TOWN OF PLANTERSVILLE
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2023
AGENDA

Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Town Hall

Meeting called to order
Pledge to the flag

Roll Call

Adopt the agenda

Approve the minutes for July 6, 2023

Public Comments

- **First New Bethel Church, 2567 Main Street:** Church fundraiser at the Grant-Wuichet Park, August 12, 2023

Resolution

- Lee County to assist with Grant-Wuichet Park walking track

Reports:
- Water/Maintenance
- Fire
- Police
- Animal Control
- Code Enforcement
- Attorney
- Mayor
- Clerk

Pay Claims

Adjourn

TOWN OF PLANTERSVILLE
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
August 1, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Town Hall

Meeting called to order: Mayor Shelton Shannon
Pledge to the flag
Roll Call: Brandy Smith

Mayor Shelton Shannon- present
Renee Morris - present
Sedrick Mabry – present
Vice Mayor Sextus Shannon- present
Charles Heard- present
Nathan Chisolm - present

Adopt the Agenda:
Charles Heard made the motion to adopt the agenda.
Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approve July 6, 2023 minutes:
Renee Morris said that on page 3, Dennis Farris, Jr. name is misspelled; instead of Parrish, his last name is Farris.
Charles Heard made the motion to adopt the July 6, 2023 minutes along with the necessary corrections.
Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Public Comments

- **First New Bethel M.B. Church, 2567 Main Street:** Church fundraiser at the Grant-Wuichet Park, August 12, 2023- Church representative O'neal Rogers, *present*- The Usher Board at the church would like to have a fundraiser at the Grant-Wuichet Park August 12, 2023; proceeds will go towards a trip to Noah's Ark in Kentucky.
  - Sextus Shannon made the motion to approve First New Bethel M.B. Church to have a fundraiser, at no charge, at Grant Wuichet Park, Saturday, August 12, 2023.
  - Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor gave Attorney Franks permission to give his report concerning hiring a public defender for indigent defendants for the Town; Judge Chuck Hopkins was also present and was allowed to present information to the Board:

- As stated at the July 6, 2023 meeting, the Mississippi Supreme Court issued an En Banc Order to amend Rule 7.2-defendants (includes felonies and misdemeanors) have a continuity of representation of a court appointed public defender effective July 1, 2023; to remain in compliance, the indigent defendant (the judge must find the defendant indigent) must be appointed a counsel at their initial appearance; Town must select a public defender or risk getting sued
- Jamie Franks offered two names to the Board:

1. **Dennis Farris, Jr.-** $2,500 yearly salary, monthly pay, only work Plantersville Municipal Court dates (once a month) and include PERS
2. **Jason Shelton-** told Jamie Franks if selected, he will agree to the similar terms as offered by the other candidate ($2,500 yearly salary, monthly pay, only work Plantersville Municipal Court dates (once a month) and include PERS)
    - Charles Heard made the motion to select Jason Shelton as the Town's public defender for indigent defendants in accordance with the Mississippi Supreme Court Rule 7.2 amendments with a yearly salary of $2,500.00 paid in twelve monthly payments, work only once a month on Plantersville Municipal Court scheduled court dates, and if applicable, be put on PERS.
    - Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Resolution

- **Lee County to assist with Grant-Wuichet Park walking track:** Public Works Director Jim Curry, *present*: Jim Curry would like to extend the walking track at the Grant-Wuichet Park; Talked to Lee County Supervisor Billy Joe Holland and said they will help with machinery and labor only; Town must provide the material; need a resolution from the Board to allow the assistance from Lee County
    - Charles Heard made the motion to grant Lee County permission to assist the Town with work at the Grant-Wuichet Park, consisting of machinery and labor only.
    - Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Reports

Water- Public Works Director Jim Curry, *present*:

- Steps at the Grant-Wuichet Park are almost complete
- Idea to put a Plantersville Civic Center at the park; good way to increase revenue for the park:
    - 30x50 ft. (size of two board rooms)
    - Kitchenette
    - $33,000.00 building
    - $1,000.00 electrical
    - Five ton air conditioning unit $5,000.00
    - Sixteen 2x4 LED lights $1,000.00
    - Drop ceiling $1,000.00
    - One ADA compliance unisex restroom
    - Concrete floor
    - Doesn't include labor
    - Estimated cost $50,000.00
    - Would to use pea gravel for both playground areas
    - Renee suggested adding on to the back pavilion
        - Renee Morris made the motion to use the SB 2971 Bond funds to purchase crusher run material to overlay the walking track at Grant-Wuichet Park
        - Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Fire- Fire Chief Jim Curry, *present*:

- EMR refresher course will be held August 26 and 27, 2023.
- One new volunteer; total of 15 volunteers

- Discussed with State House Representative Rickey Thompson about funds for purchasing a fire truck and turnout gear

Sextus Shannon made the motion to accept both the water and fire reports.
Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Police- Police Chief Keith Foster, *present:*

- Ford Explorer is back and running
- The new cameras will be here later on in the week.
- **Late Officer Fred Orr roster removal:** his death was recognized by the Board but was not removed from the roster
  - Renee Morris made the motion to remove the late Police Officer Fred Orr from the current police roster effective immediately.
  - Charles Heard seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **D.A.R.E. Assessment Removal:** The Town no longer have the D.A.R.E. program; sends money Lee County D.A.R.E. Program; approval to stop sending money to Lee County D.A.R.E Program and allow the money to remain in Town and applied to other assessments
  - Sedrick Mabry made the motion for the Town to stop sending D.A.R.E. assessments to Lee County D.A.R.E. Program and allow the money to remain in Town and applied to other assessments effective immediately.
  - Nathan Chisolm seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Sedrick Mabry made the motion to approve the police report.
Nathan Chisolm seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Animal Control- Animal Control Officer Jason Lessel, *present:*

- Two animal cruelty abandonment of dogs without food or water
- Pick up order from Judge Hopkins on two dogs on Hall Street
- Three calls for the month
- Two dogs registered for the month

Sedrick Mabry made the motion to accept the animal control report.
Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Code Enforcement- Code Enforcement Officer Shane Davis, *present*:

- The property in front of the Grant-Wuichet Park have been cleaned up (weed removal)
- 120 Elm- have been in continuous contact; given property owners number of referrals for property clean up; was given a thirty day extension but the will end the second week in August
- 804 Central- the junked car was involved in a wreck and is waiting on the insurance to come through, Renee Morris raised concerns about the neighborhood children playing around the car, safety hazard

- Dollar General- open storage will try to resolve it as a managerial issue; don't have space as other Dollar General store such as extra exterior space or warehouse space to place empty boxes; Shane Davis told the Board and public to continue to contact him with issues from Dollar General so that the issues will not linger and get resolved.

Charles Heard made the motion to accept the code enforcement report.
Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor- Mayor Shelton Shannon, present:

- Contacted Lee County Road Manager John Albert Leslie about getting roadside debris along the Town's streets.
- Monthly meeting with Lee County E-911 on July 24, 2023.
- Attended political rally for Lieutenant Governor at Three Rivers on July 20, 2023.
- Talked with attorney Casey Lott from Booneville, MS wants to update the baseball fields at Grant-Wuichet Park with no expense from the Town; needs Board's approval
  - Renee Morris made the motion to allow Attorney Casey Lott to make investments and update the Grant-Wuichet baseball fields and other needed updates.
  - Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- On Tuesday, August 1, 2023, Mayor Shelton Shannon, Town Clerk Brandy Smith, Police Chief Keith Foster, and Public Works Director Jim Curry met with state representatives Ricky Thompson and Randy Boyd about state funding to improve Town properties and the community; ideas such as fire department truck and turnout gear, building for fire and police department, storm shelters, upgrades to the Grant-Wuichet Park, and upgrade to the Plantersville Community Center.

Charles Heard made the motion to accept the mayor's report.
Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk- Clerk Brandy Smith, *present*:

- Budget Hearing for the Fiscal year 2023-2024 will be held September 5, 2023.
- Primary Elections is next Tuesday, August 8, 2023; Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- **Christmas in the Park:** Suggested that Town and residents to be thinking about who will chair and get started on Christmas in the Park.
- On July 12, 2023 attended the CDF Clerk luncheon for Lee County Clerks, very informative and enjoyed the fellowship
- **Court Clerk Certification:** Motion to approve Becky McMillan to attend her required Court Clerk Training, held in Philadelphia, MS September 20-22, 2023
  - Renee Morris made the motion to approve Becky McMillan to attend the Court Clerk Certification training in Philadelphia, MS September 20-22, 2023 with expenses paid by the Town.
  - Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **MCWI Bids:** Even though the Town was awarded the grant, the MCWI (ARPA) didn't accept the engineering reward section; Nick Brawner at Cook Coggin Engineers, Inc. suggested to redo the engineering bidding; the Town solicited the help from Three Rivers

to help place the ads in the appropriate places such as state websites, newspapers, etc. and explained that the Town is an equal opportunity employer. The deadline for proposals for engineering services is Monday, August 7, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.; suggested the need to have a special Call meeting next week to open and award the engineer (scoring sheets like before). Prefer Monday August 7, 2023 but if not soon.

- Renee Morris made the motion to have a special call meeting, Monday August 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. to open engineer bids and award the engineer
- Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- **CMO Electives:** FAQ in Municipal Government offered in Oxford 9/28/2023; deadline to register September 18, 2023; registration fee $25.00; class start at 5:30; dinner to be served; for those who need credits or learned extra info; please inform Clerk Brandy Smith if you want to attend
- **State Holiday:** Town Hall will be closed, Monday, September 4, 2023 for Labor Day Holiday

Nathan Chisolm made the motion to accept the clerk's report.
Sextus Shannon seconded the motion. All were in favor

Pay the Claims
Sedrick Mabry made the motion to pay the claims.
Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Adjourn
Sedrick Mabry made the motion to adjourn.
Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Shelton Shannon Date August 31, 2023
Mayor Shelton Shannon

ATTEST:
Brandy Smith Date 8/31/23
Clerk Brandy Smith

TOWN OF PLANTERSVILLE
SPECIAL CALL MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2023

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Town Hall

Purpose of the Meeting:

- **Public Defender Selection**
- **Open Engineer Bids and Award Engineer for MCWI**

Please make plans to attend!

Mayor Shelton Shannon

TOWN OF PLANTERSVILLE
SPECIAL CALL MEETING

August 7, 2023

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Town Hall

Call to Order: Mayor Shelton Shannon
Roll Call: Brandy Smith

Present for meeting:
Mayor Shelton Shannon- present
Renee Morris - present
Charles Heard - present
Vice Mayor Sextus Shannon- present
Sedrick Mabry- present
Nathan Chisolm - present

***Mayor Shelton Shannon moved to skip the preliminary actions to accommodate time.**

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- **Public Defender Selection:** Attorney Jamie Franks explained that after the Board selected Jason Shelton as the Town's Public Defender, the Ethics commission found ethical issues with his current job and being the Town's public defender; suggests Dennis Farris, Jr as a candidate; meet the same requirements as Jason Shelton, Salary $2,400.00 per year, 12 monthly payments at $200.00, plus PERS; will start on August 11, 2023 Plantersville Municipal Court date.
  - Charles Heard made the motion to hire Dennis Farris, Jr. as the Town's Public Defender for indigent defendants in accordance with Mississippi Supreme Court Rule 7.2 amendments with a yearly salary of $2,400.00 paid in twelve monthly payments ($200.00 a month), work once a month on Plantersville Municipal Court scheduled court dates, and if applicable, be place on PERS.
  - Renee Morris seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Open Engineer Bids and Award Engineering Firm for MCWI:** Bids for MCWI was due on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Only one engineering firm was submitted, Cook Coggin Engineers, Inc., Clerk Brandy Smith handed the Board scoring sheets and later made their final decision.
  - Nathan Chisholm made the motion to select Cook Coggin Engineering, Inc. as (the most qualified engineering firm) the Town's Professional Services Consultant to assist the Town with ARPA MCWI Project.
  - Sextus Shannon seconded that motion. All were in favor.

Adjourn
Renee Morris made the motion to adjourn.
Sedrick Mabry seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Shelton Shannon Date August 31, 2023
Mayor Shelton Shannon

ATTEST:

Brandy Smith Date 8/31/23
Clerk Brandy Smith