

MINUTES OF THE DEMOPOLIS COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF DEMOPOLIS, ALABAMA

**Special Called Meeting**  
**Oath of Office**  
**Organizational Meeting**

**November 7, 2016**

The special called meeting of the Demopolis City Council convened at 8:00am on Monday November 7, 2016 in the Demopolis Rooster Hall.

**Present:**

**Council Members:** John Laney, Mayor  
Bill Meador, Mayor Pro Tempore  
Charles Jones, Jr.  
Nathan Hardy  
Harris Nelson  
Cleveland Cole

**City Clerk:** Sam Gross

Mayor Pro Tempore Bill Meador called the meeting to order. David Willis, pastor at First United Methodist Church, opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge Deas asked the Mayor and Council to stand as he administered the oath of office as follows:

I solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alabama, so long as I continue a citizen thereof; and that I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter, to the best of my ability, so help me God.

Mayor John Laney called the Organization Meeting of the Council to order at 8:05am.

**Election of Mayor Pro Tempore:** Councilman Meador made a motion to nominate Councilman Jones as Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilman Nelson seconded the motion and motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Establish time and place of regular meetings:** Mayor Laney stated currently the council meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:15pm. Mayor Laney opened the floor

for recommendation or changes. There being none the meeting will days will remain the same.

**Adoption of Rules of Procedure:** Mayor Laney stated the only recommendation for change is on page 2 on Ordinance 2016-08 to add number 15 Public Comments. Mayor Laney stated that a length of time will be established at later time. Mayor Laney stated it is essential that the public have the opportunity to speak. Councilman Nelson made the motion to approve Ordinance 2016-08 to add Public Comments to the agenda. Councilman Hardy seconded the motion and the motion passed with 6 yes votes by the following roll call votes:

Mayor Laney: yes	Councilman Jones: yes	Councilman Hardy: yes
Councilman Nelson: yes	Councilman Meador: yes	Councilman Cole: yes

**Ratify Use of Present Depositories-Resolution 2016-54:** Resolution 2016-54 ratifies the appointment of depositories of funds, the depositories being Robertson Banking Company, Trustmark, and Sweet Water State Bank. Councilman Cole made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-54. Councilman Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed with 6 yes votes by the following roll call votes:

Mayor Laney: yes	Councilman Jones: yes	Councilman Hardy: yes
Councilman Nelson: yes	Councilman Meador: yes	Councilman Cole: yes

**Establishment of Committee:** Mayor Laney proposed two (2) new committees:

- (1) **Economic Incentive and Contract Committee** - The purpose of this committee is to review any contract related economic incentives for private ventures and report back to the council members the findings of their review and value of the economic incentives to the private venture on a per job created basis. They will also include in their review the protections provided to the city in the event private venture does not meet its objectives as presented to the council. They committee will also report on the potential impact either positive or negative of the private venture on any currently active businesses. The committee will also develop recommendations for the council economic incentives for undeveloped or underutilized areas of the city with the primary focus being on revitalization and job creation.
- (2) **Grant Review and Capital Spending Committee** – The purpose of this committee will be to review and make recommendation to the council on grants which the city wishes to apply. Review capital spending requests, prioritize, and report to the council their recommendation on the request. This will be completed prior to the preparation of budgets for each year for use in budget preparation.

Mayor Laney stated with those two (2) committees established he proceed with the council committee appointments.

Economic Incentive and Contract Committee:	Meador/Jones
Grant and Capital Budget	Meador/Nelson
Airport	Nelson
Beautification	Hardy

Building	Cole/Meador
Cemetery	Jones
Finance	Hardy/Cole
Historic Preservation	Jones
Library	Cole
Park & Recreation	Meador
Personnel	Hardy/Nelson
Planning	Cole
Public Safety	Hardy/Meador
Water & Sewer Board	Jones
Board of Adjustment	Nelson
Board of Education	Meador
Hospital	Jones

**Appointments for Administrative Officers and Employees and City Attorney:** Mayor Laney listed the Administrative Officers, Employees, and City Attorney:

City Clerk	Sam Gross
Court Clerk	Karen Broadhead
Building Official	Julius Rembert
Librarian	Morgan Allen
Horticulturist	Barbara Blevins
Public Works	Mike Baker
Police Chief	Tommie Reese
Fire Chief	Vernon Waters
<del>Park &amp; Recreation Director</del>	<del>Walker Reynolds</del>
City Attorney	Bill Poole

Mayor Laney commented on the City Attorney Bill Poole indicated that he would be retiring and has agreed to stay on until the end of December. Mayor Laney will take recommendation but his concerns if we move preemptively we may not give the people in the city opportunity for their business.

Mayor Laney entertained motion to approve department head. Councilman Meador made the motion to reappoint each one of them. Councilman Hardy seconded the motion, and the motion passed with 6 yes votes by the following roll call votes:

Mayor Laney: yes	Councilman Jones: yes	Councilman Hardy: yes
Councilman Nelson: yes	Councilman Meador: yes	Councilman Cole: yes

Councilman Nelson stated just a point of clarification Park & Recreation is autonomous board so we don't officially appointed the director. Mayor Laney asked that Park & Recreation Director be marked through on the above list of department heads.

**Resolution 2016-55 A Resolution for the City of Demopolis, Alabama, to authorize John Laney, Mayor of Demopolis, signatory powers on checking accounts, debt obligations,**

**and authority to obtain necessary information in the course of duty:** Councilman Cole made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-55 as presented. Councilman Hardy seconded the motion, and motion passed with 5 yes and 1 abstain votes by the following roll call vote:

Mayor Laney:                      Councilman Jones: yes              Councilman Hardy: yes  
Councilman Nelson: yes              Councilman Meador: yes              Councilman Cole: yes

**Resolution 2016-56 A Resolution for the City of Demopolis, Alabama, adopt the policy authorizing signatory powers.** The authorized signatory authority as follows:

Trustmark- Account Payable Clearing Fund

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk

Trustmark – Demopolis Municipal Court

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk

Trustmark – State Gasoline Tax

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk

Robertson Banking Company – Payroll Account

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk  
Rachel Halkias – Payroll Clerk

Robertson Banking Company – Flex Spending Account

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk  
Rachel Halkias – Payroll Clerk

Robertson Banking Company – State 4 Cent Gas Tax

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk

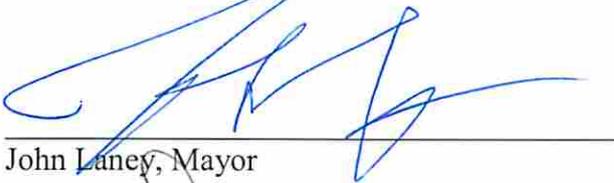
Robertson Banking Company – Corrections Fund

John Laney – Mayor  
Charles Jones – Mayor Pro Tempore  
Sam Gross – City Clerk

Councilman Cole made the motion to pass Resolution 2016-56. Councilman Hardy seconded the motion, and the motion passed with 6 yes votes by the following roll call vote:

Mayor Laney: yes                      Councilman Jones: yes              Councilman Hardy: yes  
Councilman Nelson: yes              Councilman Meador: yes              Councilman Cole: yes

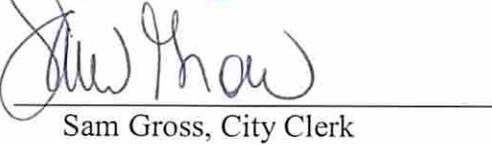
Councilman Meador made the motion to adjourn.



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John Laney, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Sam Gross, City Clerk

- \* Audiotape is used by City Clerk to prepare minutes and will be maintained not less than seven years from the date of approval.