BE IT REMEMBERED that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on July 7, 2026, at 5:00 P.M., this being the regular meeting time. Mayor Graves called the meeting to order, and the following Aldermen were present: Underwood, Dear, McConnell, Garrett, and Alderman Tanksley. Also present were: City Attorney Kenneth Stockton, City Clerk Katie Harbin, Police Chief Vanderford, Fire Chief Foresman, FLSE/PIO Chantay Rhone, Police Lt. Howell, Police Sgt. Hampton, Code Enforcement Officer Pittman, Public Works Director Brevin Holden, Parks & Recreation Director Jamie Chandler, Community Development & Tourism Director Jamie Sowell, Animal Shelter Director Crystal Kelly, Dan Etherton, Dale Hayes, Floyd Ingram – Tate Record, Dennis McConnell, Brett Brown – Tate Record, Ricky Stevens – Tate County, Ashely Casey, Liliana Segura – The Intercept Now, Zakiya Sankara Jaber – Racial Justic Now, Crystal Wilson - SCAT, J. Hesiman - SCAT, Shalanda Tap, Wanda Jackson, Darl Davis, John A. Brunt - SCAT, Aaron Giddings - SCAT, Moncha Dan, Angela Guyton, Michael Cathey, C J A Frank, Charles Wright, Marvin Hullette, Patrick Lumumba Alexander, Chantay, Tyesha Cox – Building Bridges Coalition, Anequta Norwood, Shatoya Wright – Building Bridges Coalition, Justin Brown – WMC Ch. 5, Rody McLogen, Antonio III - SCAT, Antonio Gross, Dianna, and Mark Lesure - SCAT.

Alderman Garrett gave the invocation.

## City of Senatobia
## Mayor and Board of Aldermen Agenda

July 7, 2026
City Hall 5pm

1. Call to Order, Prayer, Roll Call

2. Welcome

3. Approve Agenda

4. Senatobia Committee for Accountability and Transparency

5. Building Bridges Coalition

6. Discussion of Continuing Education, Alderman Underwood

7. Update of Senatobia Youth Softball

**Consent Agenda**

8. Approve Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on June 16, 2026

9. Approve Docket of Claims numbers: 43703 – 44018 for a total of $2,366,638.03

10. Authorize to move Firefighter Areial Welton from full-time to part-time, per employee request, no change in pay
11. Authorize to move Firefighter Baylor Albritton from part-time to full-time, no changes in rate of pay

12. Authorize to hire Caylon White as a full-time Certified Firefighter at the rate of $13.90 per hour, pending background and drug screening results

13. Acknowledge the resignation from Public Works Street Department employee Caleb Dresner effective June 18, 2026

14. Authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee Trenton Grace for violating city policy, effective June 23, 2026

15. Acknowledge the resignation from Police Sgt. Parrette effective July 13, 2026

16. Authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Sarah Buford from full-time to part-time

17. Authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Jeffrey Harmon from part-time to full-time

18. Approve the First Amendment to Commercial Lease Agreement with ABB for the property at 155 Scott St, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved)

19. Approve the Seventh Amendment to the Lease with ABB for the property at 905 Shands Bottom, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved)

20. Approve and authorize Mayor Graves to sign the Continuing Disclosure Engagement Agreement with Butler Snow FYE 2025

21. Authorize to purchase a Fusion Machine in the amount of $7,055.18 from CGS Utility Products for the Public Works Gas Department

22. Authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Cleveland Construction for sewer repair work on Country Club Rd in the amount of $26,250 and Garden View Dr in the amount $22,698 for a total of $48,948.00

23. Authorize to have City property on Corporate Court surveyed, approving quote from Harrison Land Survey & Mapping LLC., in the amount of $1,800

24. Authorize to surplus 2 Bristol Babcock old tank level recorders for water towers, and dispose of

25. Authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Phelps Plastering, LLC for completion of work on Center Street building in the amount of $7,800

26. Authorize Elliott & Britt Engineering to advertise the Emergency Bridge Replacement Project, ERBR-69(02), contingent upon execution and recording of right-of-way deeds

27. Executive Session – Court Personnel and Parks & Recreation Personnel

**Mayor's Corner**

Approve Agenda

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman Underwood, to approve the agenda as presented. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Senatobia Committee for Accountability and Transparency

Patrick Alexander stated y'all need to let people know when you change the protocols. Mr. Alexander thanked the Mayor and Board for letting him speak, for putting him on the agenda. Mr. Alexander passed out the obituary for Kohen Wiley, stating this is the baby that was killed. He hasn't seen any concern or symphony from the elected officials. Mr. Alexander stated he was tired of the protocols, the restraints against us. You want to control every aspect of everything. This is where it's gonna stop. Mr. Alexander stated he was the representative of the Senatobia Committee for Accountability and Transparency. They are going to make this thing go formal, going to take this all the way to the top. Y'all have gone way too far. I want to let you know y'all made history. Prior to Kohen being killed in our city, the youngest victim from a state funded bullet was 6-year-old was Jeremy Mardis, who happened to be black, was the youngest to be killed by a state funded bullet. Until we allowed this officer, who felt like he needed to use his gun for a shop lifting charge.
Mr. Alexander stated what we do know, from the Police report, I got from your post Mr. McConnell, that I used for my post, the report that has been changed. The report said they saw a women and child fleeing to a car. I don't know if they were fleeing, but the report said they saw them fleeing.

As a representative of Senatobia Committee for Accountability and Transparency, I stand here, wanting answers from those elected to represent the people. You don't have untouchable positions. The Police Officer isn't the base of the problem. We have the state involved as much as we can get them involved, state black caucus, NAACP. All Black. Not one white politician. Political careers are based on moments. What you do in moments will show in history what side you are on. We are calling every resource we can. We won't stop. Every officer is just enforcing; elected officials are making the policy.
Mr. Alexander spoke to Sgt. Hampton, they make policies for you to enforce, something unethical. They are putting us against each other. Senatobia Committee for Accountability and Transparency wants to know a few things. Make some more demands.
Mr. Alexander asked if the officer involved in this incident was still getting paid.

Alderman Garrett answered yes sir.
Patrick Alexander stated that's disgusting, a paid vacation from taxpayer's dollars. I watched a child get put in the back of a patrol car for urinating outside a business. The officer responsible for that leave this, last chance you, leave this cesspool right here and go get better jobs. The kind of people y'all hire. You subject the black community, because it don't happen to white people, let me be clear. It doesn't happen to white people. It happens to black people. If it isn't a racial issue, what is it then? What I'm saying is these people seem to fall up. When they commit heinous acts. We are not going to tolerate the officer being paid, white people shouldn't even want that. This is the thing. We'd like to know what are the polices and protocols for hiring police officers here. I don't expect y'all to answer, that will take a lot of time. Y'all don't know how to answer questions anyway. You want to go on to the next thing. This isn't going to go away. You hired the officer on March 4, 2025, wasn't even 6 months when you promoted him. I don't know what Hampton is, I've been seeing him a long time, I doubt he's a Sgt. While he's out there enforcing your policies. I doubt he's been rewarded. I'm letting you know from this point on, you're under a microscope on the state and nation level. People are calling me from all over the county about this. I'm ashamed really, that I have to answer questions from the New York times. We should have stopped this earlier. I'm not a racist, I've never stopped a white person from getting a job. When you fight racism as a black person, you get targeted and sited as a racist. We know what the process is for hiring. Slime balls can get in here. We used to have a different way of doing this. When Cathey was on the Board these officers were vetted, every one of them. We are asking y'all to recall the decision you made for the office involved in this incident because it's unethical. Sent a man home that killed a baby, on a paid vacation. We are asking for the termination of that officer. He can still be fired, y'all have the power to do that. Asking this Board to do what's ethical. If I have done it, I'd already be in jail. We are asking that the office involved be charged with murder. It's not about money. Mr. Crump being here has nothing to do with what Senatobia's been dealing with. Money is not proper compensation for a black life. No money can compensate for this. Hunter Foster doesn't need to be eating with his children. Due process of law needs to be faced. We want to, respectfully, give this Board 5 days to respond to this. We except a response. It's not going anywhere; it won't be swept under the rug. We aren't going no where.

Building Bridges Coalition

Shatoya Wright stated I would also like to thank everyone for giving us this opportunity. On behalf of Marquell Bridges.

Mayor Graves asked Ms. Wright to state where she is from.

Shatoya Wright stated I am from Batesville. I am an active member of Building Bridges Coalition. We are here today because 1 year old baby Kohen, who should be alive today, instead is not here and his family is grieving. This city continues to carry on as if nothing has happened. Mayor, respectfully, where have you been? Leadership is not about cutting ribbons and attending celebrations. It is about standing with your community. Since Kohen was killed outside of Walmart in your city, the people have been looking for compassion, transparency. Instead, they have been met with silence. Your silence has deepened the pain of the community. Evey member of this board took an oath to the members of the community. This includes Walmart, where he lost his life. Have you demanded accountability, have you demanded transparency, have you demanded the family be met with empathy or have you remained silent while the community you serve waits for answers. Baby Kohen Wiley cannot speak for himself, so we are here. We

demand the immediate release of all body cam footage, dash cam footage, and Walmart videos. We know y'all say it's in the hands of the MBI, y'all have the power to release these things. Every 911 recording, every piece of evidence that can legally be released. Transparency should not have to be forced by public pressure. We demand a complete accounting for every decision made before, during and after the incident. We demand every official overseeing this police department answer the people. The only violence that has happened at these protests is in the hands of your officers, when people are peacefully gathered to mourn a child and demand justice. They were met with tear gas and aggression. People protest to exercise their right. The people are not the enemy. Accountability is not the enemy, parents grieving for a child is not the enemy, people are not the enemy. The system build on hatred and racism are the enemy. Silence is the enemy. Lack of accountability is the enemy. Let me be clear. This movement is not going anywhere. We will continue. We will continue to demand that elected officials remember who they work for. Your actions will be what you're remembered for. Kohen deserved more. Tonight is about Kohen and what the city decides to be remembered for. I am not a racist. I don't see color. It's about right or wrong. The citizens deserve more.

Tyesha Cox, I am a community member. We are seeking transparency, accountability, and change of policies, for Kohen Wiley. I know they say the officer is out on paid vacation, that murdered a 1-year-old. Just a year ago a black officer for Senatobia was accused of alleged rape and he was fired. What's the difference? He was fired for alleged rape on an adult. But this officer gets suspended with pay after murdering a baby. We are requesting a clear explanation of the hiring process that led to this officer being employed by the Senatobia Police Department. Public record says that this officer was involved in an illegal case and we want to know if this was considered in the hiring process. I have applied to be a police officer before and I was told no because I had small misdemeanors. We all know this officer had a criminal record before. We want to know who is responsible for reviewing the officer's background and his employment. You said MBI has a hold on the cameras and videos. If I leave here and commit a crime, y'all are going to lock me up and then review the video. How can y'all not see the videos and body cams that you have access to. If it was a black officer that had killed a 1-year-old, they would have been locked up. We just want to be equal and stop looking at color. We want justice for baby Kohen. We are tired of every time we are having a good time; we have the police pull up just because we are black. The majority of the time we don't get up and vote and we need to start voting because we are the reason y'all are here. It's crazy I had to email Ms. Katie to get on the agenda, every other city you can just come ion and talk. You limit the community. Starting today we will stick together and we will get our demands, one way or another.

Discussion of Continuing Education, Alderman Underwood

Mayor Graves advised the Board that Aldermen Underwood previously requested discussion regarding Continuing Education.

Alderman Underwood stated not necessarily a policy, but accountability. I am for continuing education, but how many conferences does everyone go to. I'm all about training with our Fire and Police Departments, but how many different items are we going to as a group of city employees. I understand that we all have continuing education to keep doing what we do. It's not only the money we are spending, but you're not here.

Mayor Graves asked the Board if they had any ideas on what they would like to see for this topic, if anything.

Alderman McConnell stated classes that are needed for certification are good, but others I'm not sure.

Mayor Graves stated y'all can give ideas and we can work with that to come up with a policy if that's what you want.

Alderman Garrett stated I'm with Alderman Underwood. I don't see why we should go to 2 or 3. Like if Katie goes to MML, there's no need to go to the other one.
Mayor Graves stated that MML is very beneficial, they have a larger variety of classes, you get networking with other elected officials, clerks, professionals, etc. from other areas.

Alderman Garrett stated Maybe since MML has more classes they can cut back on others.

Mayor Graves stated that I think it's very important for first responders to be able to attend all of their classes.

Alderman Garrett stated he agreed.

Mayor Graves stated ok, the Board can let us know the framework sometime, if you want us to put something together.

Update of Senatobia Youth Softball

Mayor Graves advised the Board that as they know by now, Ashely Casey has announced that she is done with the Recreational Girls Softball league. So, the City has started the signups for fall softball, along with the already planned baseball signups. As this is what we previously spoke about doing when the volunteers decided they no longer want to run the league.

Alderman Garrett stated he wanted to move this item to Executive Session.

Mayor Graves stated as long as the reason fits. What is the reason.

Alderman Garrett stated it fits; it's personnel.

*Item not listed on agenda

Alderman Garrett stated that he wanted to add Parks & Recreation Personnel to the Executive Session.

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman McConnell to add Parks Personnel to executive session. All voting yea, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Graves went over consent agenda items 8 - 26, asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were asked.

No questions were asked.

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

Approve Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on June 16, 2026

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the Minutes from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting on June 16, 2026. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Approve Docket of Claims numbers: 43703 – 44018 for a total of $2,366,638.03

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the Docket of Claims numbers: 43703 – 44018 for a total of $2,366,638.03, as funds are available. All present voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to move Firefighter Areial Welton from full-time to part-time, per employee request, no change in pay

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to move Firefighter Areial Welton from full-time to part-time, per employee request, no change in pay. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to move Firefighter Baylor Albritton from part-time to full-time, no changes in rate of pay

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to move Firefighter Baylor Albritton from part-time to full-time, no changes in rate of pay. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to hire Caylon White as a full-time Certified Firefighter at the rate of $13.90 per hour, pending background and drug screening results

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to hire Caylon White as a full-time Certified Firefighter at the rate of $13.90 per hour, pending background and drug screening results. All voting yea, motion carried.

Acknowledge the resignation from Public Works Street Department employee Caleb Dresner effective June 18, 2026

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to acknowledge the resignation from Public Works Street Department employee Caleb Dresner effective June 18, 2026. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee Trenton Grace for violating city policy, effective June 23, 2026

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to terminate employment with Public Works employee Trenton Grace for violating city policy, effective June 23, 2026. All voting yea, motion carried.

Acknowledge the resignation from Police Sgt. Parrette effective July 13, 2026

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to acknowledge the resignation from Police Sgt. Parrette effective July 13, 2026. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Sarah Buford from full-time to part-time

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Sarah Buford from full-time to part-time. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Jeffrey Harmon from part-time to full-time

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to move Animal Shelter Technician Jeffrey Harmon from part-time to full-time. All voting yea, motion carried.

Approve the First Amendment to Commercial Lease Agreement with ABB for the property at 155 Scott St, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved)

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the First Amendment to Commercial Lease Agreement with ABB for the property at 155 Scott St, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved). All voting yea, motion carried.

Approve the Seventh Amendment to the Lease with ABB for the property at 905 Shands Bottom, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved)

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the Seventh Amendment to the Lease with ABB for the property at 905 Shands Bottom, renewing (amending adding language for the Exhibit A document that was included with the lease, as approved). All voting yea, motion carried.

Approve and authorize Mayor Graves to sign the Continuing Disclosure Engagement Agreement with Butler Snow FYE 2025

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve and authorize Mayor Graves to sign the Continuing Disclosure Engagement Agreement with Butler Snow FYE 2025. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to purchase a Fusion Machine in the amount of $7,055.18 from CGS Utility Products for the Public Works Gas Department

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to purchase a Fusion Machine in the amount of $7,055.18 from CGS Utility Products for the Public Works Gas Department. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Cleveland Construction for sewer repair work on Country Club Rd in the amount of $26,250 and Garden View Dr in the amount $22,698 for a total of $48,948.00

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Cleveland Construction for sewer repair work on Country Club Rd in the amount of $26,250 and Garden View Dr in the amount $22,698 for a total of $48,948.00. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to have City property on Corporate Court surveyed, approving quote from Harrison Land Survey & Mapping LLC., in the amount of $1,800

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to have City property on Corporate Court surveyed, approving quote from Harrison Land Survey & Mapping LLC., in the amount of $1,800. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to surplus 2 Bristol Babcock old tank level recorders for water towers, and dispose of

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to surplus 2 Bristol Babcock old tank level recorders for water towers, and dispose of. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Phelps Plastering, LLC for completion of work on Center Street building in the amount of $7,800

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize to accept the lowest and best quote from Phelps Plastering, LLC for completion of work on Center Street building in the amount of $7,800. All voting yea, motion carried.

Authorize Elliott & Britt Engineering to advertise the Emergency Bridge Replacement Project, ERBR-69(02), contingent upon execution and recording of right-of-way deeds

Motion was made by Alderman Dear, seconded by Alderman Garrett, to authorize Elliott & Britt Engineering to advertise the Emergency Bridge Replacement Project, ERBR-69(02), contingent upon execution and recording of right-of-way deeds. All voting yea, motion carried.

Go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Court and Parks & Recreation Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, seconded by Alderman Underwood, to go into Closed Session to discuss going into Executive Session for Court and Parks & Recreation Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Go into Executive Session for Court and Parks & Recreation Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to go into Executive Session for Personnel. All voting yea, motion carried.

Court Department Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman Dear, to appoint Robin Luttrell as the Municipal Court Clerk with a salary of $45,000. All voting yea, motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Department Personnel

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman McConnell to terminate employment with Parks and Recreation Director Jamie Chandler, no policy violation given. All voting yea, motion carried.

Come out of Executive Session

Motion was made by Alderman Garrett, seconded by Alderman Tanksley, to come out of Executive Session. All voting yea, motion carried.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Alderman Tanksley, and seconded by Alderman McConnell, to adjourn. All voting yea, motion carried.

_____
Greg Graves, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Katie Harbin, City Clerk

**CERTIFICATE OF CLERK**

State of Mississippi

Tate County

City of Senatobia

I, Katie Harbin, City Clerk for the City of Senatobia, Tate County, Mississippi, do hereby certify that the information below and following is true and correct from the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen Meeting held on August 18, 2026.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this the 20th day of August 2026.

Katie Harbin, City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approve correction to the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen Minutes from July 7, 2026, correcting the vote for the Parks and Recreation Department Personnel; the vote was mistakenly recorded as All voting yea when the vote was the following: Underwood, McConnell, Garrett, and Tanksley voting in favorite of terminating and Alderman Dear voting against terminating

Motion was made by Alderman Dear seconded by Alderman Garrett, to approve the correction to the Regular Mayor and Board of Aldermen Minutes from July 7, 2026, correcting the vote for the termination of the Parks and Recreation Director Jamie Chandler; finding that the vote was mistakenly recorded as "All Voting Yea"; finding that the correct vote was "Alderman Underwood, Alderman McConnell, Alderman Garrett, and Alderman Tanksley voting in favor of terminating Jamie Chandler and Alderman Dear voting against terminating Jamie Chandler". All voting yea, motion carried.

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