

**CITY OF CLINTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF
ALDERMEN
TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2015 – 7:00 P. M.
MUNICIPAL COURTROOM – 305 MONROE STREET**

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER Mayor Phil Fisher

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The invocation was led by Alderman Martin followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag led by Alderman Brabham.

ROLL CALL City Clerk, Russell Wall

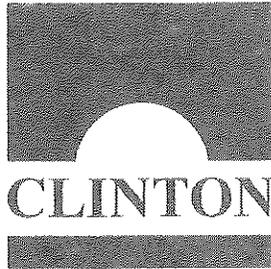
Present: Jehu Brabham – Alderman-at-Large
 David Ellis – Alderman Ward 1
 Jim Martin – Alderman Ward 2
 William O Barnett – Alderman Ward 3
 Greg Cronin – Alderman Ward 4
 Jan Cossitt – Alderwoman Ward 5
 Mike Cashion – Alderman Ward 6

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held to discuss an amendment to the existing beer/light wine ordinance and to receive general comments about the sale of alcoholic beverages. Comments from the public were as follows. Barry Smith wanted to know why we are amending the current ordinance. Randy Bowles was in favor of amending the ordinance as he believed the current ordinance was outdated. He cited that surrounding cities in the county did allow the sale of beer/light wine on Sundays. He believed that this amendment would allow the City to recruit more restaurants and therefore provide more jobs for the citizens. Patricia May stated she felt it would be more safer if the City's restaurants were allowed to sell beer/light wine on Sundays. There being no other comments from the public the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held to determine if properties located at 110 and 112 West Leake Street are being demolished by neglect. Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development explained the reasons for asking that the properties were being demolished by neglect. He gave the time line on the process for making this determination. He also, stated that all lawful notices had been given and that this public hearing had been advertised as required by law. Roy also stated that if



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this request was approved that the owner would be given ninety (90) days to make corrections to the properties before the City would act. Walter Wood, Attorney for the McLaurin Trust the owner of the properties stated that the properties are under contract for purchase with a buyer that would have the money to make the necessary repairs to the buildings. The trust is in the process of receiving court approval to sell the buildings. Two petitions have been filed in Hinds County Court to have the authority to sell the buildings. Alderman Martin rescued himself and left the meeting during this Public Hearing. Alderman Martin did not participate in the discussion of this matter. There being no other comments from the public the Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A - D

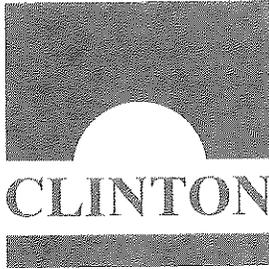
MOTION made by Alderman Cashion and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cronin to approve the Consent Agenda Items A-D. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

Chandra Fontenot, Director of Therapeutic Recreation updated the board on the number of participants in the programs that the Therapeutic Recreation Department sponsors. She stated that the Bridge, Seniorsize, Tai Chi, Ballroom Dancing, and Line Dancing programs were the most popular. Chandra also informed the board of her efforts to go paperless by e-mailing the department's newsletter instead of mailing it. Other programs coming up in the next few months included Ceramic Painting Workshop, Lunch and Learn Program, Paint Workshop, Chronic Disease Management Program, Community Ceramic Painting Workshop, a Mississippi Delta Day Tour, and a Savannah and Calloway Gardens Christmas Tour. Chandra also updated the board on the Challenger League program and discussed the upcoming Challenger League Bowling Program. She also announced that there would be a Fun Day at the Woods Activity Center to be held on June 27, 2015.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

There were no items from the Board of Aldermen.



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MAYOR’S DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

The Mayor and Board of Alderman before considering the motions to allow beer/light wine sales on Sundays and before considering a petition to request the Department of Revenue to allow liquor sales by the glass on Sundays in the City had the following discussion:

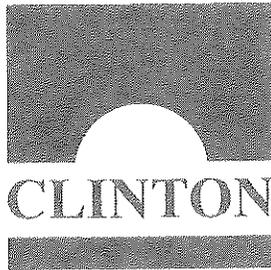
Alderman Ellis explained the process that the board went through in researching this topic. He explained that some citizens came before the board asking for a change in the ordinance. Therefore, the board met many times to discuss this matter. Alderman Ellis explained that the proposed amendment would allow for Sunday beer/light wine to be served no earlier than 11:00 am and no later than 12:00 am (midnight).

Alderman Brabham stated that he felt that the board had done the right thing in considering this amendment and there had been good discussion among the Board while taking the amendment into consideration. However, Alderman Brabham wanted the citizens to know that he was not closed minded, insulted or angered at persons that choose to drink alcohol. He was not judgmental and he believed that the choice was a personal one. Alderman Brabham stated that as a Christian he wanted to do what was right in God’s eyes. He stated he would have a hard time voting for the amendment and at the same time having to sit across from a person he was counseling that was having trouble with alcohol dependency. Therefore, he was going to vote no on the approval of the amendment.

Alderman Martin stated that he had heard from a number of citizens concerning this issue. He said they were of three opinions. 1, They were opposed and wanted a no vote, 2. They were in favor and wanted a yes vote, and 3. A majority of the citizens stated that they wanted more restaurants; therefore they believed that Sunday sales were needed. Alderman Martin felt that Sunday sales were not the answer to getting more restaurants in the City. He believed that restaurants looked at the number of hotels and shopping centers in an area when making their decision to open a restaurant. He stated that in surrounding cities that most upscale restaurants were near hotels and shopping centers. He felt the board should wait before approving this amendment and see if the future construction of a shopping center and two hotels in the City would bring in the desired restaurants.

Alderman Barnett did not think the board should wait in approving this amendment. He had received one phone call opposed and numerous calls and e-mails in support of this amendment. He believed that the citizens should have a choice and the board needs to face this issue now.

Alderman Cashion stated that with the development of shopping centers you would more than likely see national chains. However, he wanted the citizens to know that the City is not competing with the surrounding cities but we are competing with the rest of the country. He felt that the City had made a good choice in hiring the Retail Coach. That redefined the trade area of the City and this was very helpful to the new shopping center developers. Alderman Cashion



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went on to say that approximately 64% of citizens he talked with were in favor of the Sunday sales amendment. He also felt that if we were competing with another city for a restaurant and all other things being equal and we did not allow Sunday sales he believed the City would not get the restaurant.

Alderman Cronin agreed with Alderman Cashion's comments. However, Alderman Cronin stated that he was not a fan of alcohol and believed it has a highly addictive nature and was highly costly to society. On the other hand he believed that it was a person's choice in deciding to partake in drinking alcohol, but it was his choice not to partake. However, he recognized that the community desires and actions have changed over this issue and he would be voting in favor of the amendment. In conclusion, he stated that the use of alcohol was problematic in the community and hurts family and children.

Alderwoman Cossitt stated that economic development was an important issue in her campaign. She said that she would support any issues that helped with the economic development of the City. Alderwoman Cossitt had taken a survey and found approximately 63% of those citizens she spoke with were in favor of this amendment. Therefore, she was going to vote for the amendment.

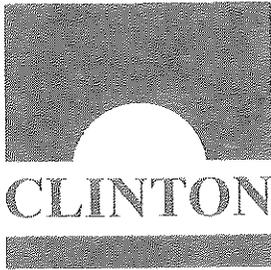
After this discussion the following motions were made.

APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING ALCOHOL ORDINANCE TO PERMIT THE SALE OF BEER/LIGHT WINE ON SUNDAY'S IN THE CITY OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI FROM THE HOURS OF 11:00 AM TO 12:00 AM (MIDNIGHT)

Upon presentation by David Ellis, Alderman Ward 1, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Barnett the board approved an amendment to the existing alcohol ordinance to permit the sale of beer/light wine on Sunday's in the City of Clinton, Mississippi from the hours of 11:00 am to 12:00 am (midnight). **THE MOTION WAS APPROVED BY A 5 TO 2 VOTE. ALDERMAN ELLIS, ALDERMAN BARNETT, ALDERMAN CRONIN, ALDERWOMAN COSSITT, AND ALDERMAN CASHION VOTED AYE. ALDERMAN BRABHAM AND ALDERMAN MARTIN VOTED NO**

Before the next motion considering the petition to the Department of Revenue for approval to sell liquor on Sundays, Alderman Martin questioned whether or not this had been advertised as part of the public hearing. Alderman Martin was informed by Ken Dreher, City Attorney that it had been advertised.

The following motion was then made:



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APPROVAL OF A PETITION TO BE SENT TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE REQUESTING THAT THE SALE OF LIQUOR BE PERMITTED ON SUNDAY'S IN THE CITY OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI FROM 11:00 AM UNTIL 12:00 AM (MIDNIGHT)

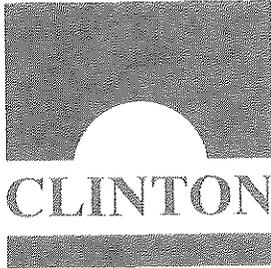
Upon presentation by David Ellis, Alderman Ward 1, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Barnett the board approved a petition to be sent to the Mississippi Department of Revenue requesting that the sale of liquor be permitted on Sunday's in the City of Clinton, Mississippi from 11:00 am until 12:00 am (midnight). **THE MOTION WAS APPROVED BY A 5 TO 2 VOTE. ALDERMAN ELLIS, ALDERMAN BARNETT, ALDERMAN CRONIN, ALDERWOMAN COSSITT, AND ALDERMAN CASHION VOTED AYE. ALDERMAN BRABHAM AND ALDERMAN MARTIN VOTED NO**

DECLARE THAT PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 110 AND 112 WEST LEAKE STREET ARE BEING DEMOLISHED BY NEGLECT

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board declared that the properties located at 110 and 112 West Leake Street are being demolished by neglect. Alderman Martin left the meeting at 8:13 pm and returned to the meeting at 8:18 pm. Alderman Martin did not participate in the discussion of this item nor did he vote on this item. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 125-A JOHNSON-SUMNER HILL – WARD 1

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 125-A Johnson-Sumner Hill, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held and Rosie Delany Bolton owner of the property informed the board that the property had been cleaned up last week and she intended to keep it cleaned up. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 110 LARADO – WARD 1

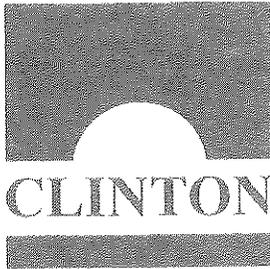
Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board dismissed the resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 110 Larado, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. During the Public Hearing Donald Turner owner of the property showed the board proof that the property was being renovated and the home was move in ready. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 114 LARADO – WARD 1

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderwoman Cossitt the board dismissed the resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 114 Larado, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. During the Public Hearing Mrs. Belay the owner of the property stated that the house was being currently renovated and the grass had been cut. She stated that the house would be ready to rent next Friday. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 105-A OWENS ROAD – WARD 1

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Brabham and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cronin the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 105-A Owens Road, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. Furthermore, the board gave the owner a thirty (30) day extension to complete the cleaning of the lot. During the Public Hearing Gloria Hodge the owner of the property stated that the house has been completely demolished and the truck was running again. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 222 RECTANGLE – WARD 1

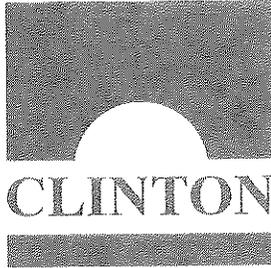
Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Barnett the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 222 Rectangle, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 510 HOLLY BERRY DRIVE – WARD 5

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderwoman Cossitt and **SECONDED** by Alderman Brabham the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 510 Holly Berry Drive, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 106 PRBBLE LANE – WARD 2

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Martin and **SECONDED** by Alderman Ellis the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 106 Pebble Lane, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1218 HUNTCLIFF – WARD 3

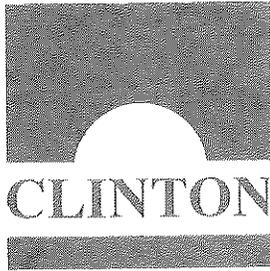
Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Barnett and **SECONDED** by Alderwoman Cossitt the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 1218 Huntcliff, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 320 HIGHWAY 80 EAST – WARD 4

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Cronin and **SECONDED** by Alderman Ellis the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 320 Highway 80 East, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. The board also gave the Director of Community Development the authority to work with the owner of this property to get it cleaned up before the City takes action. During the Public Hearing Brian Alexander, Attorney for the owner asked for an extension of time. He stated that the owner was in negotiations for the sale of the property. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 905 LONGWOOD PLACE – WARD 4

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Cronin and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 905 Longwood Place, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 708 PINEHURST – WARD 4

This item was removed from the agenda and no action was taken.

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1502 ROSEMONT – WARD 5

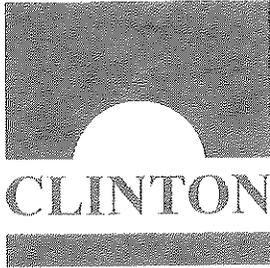
Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Brabham and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cronin the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 1502 Rosemont, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 105 TRAILWOOD – WARD 5

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderwoman Cossitt and **SECONDED** by Alderman Brabham the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 105 Trailwood, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

UNKEMPT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 615 COBBLESTONE – WARD 6

Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Cashion and **SECONDED** by Alderman Brabham the board approved a resolution determining the necessity for cleaning the property located at 615 Cobblestone, under the authority granted to municipalities by Section 21-19-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and other applicable statutes and ordinances. A public hearing was held but no one representing the property owners was present and there was no public comment. The resolution is on file with the City Clerk. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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APPEAL OF THE DECISION TO DENY A FOURTH SIGN AT 105 HAMPSTEAD PLACE – RAINBOW SIGNS/FAIRFIELD INN

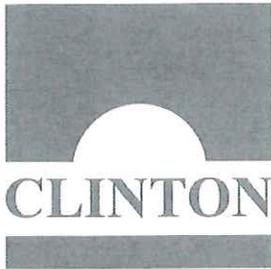
Upon presentation by Roy Edwards, Director of Community Development, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Martin the board denied the appeal of the decision to deny a fourth sign at 105 Hampstead Place – Rainbow Signs/Fairfield Inn. Steve McMillan representing Rainbow Signs informed the board that the signs in question were directional signs that would help customers find the hotel. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI AND WATKINS ACY STRUCK DESIGN, INC. TO PROVIDE A LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN FOR THE I-20 CORRIDOR LOCATED IN THE CITY OF CLINTON

Upon presentation by Phil Fisher, Mayor, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Barnett the board authorized the Mayor to execute a contract between the City of Clinton, Mississippi and Watkins Acy Struck Design, Inc. to provide a landscape master plan for the I-20 corridor located in the City of Clinton. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ACCEPT THE LEASE/PURCHASE PROPOSAL AS BEING THE LOWEST AND BEST BID SUBMITTED BY REGIONS EQUIPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION AND FUTHERMORE, AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH REGIONS EQUIPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION FOR THE FINANCING OF FIVE (5) VEHICLES FOR THE CLINTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Upon presentation by Russell Wall, City Clerk, **MOTION** made by Alderman Ellis and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board accepted the lease/purchase proposal as being the lowest and best bid submitted by Regions Equipment Finance Corporation and furthermore, authorized the Mayor to execute a contract with Regions Equipment Finance Corporation for the financing of five (5) vehicles for the Clinton Police Department. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
 BETWEEN THE CITY OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI AND HINDS COUNTY FOR
 FUNDING OF THE CLINTON DEPOT BUILDING**

Upon presentation by Ken Dreher, City Attorney, **MOTION** made by Alderwoman Cossitt and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cashion the board authorized the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Clinton, Mississippi and Hinds County for funding of the Clinton Depot Building. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED BETWEEN THE
 CITY OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI AND STEFFERUD PROPERTIES, LLC RELATED
 TO THE AREA FORMERLY RESERVED AS RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE CUL-DE-SAC
 AT THE EAST END OF JOHNSTON PLACE**

Upon presentation by Ken Dreher, City Attorney, **MOTION** made by Alderman Brabham and **SECONDED** by Alderman Cronin the board authorized the Mayor to execute a Quit Claim Deed between the City of Clinton, Mississippi and Stefferud Properties, LLC related to the area formerly reserved as right-of-way of the cul-de-sac at the east end of Johnston Place. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADJOURN 9:23 P.M.

MOTION made by Alderwoman Cossitt and **SECONDED** by Alderman Ellis to adjourn until the next regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to be held July 7, 2015 at 7:00 pm. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

APPROVED: Philip R. Fisher
 Philip R. Fisher, Mayor

7-8-2015
 Date

ATTEST: Russell L. Wall
 Russell L. Wall, City Clerk

7-8-15
 Date

SEAL

