

BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on August 22, 2023, at 5:30 P.M., this being a special meeting time. Mayor Greg Graves called the meeting to order, and the following Aldermen were present: Simpson, Dear, Hale, Moore, and Tanksley. Also present were: City Clerk Katie Harbin, Deputy City Clerk Francis Johnson, Police Chief Chandler, Assistant Police Chief Defore, Building Official Stephen Hodges, Fire Chief Foresman, and Fire Inspector Brevin Holden.

**CITY OF SENATOBIA  
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**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF  
ALDERMEN**

**Date: August 21, 2023**

**From: Mayor Greg Graves**

**Subject: Special Meeting**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Senatobia shall be held on Monday August 22, 2023, at 5:30p.m. at the City Hall Building Board Room, in the City of Senatobia, Mississippi.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Budget Workshops

  
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Greg Graves, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Harbin, City Clerk

All Aldermen were notified at the Board Meeting on August 21, 2023, in person.

Approve Agenda**City of Senatobia  
Mayor and Board of Aldermen Agenda**

August 22, 2023  
City Hall 5:30pm

1. Call to Order, Prayer, Roll Call
2. Welcome
3. Approve Agenda
4. Budget Workshop
5. Recess to August 28, 2023, at 5:00pm

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson and seconded by Alderman Dear, to approve the agenda as presented. All voting yea, motion carried.

Budget Workshops

Mayor Graves advised that Francis made the changes the Board requested and that is what they have presented in front of them.

Deputy City Clerk Francis Johnson stated she found some wish list items that were still in the utility department, removed those, did a 3% raise across the board option, a 5% for all but police, with a 7% raise option, and a 5% for all but police, a 11% raise option.

Police Chief Chandler went over information regarding Securix, the current numbers and the projections for the next year. Chief Chandler stated that with 300 citations a week it would bring \$535,000, with 500 citations a week it would bring \$891,000 and with 700 citations a week it would bring \$1,200,000.

Chief Chandler presented information to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen regarding salaries for Police Departments.

Chief Chandler stated he is requesting a 6% increase to his budget, which would be \$174,662.57. With that increase, and not filling the Lieutenant position that just became open, he would still be able to give the raises he was requesting.

Alderman Tanksley asked how many officers do you have now.

Chief Chandler answered 27 including Assistant Chief and myself. 28 is the magic number. Chief Chandler stated I'd like us to be comparable to the surrounding areas with our salaries. The Securix revenue would be plenty to cover the increase I've requested and stuff for other departments. I know other departments need things and raises also.

Alderman Tanksley asked about the 3%, 5%/7%, and 5%/11%, raise options, are they all in the black.

Francis Johnson answered yes.

Alderman Tanksley asked why the bottom number is higher in some columns.

Francis Johnson answered the 3% raise option has \$200,000 for Securix revenue in it, the 5%/7% and 5%/9% raise options both have \$500,000 Securix revenue in it.

Alderman Dear stated y'all think we will get this money from Securix this time.  
Chief Chandler answered there are no legal hurdles now.

Alderman Hale asked what are some of the situations where some get tickets but have insurance.

Chief Chandler answered on one instance, a persons card didn't match the VIN. Also, in some instances the insurance broker gets insurance from a company out of state, and it isn't reported correctly, as required. Those are the fault of the insurance company.

Mayor Graves stated I hope y'all will look at this position.

Alderman Simpson stated I hope y'all look at it. I'm not saying our police officers work harder than any others, streets, fire, or anyone, but we have to be competitive. We can't keep losing them.

Alderman Tanksley stated I think they do a good job. We will have turn over. No matter where you go, any department will have it. I would love to give 15% raises to everyone, but I think the 3% across the board raises and balance the budget is a better option. The city has to have money to pay the bills. Everything is going up, for the city too.

Alderman Hale stated I'm kind of like Tanksley and want to look at it as if it was my home budget. I know there is security from Securix. I think we are able to give raises during the year. If we get more revenue, then maybe look at it later. I'm afraid of what the 7% and 11% raises for the Police department will look like to other departments. They need to be represented also. The Fire department needed 3 new employees, now they need 6. I don't know if we'd even be able to get 3 now. There is a good chance that the insurance rating will go up. That will affect homeowners, it will cost everyone more. Respectfully, I believe you and the numbers you presented, but Ethan or Cooke could give the same presentation on salaries for positions in their departments and comparable to surrounding areas. I think if we bring in more money, then we can look at more.

Alderman Moore stated I think there may be some stuff wrong with the 3% column.

Alderman Simpson stated the animal shelter is supposed to be 50/50, all of the option totals are more than \$180,000. Are we just going to increase it or ask the county if they will increase it also?

Mayor Graves stated the animal shelter also generates a little revenue that goes toward their budget.

Alderman Simpson stated as long as that goes to the number, and we are spending 92,500 or less.

Alderman Moore stated with a 3% raise, no Securix revenue, we are \$170,000 in the red.  
Alderman Moore stated as much as I hate to say it, I don't think any raises are doable right now.

### Recess

Motion was made by Alderman Simpson, and seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to recess until August 28, 2023, at 5:00pm. All present voting yea, motion carried.

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Greg Graves, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Katie Harbin –City Clerk