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Alderman Graves led in prayer.**

**The Board considered the minutes from the meeting April 7, 2020. Alderwoman Taylor moved to approve the minutes as written, Alderman Graves seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted and approved by all members present.**

**REPORTS:**

- Alderman Graves reported for the Planning Commission.**
- Chief Nichols reported for the police department.**
- Thomas “J” Robinson reported on public works operations.**
- Code Enforcer David Graves reported on code violations in town.**

**The Mayor and Board discussed and considered suspending late charges and reconnect fees on utility accounts due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a monthly basis. Alderman Dulaney made a motion to suspend late charges and reconnect fees on utility accounts for the month of April due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; Alderman Graves seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted and approved by all members present.**

**The Board considered and discussed the continuance of the proclamation of a local emergency. Alderman Beach made a motion to continue the proclamation of a local emergency; Alderman Dulaney seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted and approved by all members present.**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen next considered holding an Executive Session, as authorized pursuant to Section 25-41-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Alderman Beach moved that a closed determination be held to discuss whether an executive session is needed to be held and is appropriate. Alderman Graves seconded the motion. Thereupon, the matter was put to a vote with the results as follows: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, yea; Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent.

The matter having received the majority vote of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Tunica, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the Mayor and Board held a closed determination on the issue of whether an executive session is necessary. Mayor Cariker stated that the purpose for holding the executive session would be to discuss real estate and personnel.

Based on this, Alderman Dulaney made the motion that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen hold an executive session to discuss, consider and act on the Executive Session matter. Alderman Beach seconded the motion. The matter was put to a vote with the result as follows: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent.

The matter having received the majority vote of the Board of Aldermen of Tunica, the Mayor declared the same carried and the Board entered executive session to consider the Executive Session Matters. Present during the executive session were the Mayor, all members of the Board of Aldermen who voted on going into executive session, Town Clerk Pennock, and Town Attorney Ryals.

After discussion, the following actions were taken regarding real estate and personnel: Alderman Dulaney made a motion to approve leasing the deli to Burch and Penny Franklin to open a nutrition drink bar. The term for the lease will be 6 months at \$100.00 per month. Alderman Graves seconded and a vote was taken with the following results: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, yea; Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent.

Alderman Beach made a motion to hire Joe Morgan, III for the water and sewer department at a pay rate of \$12.00 per hour and 90-day probation period. After the probation period ends, he will be evaluated for a pay increase. Alderman Graves seconded and a vote was taken with the following results: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, yea; Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent.

Alderman Dulaney recused himself due to conflict of interest at 3:45 p.m.

Alderman Graves made a motion to appoint Joe Dulaney as Municipal Court Judge Pro-Tem. Alderman Beach seconded and a vote was taken with the following results: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, recused; Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent.

Alderman Graves made the motion to leave executive session seconded by Alderman Beach. The vote was as follows: Alderman Graves, yea; Alderman Beach, yea; Alderman Dulaney, absent; Alderwoman Taylor, yea; and Alderman Pierce, absent. The motion carried and the Board returned to open meeting and Mayor Cariker announced the following actions that were taken during executive session.

**Mayor Cariker announced that the Aaron E. Tunica Clinic will administer Drive-Through COVID-19 Testing Friday, April 24, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Battle Arena/Tunica Expo Center.**

**With no other business, Alderwoman Taylor moved to adjourn, Alderman Beach seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m. this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020.**

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**Charles M. Cariker, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Kate Scott Pennock, Town Clerk**

**APPENDIX A – ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**BOARD MEETING  
ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE  
3:00 P. M.  
APRIL 21, 2020**

NAME	EMAIL/ORGANIZATION
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
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16. _____	_____