

City of Margaret

June 17, 2025

6:00 P.M.

In attendance: Councilman Darius Crump, Councilman Matthew Tortorice, Councilman Jonathan Ray, Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman, and Mayor Daryl McIntyre

Absent: Councilwoman Sandra Cook

Prayer: Mr. Barker

Pledge of Alliance

A quorum was declared.

Adoption of Agenda

Discussion:

Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilman Darius Crump seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with four yeses, one no, and one not voting.

Councilman Matthew Tortorice moved to modify the agenda to add Logan Glass's grant proposal for Margaret's Elementary playground project. Councilman Jonathan Ray seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Anthony Fields informed the Council of the meeting he held with Sterling Place residents and the cameras installed are for demonstration purposes only. There have not been any complaints concerning the cameras being installed. The city has not incurred any expenses, and no Fourth Amendment rights were violated.

The lawsuit attorney, Brad Cornett, updated the Council on pending lawsuits. McKinney and Pickett concerning lawsuit in high-speed chase has been resolved with no payment from the city. Councilman Matthew Tortorice's redistricting attorneys have been paid. Councilman Matthew Tortorice's federal civil rights lawsuit was settled through mediation at the federal courthouse in Birmingham. In attendance were Councilman Tortorice and his attorneys, Mayor Daryl Mc

McIntyre Resolution was reached because the AMIC, the city's insurance carrier, exercised its right to settle with the payment of one dollar to Matthew Tortorice, with no agreement on who is right or who is wrong. The city was not found to be at fault, but the payment to the Councilman Matthew Tortorice's attorneys from Birmingham, Washington, D.C., and California is still pending, with a balance of \$40,000. The George Wiggin, which alleges discriminatory behavior, unprofessionalism, constructive discharge, hostile work environment, and off colored comments involving racial and sexual orientation made by Councilman Jonathan Ray and a former employee. Motions are pending asking that the court find the charges to be meritless. Mr. Wiggin is asking \$250,000.00 plus attorney's fees. Mr. Cornett also agrees that the insurance premiums will be increased because of the numerous lawsuits, whether they be settled or litigated.

Councilman Darius Crump moved to approve \$6500.00 from C J Demolition for the demolition of the old pavilion located at Dillard Park, so that the new pavilion. Mayor Daryl McIntyre seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with three yeses, one no vote, and one abstention.

City engineer Keith Hager presented the Council with a paving budget for Cedar Crest Way, Clearview Road, and Parkwood Way. The budget is \$170,441.54. Councilman Jonathan Ray stated that all roads need to be addressed. Councilman Jonathan Ray moved to approve up to \$170,441.54 for the road repairs listed. Councilman Matthew Tortorice seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman James Chapman moved to approve up \$6500.00 for fireworks for the city's annual Fourth of July fireworks show. Councilman Darius Crump seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Carol Dunivant addressed the Council concerning covenants in the Subdivisions. Mrs. Dunivant was informed that the City of Margaret cannot enforce subdivision covenants, but the HOA can.

Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman moved to approve the council minutes 6-3-2025. Councilman Darius Crump seconded the Motion. The Motion passed with three yeses, one no, and on no vote.

Council discussed the request from Harvey McWhorter wanting the city to accept the following roads: Brookhaven Lanes and Sanie Cove Lane. The roads will reach their one-year existence on July 9th. Mr. Barker does not recommend the acceptance of these roads because there are still 125 houses slated to be built down those roads, and Brookhaven Lane is already in bad condition. Mr. Barker also stated that roads must not be accepted until the construction is 80% built out. Mayor Pro-Tem James

Chapman stated that the city does not have to approve a road not up to par. Councilman Jonathan Ray moved to table the discussion until July. Councilman Matthew seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Logan Glass, a student grant writer, informed the Council of his plan to submit a grant to get a shade structure over the playground at Margaret Elementary School's playground. The estimated cost is about \$20,000. Vulcan Material is interested in funding with other community entities. Mr. Glass would like the City of Margaret to pledge \$5000.00. Councilman Jonathan Ray moved to suspend the rules for immediate consideration. Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Jonathan Ray moved to back the grant pending the outcome, and give Logan Glass a support letter pledging up to \$8000.00 from the City of Margaret. Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman seconded the Motion.

Councilman Matthew Tortorice voiced concerns about his request for information.

A resident inquired about the posting on the city website.

David, a resident of Sterling Place, expresses concerns about speeders.

A resident asked about receiving a letter from Eddleman turning the roads over to the city. Eddleman does not seem to want to turn over the streets in the subdivision.

A Woodland Ridge resident expresses concerns about drainage in Woodland, Clover, and Black Creek drainages are filled with grass. And also, express concerns about overgrown lots.

Janice McIntyre expressed concerns about Councilman Matthew Tortorice's pushback on road repairs and Dillard Park in the black community. The street posted about is not in front of the mayor's house. Ask Councilman Matthew Tortorice if his drone, which is being flown around taking pictures of people, cars, and property, and people are not aware of, violates the Fourth Amendment Rights.

Clyde Beverly asked who owns the first two lots in Brookhaven. Mr. Beverly has grave concerns about the removal of the police department and going under the county, and fire protection across the track. Mr. Beverly is deeply concerned about disrespect for the council, citizens, threatening employees, and lawsuits. And the city needs to get clarity about the two lots at the entrance of Brookhaven.

Mayor Pro-Tem James Chapman moved to adjourn. Councilman Darius Crump seconded the Motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Daryl McIntyre, Mayor

Attest:

Teja McIntyre, City Clerk