

Town of Taylor, Mississippi
Minutes of the Swearing in of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen
on July 3, 2017

Be it remembered that the Citizens of the Town of Taylor, Mississippi, came together to witness the Swearing In of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen elected on June 6, 2017. Town Clerk Richard Williams called the assembly to order with the following newly elected officials present:

Mayor-Elect Jim Hamilton; Aldermen-Elect: Tim Bridges; Courtney Covington; Ellen Meacham; Jimmie Willingham.

Alderman-Elect Lyn Roberts was absent.

Clerk Williams announce the official results of the June 6, 2017 election:

Election Report: June 8, 2017
June 6, 2017 Municipal General Election Results

76 Total Ballots Voted
69 Regular Ballots
7 Absentee Ballots
1 Rejected Affidavit Ballot

VOTES

	MAYOR:	
70	Jim Hamilton	Elected (93% of Ballots Voted)
	ALDERMEN (5 AT LARGE SEATS)	
59	Carolyn (Lyn) Roberts	Elected (78% of Ballots Voted)
57	Tim Bridges	Elected (75% of Ballots Voted)
52	Jimmie Willingham	Elected (69% of Ballots Voted)
48	Courtney Covington	Elected (64% of Ballots Voted)
42	Ellen Meacham	Tied 5th Seat (56% of Ballots Voted)
	*Won tie breaker on June 8, 2017	Elected
42	Noel Montgomery	Tied 5th Seat (56% of Ballots Voted)
	*Lost tie breaker on June 8, 2017	Defeated
40	Justin Reid	Defeated (53% of Ballots Voted)

Tie breaker for the fifth alderman seat was held June 8, 2017 and Ellen Meacham won the lot.

The Clerk then asked the newly elected officials to rise and repeat the oath of office:

I, (NAME OF OFFICIAL), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Mississippi, and obey the laws thereof; that I am not disqualified from holding the office of (TITLE) of the Town of Taylor, Mississippi; that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter. So help me God.

After being sworn in each official signed their printed Oath of Office.

All elected officials present having been sworn in, the Swearing In was adjourned.

Jim Hamilton, Mayor
(Seal)

Richard Williams, Clerk



Town of Taylor Minutes of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen **Regular Monthly Meeting on July 3, 2017**

Be it remembered that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Taylor, Mississippi, met in a Regular Meeting at the Town Hall on this the first Monday, per Board Vote on June 6, 2017 to change regularly scheduled meeting date from July 4, 2017 to the third day of July, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., with the following officers and members present, constituting a legal quorum to-wit:

Mayor Jim Hamilton; Aldermen: Tim Bridges; Courtney Covington; Ellen Meacham; Jimmie Willingham; and Clerk Richard Williams.

Alderman-Elect Lyn Roberts was absent

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hamilton, and the following business was had and done to-wit:

Adopt Agenda: Mayor Hamilton requested that the agenda be amended to postpone the Resolution Honoring the Service of Alderman Dorothy (Betty) Kisner until next month's Regular Meeting so that all aldermen would have the opportunity to vote. Alderman Bridges moved to adopt the amended meeting agenda; the motion was duly seconded by Alderman Willingham and passed unanimously.

Approve Prior Meeting Minutes: Alderman Covington moved that the minutes for the June 6, 2017 meeting be approved; the motion was seconded by Alderman Meacham, and passed unanimously.

Approve Current Claims Docket: Alderman Willingham moved to approve the Docket of Claims dated July 3, 2017; the motion was duly seconded by Alderman Bridges and passed unanimously.

Town Clerk's Report:

Lafayette County Road Report: None

Planning Commission Report: There were 3 new residential building permits issued last month.

Mayor and Board of Aldermen for July 3, 2017 meeting information:

This text is from email correspondence from a resident, Chand Harlow, who wishes to begin a "Craft Distilling" operation on his property at 11 Main Street:

From: Chand Harlow

Sent: Sunday, May 28, 2017 5:03 PM

To: Robert Barber

Subject: Taylor - Distillery

Bob,

Great speaking with you yesterday. As discussed, we are in the process of starting a craft distillery and would like to have it located in the downtown (village center commercial zoned) area of Taylor. My home is directly across the street from the Taylor Town Hall. Our focus for the distillery is to make small batch grain to glass craft spirits using as many local ingredients as possible. The location limitations (state laws) for a business such as this is the same as a bar (must be 100 ft from a church or school - if both properties are zoned commercial or 400 ft if one or both are zoned residential). In addition to producing craft spirits, we will have occasional tours, tastings, and merchandise (t-shirts and the like) sales at the distillery but no actual liquor sales (even a bar) to consumers are allowed to happen on premises due to state and federal laws. The main focus at the distillery will always be small batch grain to glass craft spirits production. I see Taylor benefiting from this business in several ways:

1) Another attraction for the public to come see in Taylor that will only further add to the unique and artsy feel Taylor already exudes

2) Sales tax from merchandise sales

3) Future employment opportunities

4) Add to property values as distilleries and breweries across the country are businesses people more and more are enjoying having as a part of their local communities

As a resident of Taylor, the last thing I want to see is a large manufacturing facility in Taylor and this will definitely not be anything close to that. Small batch distilleries range in production from a few thousand cases produced per year up to several hundred thousand cases. As a comparison, Maker's Mark produces 1.4 million cases per year. Our initial production level will be approximately 1,500 cases per year and if things go well that number may increase to close to 10,000 cases per year - remaining well in the confines of what is considered a craft small batch distillery. Before we make definitive plans to be located in Taylor, I want to make sure that the planning commission/zoning/ordinances will allow for it and/or if they need to be altered to account for micro-distilleries/breweries I would like to begin making the necessary steps to do so. Any of your expert guidance/help with this process would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Thanks so much.

Best,

Chand Harlow

The State of Mississippi defines distilling as "manufacturing" alcohol. Our Planning and Development Ordinance does not permit manufacturing of any kind in any of our zoning districts. Mr. Harlow would like to ask the Board to change the ordinance to allow manufacturing of "small batch alcoholic beverages" within the Village Center zoning District and then he will proceed to obtain whatever permits, licenses and approvals need to do this. Mr. Harlow has requested time of the Board's agenda to present this proposal in August, 2017.

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2017 Election Report:

June 8, 2017

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Old Business: None

New Business: None

Mayor's Report: Mayor Hamilton reported that next meeting he would present his goals and agenda for the upcoming 4 year term of office. He will also update the board on the status of the clerk's duties and position.

Public Comment: None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until the next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Hamilton, Mayor
(Seal)

Richard Williams, Clerk

