



**Hattiesburg City Council
unanimously approved illegal
“change order,” when State
Procurement Law required a
new bid**



*Hattiesburg City Government
has a difficult time
following the most basic
bid laws.*

The Hattiesburg City council unanimously approved an illegal “change order” for the Eaton School rehabilitation project in violation of state bid laws.

It all started when Finlo Construction, a major campaign contributor of Mayor Dupree, was awarded a job to stabilize

the exterior walls of the Eaton School building. The original contract amount was for \$40,978.

There were two change orders for this job. One for \$3,600 in additional expenses, and another which was a credit for \$18,198.00. This left a balance due on the job for \$26,380.

The "final invoice" for this job was issued on 7-8-2015, and payment was made on 7-17-2015 for that amount, with check number 245813. All of this was legal and above board.

Then on 8-12-2015 an illegal "change order" for \$40,000 was added to the completed, contract. Once a project is completed with a final invoice, no change orders can be made simply because there is no open project.

Also, State law requires that any contract over \$5,000 but below \$50,000 requires a two bid process.

This never happened.

VI-8 [2015-2273](#)
Approve Change Order No. 3 for the Eaton School Stabilization Phase decreasing the contract amount by \$3,852.37, resulting in contract amount of \$86,119.63; Authorize Mayor to execute same in duplicate.
[Attachments:](#) [Change Order 3](#)

Click to enlarge. The City Council is set to discuss paying this illegal job today and vote tomorrow. This site has notified the Secretary of State regarding this issue.

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The below documents constitute the legal work that was paid.

[illegalworkorder1](#)

These below documents constitute the illegal change order that

the council approved in violation of Mississippi State procurement law.

[illegalworkorder2](#)