

Board of Mayor and Aldermen Meeting
Monday, November 5, 2012
Municipal Building - Court Room

- (1) **Call to Order:** The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, November 5, 2012; in the Municipal Building Court Room at 7:00 p.m. Mayor John Holden presided. The meeting opened with prayer by Alderman Dennis Moody. Mayor Holden noted all were present.
 - (2) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the October 15, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion by Alderwoman Jewell Horner, followed by a second from Alderman Bart Williams. The motion passed approving the minutes.
 - (3) **Unfinished Business:** None presented.
- a. **New Business:** Sanitation Committee Meeting – November 2, 2012 – Chairwoman Jewell Horner.

Alderwoman Jewell Horner presented the minutes of the November 2, 2012 Sanitation Committee. At the completion of the reading of the minutes Alderman Bart Williams made a motion calling for the Board to accept the committee's recommendation to bid out the weigh scales at the City landfill. Alderwoman Horner followed with a second to the motion. Prior to any discussion on the motion, Alderman Horner asked that a correction be made to the Sanitation committee minutes that was so noted and approved.

Upon discussion of the motion the following was noted:

- Alderman Bob Kirk inquired as to what the amount of the estimated costs of the scales would be.
- Alderwoman Horner responded that it may be approximately \$40,000.
- Mayor Holden added he thought the cost to be around \$80,000.
- Mr. Damesworth, Sanitation Department came before the Board stating that the estimates he had received indicated the Fairbank scales may cost around \$40,000, and the Rice Lake Weighing System scales at around \$78,000. The estimate included the costs of a new foundation, which he was told by Memphis Scale Works was still in good shape and did not need repair or replacement. He estimated the total cost may be around \$50,000.00.

As discussion of the scales ended, the motion was called for vote. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Following the vote, Alderwoman Horner referenced the second motion from the Sanitation committee recommendation, which was the purchase of a three-quarter-ton truck, and forgoing the purchase of a front end loader. After significant discussion, Alderwoman Jewell Horner motioned to approve the

purchase of a three-quarter-ton truck, for the Sanitation Department, and forgoing the purchase of a front end loader, and put the ¾ ton diesel truck out for bid. Alderman Bart Williams seconded the motion. General discussion followed involving the need for the truck, potential other trucks that could be transferred from other departments, and priority of scales replacement.

Alderman Bob Kirk requested a roll call vote on the motion to approve the purchase of a three-quarter-ton truck. The motion did not pass, as the resulting vote was 7-1 with Alderwoman Jewell Horner voting for the motion. Alderwoman Joan Wyatt abstained from the vote stating she did not know enough about the issue to vote on it. Aldermen Bob Kirk, Bart Williams, Terry Glover, Kevin Chaney, Dennis Moody, Robert Taylor Jr., and Mayor Holden voted against it.

Report from Alderman and Alderwomen:

Alderman Bob Kirk: No report.

Alderman Bart Williams: paid tribute to City Municipal Golf Course Superintendent Bobby Baker as his sales for the Golf Course has exceeded beyond \$1 million in revenue since his becoming superintendent. Alderman Williams asked if there would be a sale of City surplus property in the near future to earn some revenue for the City. Mayor Holden stated a sale could be expected in first quarter of 2013. Alderman Williams paid tribute to the Street Department for their assistance with sidewalks and other features outside of the new library.

Alderman Terry Glover: praised the street department cleanup work around the railroad overpass on East Court Street.

Alderman Kevin Chaney: acknowledged the very good work that Mr. Damesworth and the Sanitation department accomplish with the equipment they currently have. He also stated that he understands their department needs, but the weigh scales have to be replaced first.

Alderwoman Jewell Horner: No report.

Alderman Dennis Moody: asked Mayor Holden when the lighting for the merchant side of the square would be completed. Holden responded that it should be completed in the next several weeks. Alderman Moody also commented that the state should reimburse the city for the work the street department did on the mowing and clean-up along Hwy 51 bypass that is actually the State's responsibility.

Alderwoman Joan Wyatt: No report.

Alderman Robert Taylor, Jr.: No report.

Communications from the Mayor:

- **Golf course revenue - October 2012 - \$19,782.98.**
- **Dyersburg Regional Airport revenue – October 2012 - \$50,202.85.**
- **Dyersburg Regional Airport Fuel Comparison Overview 2009-2012**

Year Gallons

2009	60,443.00	Spindler Air Service
2010	56,944.09	Spindler Air Service
2011	54,783.08	Spindler Air Service
2012	76,691.00	City of Dyersburg (January 1, 2012 – October 23, 2012)

- **City of Dyersburg leaf pickup begins November 5, 2012 and will end February 28, 2013.**
- **The Street Department recently mowed around the bypass within the city limits of Dyersburg.**
- **Veteran’s Day will be observed Monday, November 12, 2012 beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Downtown Dyersburg.**

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.

John Holden, Mayor

Robert C. Jones, City Recorder

Tempers flared at the city board's regular meeting on Monday evening as Mayor John Holden and Alderwoman Jewell Horner disagreed on the purchase of a new truck for the sanitation department. The two traded their differences during a 35-minute board meeting that included a lesson on Robert's Rules of Order.

The disagreement began on Friday when the sanitation committee met to discuss the deteriorating condition of the scales at the city landfill. At the committee meeting, Sanitation Superintendent John Damesworth requested that not only the scales be replaced but also he requested that the city purchase a three-quarter-ton truck for the sanitation department. Alderman Kevin Chaney and Horner, who serves as chairwoman of the committee, supported Damesworth's request in the committee meeting, but Holden was hesitant to give his support without more information. In a 2-1 vote, the committee recommended that the full board approve the purchase of the truck in lieu of the \$230,000 front loader that had been budgeted for the sanitation department this fiscal year.

Horner presented the minutes of the sanitation committee meeting from Friday including the two items for the full board's approval on Monday evening, beginning first with the recommendation that the scales be sent out for bid. Alderman Bart Williams moved that the board accept the committee's recommendation to bid out the weigh scales at the city landfill followed by a second from Horner. Prior to entering discussion on the motion, Horner asked that a correction be made to the sanitation committee minutes. The minutes read:

"The motion was seconded by Chairwoman Jewell Horner. The motion passed 2-1 with Mayor Holden voting against the motion recommending the committee further review the request."

Horner asked that the minutes be revised to remove the reference to Holden asking for further review of the request since he did not ask at the time of the motion. Holden agreed that the minutes could be revised. (For further information on Friday's sanitation committee meeting please see the article titled, "City sanitation committee discusses equipment purchases; paint collection site" in the Nov. 4 edition of the State Gazette.)

The motion then moved into discussion with Alderman Bob Kirk asking what the estimated costs of the scales would be. Horner responded that it was around \$40,000, with Holden countering that it was around \$80,000. Damesworth was in attendance and responded to Kirk that the estimates he had received had the Fairbank scales at around \$40,000 with the Rice Lake Weighing System scales at around \$78,000 but that estimate included the costs of a new foundation, which he reported the city landfill did not need.

"Don't quote me, but I'm guessing it will be about \$50,000," Damesworth said to Kirk.

The recommendation to send the scales out for bid was unanimously approved by the board and Horner moved on to the second recommendation from the committee, which was the purchase of a three-quarter-ton truck. Horner moved that the board approve the purchase. Holden asked if the motion had a second before moving it to the floor for discussion, but Horner cut in and stated that the motion did not need a second under Robert's Rules of Order.

"We've seconded every motion since I have been here for the last six years," said Holden.

"We go by Robert's Rules of Order don't we?" asked Horner. "According to Robert's Rules of Order the motion does not need a second if it was approved in a committee."

"For the purposes of moving the discussion along, I'll second the motion," interjected Williams.

With the motion on the floor for discussion, Kirk asked Holden why he voted against approving the purchase of the truck at the committee meeting on Friday. He also asked if there was another truck available in the city that would suit the sanitation department's needs. Holden responded that Damesworth's request for a new truck on Friday was the first he had heard about it and he wanted more information, which Damesworth has since provided. In addition, Holden says he spoke with City Purchasing Agent Greg Williams who confirmed that there are two trucks available from the gas department that can be transferred over to the sanitation department. One is a 1999 GMC one-ton truck with a flat bed and the other is a 2008 Ford three-quarter-ton truck with utility bed.

"We have always shared equipment and I'm opposed to spending money for a new truck if there is another vehicle available," said Holden.

Kirk asked Damesworth if either truck from the gas department would meet his needs. Damesworth responded that he did not know because he had not seen or driven either truck.

"With all due respect, the deal was that I would trade my front-end loader for the scales and truck," said Damesworth.

Horner threw her support for Damesworth noting that he was attempting to save the city money by forgoing the purchase of a \$230,000 front loader. In a lengthy statement, she noted the importance of continuing to move the garbage to keep the city clean, as well as the importance of not micromanaging the situation. She also noted that Damesworth had requested a three-quarter-ton truck in each of the last two years of budget meetings and both times he had been denied.

"(John Damesworth) is head of the department and we should support him," said Horner. "He knows the priorities better than anyone."

Holden responded that Horner, who is a member of the budget committee, voted against the trucks for the sanitation department each of the last two years, and was willing to vote for the reduction of city employee hours as well as cutting city recreational facilities in order to save money. Horner responded that those were only suggestions. Holden noted this was an opportunity to not spend \$46,000 on a truck when there were others available.

Alderman Dennis Moody jumped in and asked Damesworth if the city has been fined by the state. Damesworth responded that so far the landfill has not been fined and the state has been working with him after he stated that the issue was being addressed by the city. Moody commented that with the scales weighing light it was an issue that needed to be immediately addressed so that the city did not continue to lose money and not run the risk of being fined.

"Money is just as short now as it was in July," said Moody. "Lets look at the scales first, then we will return and see about other vehicles," said Moody.

Kirk agreed with Moody adding that the truck could still be transferred to the sanitation department from the gas department to help in the meantime. Horner affirmed her position that the full board should endorse the purchase of not only the scales but also of a new truck. Furthermore, she stated that the truck from the gas department should be transferred to the sanitation department to be used as a backup because of the deteriorating condition of the older trucks.

Kirk asked for a roll call vote on the motion to approve the purchase of a three-quarter-ton truck. The motion was defeated 7-1 with Horner voting in favor of it and Alderwoman Joan Wyatt abstaining from the vote citing that she did not know enough about the situation to vote on it. Kirk, Bart Williams, Alderman Terry Glover, Chaney, Holden, Moody and Alderman Robert Taylor Jr. voted against it.

In the alderman reports:

* Bart Williams recognized City Municipal Golf Course Superintendent Bobby Baker for crossing the \$1 million in revenue threshold. Williams also asked if there would be a surplus property sale soon. Holden responded that the sale should happen in the first quarter of 2013. Williams also wanted to recognize the street department for the work they have done outside the new library.

* Glover also commended the street department for some cleanup work it had done on the Bypass at Court Street.

* Chaney acknowledged the great job that Damesworth and his department does with the equipment they have. Chaney says that he understands the needs, but the scales have to be replaced first.

* Moody asked when the lighting for the merchant side of the square would be done. Holden responded that it should be completed in the next week or so. Moody also commented that the state should reimburse the city for the work the street department did on the bypass that was the state's responsibility.

* Kirk, Horner, Wyatt and Taylor did not have anything to report.

In the mayor's report:

* The golf course revenue for October 2012 was \$19,782.98.

* The revenue at Dyersburg Regional Airport for October 2012 was \$50,202.85

* Airport Manager Tommy Gibbons provided a fuel comparison from 2009 to 2012 to demonstrate how much fuel the airport has sold over that period of time. This year the airport has

sold 76,691 gallons of fuel with two months left in the year compared to 60,443 gallons in 2009, 56,944 gallons in 2010 and 54,783 gallons in 2011. The city took over airport operations on Dec. 7, 2011.

* Leaf pickup begins on Nov. 5, 2012 and will end on Feb. 28, 2013.

* Veterans Day will be observed on Monday, Nov. 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the downtown square.