

There came on for consideration at a duly constituted meeting of the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi, held on the 22nd day of December, 2020, the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 3058

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1-96 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

WHEREAS, from time to time the Gulfport City Council has enacted various ordinances establishing municipal departments and the responsibilities assigned to those departments and which ordinances have been codified at Chapter 1, Article III, Division 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Section 1-96 of the Code of Ordinances establishes a “Department of Finance and Administration” and sets out, in part, that this Department is vested with the authority and shall have the responsibility for, among other things, the administration, supervision, management, operation and direction of the City’s accounting, data processing, insurance, licenses, payroll, purchasing, tax collecting, voter registration, water billing, harbor administration, and grants administration; and

WHEREAS, some of the duties previously assigned to the “Department of Finance and Administration” have since been undertaken by other Departments in the City and there are various other functions and duties that should be more specifically set out in this Department in an effort to improve the efficiency of accounting within the City, to include, among other things, the provision of financial planning documents and financial information to City officials, assistance with preparation of the City budget, maintenance of all financial records in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and in compliance with state and federal laws, establishment and oversight of internal controls, and preparation of needed or necessary financial reports; and

WHEREAS, there is therefore a need to amend Section 1-96 in Chapter I, Article III, Division 2 of the City’s Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the matters and things set forth in the above preamble are hereby accepted as stated as the findings of the Gulfport City Council.

SECTION 2. That Chapter I, Article III, Division 2, Section 1-96 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi, which presently reads as follows:

Sec. 1-96. - Department of finance and administration established; responsibilities.

(a) The department of finance and administration is hereby established and shall be headed by a director who shall be appointed and shall serve pursuant to the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. 1972, Section 21-8-23.

(b) The department of finance and administration shall be vested with the authority and shall have the responsibility for administration, supervision, management, operation and direction of the following areas of municipal government: Accounting comptroller, data processing, insurance, licenses, payroll, parking garage personnel, purchasing, tax collecting, voter registration and water billing, harbor administration and maintenance, and grants administration.

(c) The city's purchasing manager is hereby authorized to establish and maintain procurement policies and procedures consistent with Mississippi law for all city procurement, including any departmental supply purchases, and any construction or service contracts.

(d) The procurement policies and procedures established by the purchasing department shall be followed by all city departments with all city purchasing completed centrally under the direct authority of the purchasing manager.

should be, and hereby is, amended to read as follows, *with changes noted in bold and underlined and deletions noted in bold, underlined, and stricken through:*

Sec. 1-96. - Department of finance and administration accounting established; responsibilities.

(a) The department of finance and administration accounting is hereby established and shall be headed by a director who shall be appointed and shall serve pursuant to the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. 1972, Section 21-8-23.

(b) The department of finance and administration accounting shall be vested with the authority and shall have the responsibility for administration, supervision, management, operation and direction of the following areas of municipal government: Accounting comptroller, receipt and accounting of city revenue and bonds, data processing, insurance, ~~licenses~~, payroll, ~~parking garage personnel~~, purchasing, tax collecting, ~~voter registration and~~ receipt and accounting of water customer utility billing revenue, ~~harbor administration and maintenance, and~~ financial planning, the creation, maintenance, and preservation of the city's financial information and records, assistance in preparation, compilation, maintenance, and oversight of the city budget, creation and maintenance of all financial records in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and in compliance with state and federal laws, establishment and oversight of internal auditing controls within the city, and preparation of required financial reports. The director of the department of finance and accounting is hereby authorized to establish and maintain internal auditing controls and policies and procedures associated therewith that are consistent with Mississippi law.

(c) The city's purchasing manager is hereby authorized to establish and maintain procurement policies and procedures consistent with Mississippi law for all city procurement, including any departmental supply purchases, and any construction or service contracts.

(d) The procurement policies and procedures established by the purchasing department shall be followed by all city departments with all city purchasing completed centrally under the direct authority of the purchasing manager.

SECTION 3. All provisions of Chapter 1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi not in conflict herewith shall remain in full force and effect as heretofore provided.

SECTION 4. To provide for the immediate and temporary preservation of the public peace, health and safety, this Ordinance shall be in full force and become effective immediately upon its passage by unanimous vote and enactment according to law and shall be spread on the minutes of the Gulfport City Council. The Ordinance shall be published according to law and for failure to pass unanimously, shall take effect thirty (30) days after the date of passage.

The above and foregoing Ordinance, after having been first reduced to writing and read by the Clerk, was introduced by Councilmember Pucheu, seconded by Councilmember Casey, and was adopted by the following roll call vote:

YEAS:

Casey

Roland

Holmes-Hines

Walker

Flowers

Pucheu

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

Sharp

WHEREUPON the President declared the motion carried and the Ordinance adopted, this the 22nd day of December, 2020.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

/s/ Brittany Rodgers

Brittany Rodgers, Clerk of Council

ADOPTED:

/s/ Rusty Walker

F.B. "Rusty" Walker, IV, President

The above and foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to and approved by the Mayor, this the 23rd day of December, 2020.

APPROVED:

/s/ Billy Hewes

Billy Hewes, Mayor