

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THERE WAS BEGUN AND HELD A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PETAL, MISSISSIPPI ON MAY 28, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM OF SAID CITY.

THOSE PRESENT	MAYOR HAL MARX
ATTORNEY	ROCKY EATON
ALDERMEN	BRAD AMACKER CRAIG BULLOCK DAVID CLAYTON TONY DUCKER CLINT MOORE STEVE STRINGER

OTHERS

MAYOR MARX DECLARED A QUORUM PRESENT AND DECLARED THE CITY COUNCIL IN SESSION.

THE INVOCATION WAS OFFERED BY TONY DUCKER

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING WAS PRESENTED

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN MOORE READ A STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

EXHIBIT "B"

STATEMENT

WHEREAS, ALDERMAN MOORE MADE A MOTION TO REQUEST A RESIGNATION FROM MAYOR HAL MARX. ALDERMAN BULLOCK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "AYE"

ALDERMAN BRAD AMACKER
ALDERMAN CRAIG BULLOCK
ALDERMAN DAVID CLAYTON
ALDERMAN TONY DUCKER
ALDERMAN CLINT MOORE
ALDERMAN STEVE STRINGER

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "NAY"

NONE

THEREUPON, MAYOR MARX DECLINED TO GIVE HIS RESIGNATION.

WHEREAS, ALDERMAN BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO REDUCE THE SALARY OF THE MAYOR. ALDERMAN MOORE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THEREUPON, ATTORNEY ROCKY EATON REQUESTED TIME TO OBTAIN AN ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION ON REDUCING THE SALARY. MR. EATON BELIEVES THIS MATTER SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

THEREUPON, MICHAEL ADELMAN, ATTORNEY FOR THE MAYOR, ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT HE TOO BELIEVES THIS MATTER SHOULD BE TAKEN UP IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. HE ALSO ADVISED THAT IN HIS OPINION REDUCING THE MAYOR'S SALARY WOULD ESSENTIALLY BE IMPOSING A FINE ON HIM FOR FREE SPEECH.

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN BULLOCK WITHDREW HIS MOTION. ALDERMAN DUCKER MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE REQUEST. ALDERMAN MOORE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "AYE"

ALDERMAN BRAD AMACKER
ALDERMAN CRAIG BULLOCK
ALDERMAN DAVID CLAYTON
ALDERMAN TONY DUCKER
ALDERMAN CLINT MOORE
ALDERMAN STEVE STRINGER

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "NAY"

NONE

WHEREAS, ALDERMAN MOORE PRESENTED A RESOLUTION TO CENSURE THE MAYOR

EXHIBIT "C"

RESOLUTION

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN MOORE MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. ALDERMAN BULLOCK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "AYE"

ALDERMAN BRAD AMACKER
ALDERMAN CRAIG BULLOCK
ALDERMAN DAVID CLAYTON
ALDERMAN TONY DUCKER
ALDERMAN CLINT MOORE
ALDERMAN STEVE STRINGER

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "NAY"

NONE

WHEREAS, ALDERMAN MOORE PRESENTED A RESOLUTION CONCERNING A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN BULLOCK MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE RESOLUTION. ALDERMAN MOORE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN MOORE OPENED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THEREUPON, SEVERAL CITIZENS ADDRESSED THEIR CONCERNS OVER THE MAYOR'S COMMENTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA. THEY BELIEVE HE HAS TARNISHED PETAL'S REPUTATION. THEY BELIEVE HE HAS PUT OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT IN DANGER. CITIZENS CALLED FOR MAYOR MARX'S RESIGNATION. THEY ANNOUNCED THAT PROTESTS WOULD BE HELD AT CITY HALL ON MAY 29 - MAY 31, 2020 AND INVITED THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND.

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN MOORE STATED THAT THE ALDERMEN CALLED THE MEETING BECAUSE THEY FELT THE MAYOR WAS NO LONGER REPRESENTING THE CITY AND MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING. ALDERMAN BULLOCK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "AYE"

ALDERMAN BRAD AMACKER
ALDERMAN CRAIG BULLOCK
ALDERMAN DAVID CLAYTON
ALDERMAN TONY DUCKER
ALDERMAN CLINT MOORE
ALDERMAN STEVE STRINGER

THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING "NAY"

NONE

THEREUPON, ALDERMAN DUCKER ASKED THAT THE COMMUNITY PRAY FOR THE ENTIRE CITY AND THE BOARD RESPECTS THE RIGHT TO PROTEST PEACEFULLY.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PETAL, MISSISSIPPI WAS ADJOURNED ON MAY 28, 2020.




MELISSA MARTIN, CITY CLERK

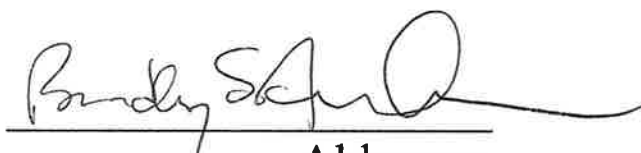

MAYOR HAL MARX

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
EXHIBIT "A"

Please be advised, pursuant to MS Code 21-3-21, that a special meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Petal, Mississippi, will be held, Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Boardroom of said City for the purpose of:

1. Statement to be read by Aldermen
2. Request resignation from Mayor Hal Marx immediately.
3. Request to reduce salary of Mayor effective immediately.
4. Resolution of Censure of the Mayor.
5. Request to adopt resolution concerning Social Media policy.


Alderman


Alderman

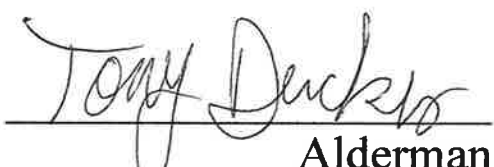

Alderman

EXHIBIT "B"

The city and surrounding communities of Petal, MS have grown to be a place where individuals of all walks, backgrounds, and beliefs are valued, supported, and celebrated. It's our goal to continue to embrace our diverse community and prosper. The strides made thus far in our community are great. Petal has become a hometown destination to many due to our excellent school district, safe way of life, and community support for one another.

Recently, Mayor Hal Marx has taken to social media and repeatedly made comments that have isolated, enraged, and belittled individuals in a way that is unbecoming of our city. Furthermore, these remarks have alienated certain groups of our population, which is counterproductive to our diverse community. Over the past few days, the vast number of our constituents who have reached out to us showing their disapproval and disdain have made it obvious that we can no longer accept this reality.

Based on Hal Marx's continual distasteful remarks, the board of aldermen feels he is out of touch with the citizens and unfit to continue in his capacity as Mayor. It is unacceptable for a leader in our community to make these remarks with little or no thought to the effects they will have on the very people which he/she leads. Hal Marx's comments are not an embodiment of the values that the city of Petal stands for. As strongly as the board of alderman feel about this matter, the MS state law fails us in that the board of aldermen has no authority to remove a mayor from his position, nor do the citizens through a recall election. We, as a board, do promise, however, to take every action available to us to ensure that Hal Marx's future as a leader in the city of Petal is limited.

David Clayton, Ward 1
Steve Stringer, Ward 2
Clint Moore, Ward 3
Brad Amacker, Ward 4
Tony Ducker, Ward 5
Craig Bullock, Ward 6

EXHIBIT "C"

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF PETAL, MISSISSIPPI CENSURING THE MAYOR

Approved/Disapproved, and signed by me on this, the ____ day of May, 2020.

WHEREAS, Mayor Hal Marx's comments on social media and traditional media on May 26, 2020 and May 27, 2020, regarding his opinions concerning the death of George Floyd were not appropriate.

Hal Marx, Mayor

WHEREAS, citizens and the Board of Aldermen expect a return to civility, respect, trust and productivity at City Hall.

WHEREAS, Mayor Hal Marx's comments have created a hostile environment within and without the City of Petal so that the Board of Aldermen no longer have confidence in him.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF PETAL:

1. The Board of Aldermen have lost confidence in Mayor Marx.
2. The Board of Aldermen hereby censure the Mayor for the conduct described above, putting the City of Petal at risk of harm, and creating a hostile environment.
3. Mayor Marx is directed to refrain from making public comments regarding George Floyd and other issues which have no relevance to the City of Petal in his capacity as Mayor or on behalf of the City of Petal.
4. The Board of Aldermen ask that Mayor Marx correctly carry out the duties of mayor, adhere to city Ordinances and common courtesy, work effectively as a member of the Petal City Government, and work with the Board to take action on Board priorities.
5. If Mayor Marx cannot or does not take such corrective actions to carry out the duties of a mayor as a functional member of the Petal City Government, the Board of Aldermen asks that Mayor Marx resign from office.
6. This Resolution is effective upon passage.

After being reduced to writing, the foregoing Resolution was read and considered, section by section, and then as a whole, whereupon Alderman _____ moved for its adoption, and after a second by Alderman _____, the following roll call vote was had:

Alderman David Clayton	YEA	/	NAY
Alderman Steven Stringer	YEA	/	NAY
Alderman Clint Moore	YEA	/	NAY
Alderman Tony Ducker	YEA	/	NAY
Alderman Brad Amacker	YEA	/	NAY
Alderman Craig Bullock	YEA	/	NAY

Passed by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Petal on the ____ day of May, 2020.

CERTIFICATION

I, Melissa Martin, Clerk for the City of Petal, Mississippi, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was approved and adopted in the public meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on May __, 2020 a quorum being present, in the Petal Civic Center and to be recorded in the Minute Books of said Board, said Board being the duly elected, qualified, and acting governing body of Petal.

Presented by me to the Mayor on this, the ____ day of May, 2020.

Melissa Martin, City Clerk

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