

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF  
ALDERMAN OF THE TOWN OF STURGIS HELD ON THE 5th DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER 2023**

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the Town of Sturgis was held at 6:00 o'clock on the 5<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2023 at the Town Hall, the aforesaid being the time and place for the meeting of the officers present: Leah Brown, Mayor; Jerry Bean, Amanda Ware, Susie McClelland, Lori Ann Carpenter, Aldermen; Laura Smith, Mayor Pro Tem; Mandy Page, Town Clerk; Doug Hamilton, Police Chief; Ricky Vowell, Water Maintenance; Caroline Commer, Attorney.

The meeting was duly opened and called to order by Mayor, Leah Brown.  
Opening prayer by Leah Brown.

**ORDER – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded by Susie McClelland.  
Unanimously carried. The board approved the minutes for August 2023.

Jerry Bean ---Yea

Laura Smith ---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter--- Yea

**ORDER – DOCKETT CLAIMS**

Upon motion made by Susie McClelland and seconded by Amanda Ware.  
Unanimously carried. The board approved to pay the listed bills for August 2023.

Jerry Bean --Yea

Laura Smith ---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter--- Yea

\*Police & Water Reports were given.

### **ORDER- WATER ON CHURCH STREET**

Discussion on a water pressure issue due to two customers being on the same service line. A 3-way share of cost between the Town and the two water consumers was discussed. Upon motion made by Lori Ann Carpenter and seconded by Amanda Ware. Unanimously carried. The board voted to share a third of the cost for this water issue.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- BANK LETTER OF CREDIT**

Upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded by Susie McClelland. Unanimously carried. The board voted to renew and complete the CB&S Bank letter of credit.

Jerry Bean ---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware--Yea

Susie McClelland--- Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER-ENGINEERING BIDS**

Upon motion made by Lori Ann Carpenter and seconded by Susie McClelland. Unanimously carried. The board agreed to accept the bid from Neel Schaffer Engineering for the lagoon project. The bid was accepted due to qualifications not price.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- DAY OF PRAYER IN STURGIS**

Upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded by Amanda Ware. Unanimously carried. Upon discussions with Ms. Mary Hampton Wise at a prior meeting, the Day of Prayer will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 between 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. The location to be announced at a later date. Details to be discussed also.

Jerry Bean---Yea  
Amanda Ware---Yea  
Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea  
Susie McClelland---Yea

### **ORDER-MUNICIPAL CLERK CONFERENCE**

Upon motion made by Jerry Bean and seconded by Susie McClelland. Unanimously carried. The board voted for Mandy Jones Page, town clerk, to attend the MS Municipal Court Conference in Philadelphia, MS on September 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

Jerry Bean---Yea  
Amanda Ware---Yea  
Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea  
Susie McClelland---Yea

### **ORDER- BUDGET FY24**

Upon motion made by Susie McClelland and seconded by Amanda Ware. Four voted yea with one abstained. The board voted to accept the budget for fiscal year 2024 for the General Fund, Police, Water, Fire, Park, Etc.

Jerry Bean---Abstain  
Amanda Ware---Yea  
Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea  
Susie McClelland---Yea

\*Discussion on Park Budget with Camp Spot mentioned as an increase to the budget.

\*Discussion on water leak in Town Hall.

\*Follow-up discussion on repairs to park gates with estimates to be taken.

\*Follow-up discussion on water operator position with advertising to end on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Interviews & other hiring information to follow.

\*Discussion on distressed properties (abandoned or empty buildings) and clean-up in town and the procedures on how to address. Town attorney will look into ordinances and protection to landowners & businesses with a possible town meeting to follow.

### **ORDER- CONSISTENT SPEED LIMIT THROUGHOUT TOWN**

Upon motion made by Lori Ann Carpenter and seconded by Amanda Ware. Unanimously carried. The board voted to approach MDOT for consistent 35 mph speed limit signs throughout the town on Hwy. 12.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- FALL EVENTS IN TOWN**

Upon motion made by Amanda Ware and seconded by Susie McClelland. Unanimously carried. The board voted to have the Fall events including a Stew Stomp for October 31<sup>st</sup> on Main Street and the annual Trunk-a-Trick to be held on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00pm in the park.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Upon motion made by Lori Ann Carpenter and seconded by Laura Smith. Unanimously carried. The board voted to have the annual Christmas parade on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 with the time & other details TBA.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded by Susie McClelland.  
Unanimously carried. The board voted to go into executive session.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded by Susie McClelland.  
Unanimously carried. The board voted to end executive session and open the  
meeting back to the public.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

### **ORDER- MILLAGE RATES RESOLUTION**

Following the board meeting and upon motion made by Laura Smith and seconded  
by Amanda Ware. Four voted yea with one abstained. The board voted to proceed  
with the millage rates from the previous year and forward these rates into a  
resolution letter to be sent to the Oktibbeha Board of Supervisors.

Jerry Bean---Abstain

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

**ORDER-ADJOURN**

Upon motion made by Susie McClelland and seconded by Lori Ann Carpenter.  
Unanimously carried. The board voted to adjourn with no further business.

Jerry Bean---Yea

Laura Smith---Yea

Amanda Ware---Yea

Susie McClelland---Yea

Lori Ann Carpenter---Yea

**ATTEST:**



**MANDY JONES PAGE  
TOWN CLERK**



**LEAH BROWN  
MAYOR**