

**ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE CITY OF OLIVE BRANCH, MISSISSIPPI ADOPTING REDISTRICTING
PLAN AND ESTABLISHING POLLING PLACES FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

An Ordinance required for the adoption of a new ward plan for the election of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi and for other referenda, and the establishment of polling places for municipal elections.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi:

WHEREAS, the 2020 United States Census, in conjunction with the 2021 Annexation, indicates that the population of the City of Olive Branch has increased from 33,484 in 2010 to 46,466 in 2022, and

WHEREAS, the populations of the existing wards for the City of Olive Branch are no longer essentially equal and thus the individual ward populations violate the U. S. Constitution's guarantee of one man one vote, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch deemed it to be required by federal law to create the wards for the City of Olive Branch in a manner to equalize, within legal parameters, the populations within the wards to comply with the one man one vote principle, and

WHEREAS, redistricting is also necessary due to the annexation which became effective in 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch adhered to the following guidelines, or criteria, for the drawing of the new ward lines based on the 2020 Census data:

- Wards should be drawn to relatively equal populations.
- Provide for 10% or less deviation among wards.
- Maintain racial integrity of existing districts (free of racially discriminatory purpose or effect).
- Wards should be contiguous.
- Boundaries should have visible lines of demarcation.
- Avoid, where possible, splitting Census blocks.
- Effectuate the least amount of change to existing boundaries.
- Incorporate public concerns and comments.

WHEREAS, in total, the Mayor and Board met or organized five (5) separate meetings or hearings at which redistricting was discussed in open settings, with public comment being requested at two (2) of such meetings. The meeting dates are as follows: November 22, 2021, January 13, 2022, February 16, 2022, April 7, 2022, and May 17, 2022.

WHEREAS, On April 7, 2022 the City, through its consultant, held a public meeting regarding the creation of the proposed new wards, and

WHEREAS, at the public meeting the consultant presented a proposed plan for the new wards which was developed using the aforementioned criteria, and

WHEREAS, a map of the proposed wards was displayed in a public location at City hall for twenty-two (22) days in advance of the public meeting, and notice was published in the local paper three (3) times in advance of the meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch held a public hearing on May 17, 2022 regarding the creation of the proposed new wards, and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch presented a proposed plan for the new wards which was developed using the aforementioned criteria, and

WHEREAS, a map of the proposed wards was displayed in a public location at City hall for twenty-one (21) days in advance of the May 17, 2022 public hearing, and notice was published in the local paper three (3) times in advance of the meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have received and considered public input in the creation of proposed new wards, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch are now desirous of adopting a ward plan for use in upcoming Municipal Elections, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen further desire to establish and confirm polling places for upcoming Municipal Elections, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 23-15-557 of the Mississippi Code (1972) the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have the authority to confirm and establish multiple polling places for municipal elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi:

1. That the Redistricting Plan for Municipal Elections in the City of Olive Branch, Mississippi, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof as if fully copied herein, is hereby adopted.
2. The Ordinance shall be effective July 11, 2022.
3. The existing Wards, as adopted by the Board of Aldermen on May 1, 2012 are hereby repealed on the effective date of this Ordinance.
4. The Wards adopted effective July 11, 2022 are more particularly described in the additional attachment, which is made a part hereof as Exhibit "B" as if fully copied herein. In the event of a conflict between Exhibit "A" (map) and Exhibit "B" (narrative descriptions), Exhibit "A" shall control.
5. The following polling places are confirmed and established as the polling places for upcoming municipal elections as follows, to wit:

Ward 1 Olive Branch Fire Station No. 2
 7745 Craft Road

Ward 2 Summershill Fire Station
 7600 Pleasant Hill Road

Ward 3 Nichols Community Center
 10947 Highway 178

Ward 4 Olive Branch Fire Station No. 1
 9189 Pigeon Roost Road

Ward 5 Olive Branch Fire Station No. 3
 7750 Hacks Cross Road

Ward 6 Olive Branch Senior Citizen's Center
 8800 College Street

Passage of this Ordinance is now official and the same shall take effect on July 11, 2022 and be enforced as provided by law.

ADOPTED, ORDAINED AND APPROVED this 7th day of June, 2022.

/s/ KENNETH R. ADAMS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ TENA STEWART, CITY CLERK

The foregoing Ordinance was read, discussed and voted upon in a public meeting, section by section, and as a whole, and whereas a motion was duly made by Alderman Collins, and seconded by Alderwoman Henderson, with the following results:

Alderwoman Janet Aldridge	AYE
Alderman George Collins	AYE
Alderman Dale Dickerson	AYE
Alderman Gil Earhart	AYE
Alderwoman Pat Hamilton	AYE
Alderwoman Joy Henderson	AYE
Alderman David Wallace	AYE

The foregoing Ordinance was passed, adopted and approved on the 7th day of June, 2022.

/s/ KENNETH R. ADAMS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ TENA STEWART, CITY CLERK