



City of Lake Charles

326 Pujo Street
P.O. Box 1178
Lake Charles, LA
70602-1178

Meeting Minutes City Council

*Luvertha August, Rodney Geyen,
Ronnie Harvey Jr., John Ieyoub, Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford
Council President: Mark Eckard*

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER - Mark Eckard, President of the Council, presided

INVOCATION - Craig Marks

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Stuart Weatherford

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - President or Presiding Officer Mark Eckard, Craig Marks, Stuart Weatherford, and Luvertha August

Absent: 3 - John Ieyoub, Rodney Geyen, and Ronnie Harvey Jr.

Also present were Mayor Nic Hunter, Mr. David L. Morgan, City Attorney, John Cardone, City Administrator and Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

Mr. Eckard stated items 13 and 15 were being deferred to August 16 and item 18 was being deferred without date. He stated items 7, 10 and 11 were being deleted and would not be discussed at this meeting.

The monthly financial reports for June, 2023 were provided to the City Council members by the Department of Finance. The reports include the Budget to Actual Revenues and the Budget to Actual Expenditures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 5, 2023

A motion was made that this item be approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

READING OF PUBLIC NOTICE

Mr. Eckard asked the Clerk of the Council to read in the following Public Notice:

Notice is hereby given in compliance with La. R.S. 42:19.1, that the City Council of the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, will meet in open and public session on the 16th day of August, 2023, at 5:30p.m., at the regular meeting place of said City Council, City Hall, 326 Pujoe Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana, to consider calling an election to be held on November 18, 2023, in the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, to authorize the levy and collection of a 2% sales and use tax in lieu of two existing 1% (collectively 2%) sales and use taxes and the levy and collection of a 0.5% sales and use tax in lieu of two existing 0.25% (collectively 0.5%) sales and use taxes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 396-23

Public hearing on alteration of shoreline (Griffith Coulee) to install and maintain a residential wharf at 124 Pithon Street, by Craig Doland.

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 190-23

2. 101-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 414 Ford Street, Dinie Ell Jones Montgomery, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. Ivory Simon, 1606 Opelousas St., stated he has been waiting to meet with Mr. Harvey but has been unable to. He requested additional time to repair the structure. Mr. Marks, on behalf of Mr. Harvey recommended time delays of 30/90 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19647

3. 102-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2404 Fitzenreiter Road, Riverside Baptist Church of Lake Charles, Louisiana, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. Kevin Wilson, 2404 Fitzenreiter Rd. stated Phase 1 of the FEMA Program is complete and has demolished the inside of the structure. He stated Phase 2 will begin soon and requested additional time. Mr. Marks, on behalf of Mr. Harvey recommended deferring this item to the September 6, 2023 city Council meeting. The deferral was approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be Deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

4. 236-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 315 North Goos Street, RPG Investments, LLC, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Morgan stated he spoke to the owner on July 10, 2023 who indicated he wanted to repair the structure but has not pulled any permits. Mr. Eckard recommended time delays of 30/120 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19648

5. 274-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1900 See Street, Carl R. Washington, Vickie Renee Matthews, Linda Francis Matthews, Paulette Matthews, James C. Talbert, Tracie Michelle Talbert and Jermond Talbert, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Marks recommended time delays of 30/60 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19649

6. 275-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1903 North Prater Street, George Booker, Jr., Estate and Zerline Booker, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Eckard recommended time delays of 30/60 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19650

7. 281-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1306 Summit Street, Deborah Collins, owner.

Deleted

8. 347-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1719 Channel Street, Eddie Stevens and Mary Lorenzo Stevens, owners.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Marks recommended time delays of 30/60 on behalf of Mr. Harvey, which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19651

9. 348-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2208 East Church Street, Ben Lezine, Jr. and Wilda Lezine Estate, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Ms. August recommended time delays of 15/15 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19652

10. 349-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 521 Enterprise Boulevard, Edward (NMN) Chretien and Leatrice Stepney Chretien, owners.

Deleted as the demolition process is complete.

11. 350-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2812 3rd Street, Marvin Brian Citizen and Annette Kemp Citizen, owners.

Deleted due to wrong address.

12. 351-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 3610 Greinwich Boulevard, Alberta Latrell Guillory Estate, owner.

Robert Hester, Building Inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. There were no requests to speak on this item. Mr. Eckard recommended time delays of 30/60 which were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19653

13. 352-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 626 Orange Street, Laura Jean Schulz and Michael Anthony Rider, owners.

Deferred to the August 16, 2023 City Council Meeting

14. 353-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2521 Hazel Street, John Frederick Delaunay, owner.

This item was deferred until September 20, 2023 to allow the family to begin a succession. Mr. Stephen de Launey was in attendance but did not request to speak after speaking to Mr. Morgan prior to the meeting.

This item was deferred to the September 20, 2023 City Council meeting.

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

15. 354-23

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2217 Barbe Street, David T. Gaar, Jr. and Laura Lindsay Garr, owners.

This item was deferred until August 16, 2023 to give notice to the proper owners.

16. 372-23

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with a firm to provide network services for the Water Division and Waste Water Division.

This item was deferred to August 2, 2023.

17. 387-23

An ordinance amending and restating Ordinance No. 19518 authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,000,000 taxable excess revenue bonds, (City of Lake Charles - Center East Water Plant Project), Series 2023, in order to increase the principal amount not to exceed \$2,300,000 taxable excess revenue bonds, (City of Lake Charles - Center East Water Plant Project), Series 2023; prescribing the form and certain terms and conditions of said bonds; providing for payment thereof; entering into certain other covenants and agreements in connection with the security and payment of said bonds; selling said bonds to the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund; authorizing the execution of a loan and pledge agreement and other loan documents with the Louisiana Department of Health; providing for the delivery of the bonds to said department; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

A motion was made by Mr. Marks and seconded by Ms. August that this item be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 19654

18. 395-23

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to accept the best proposal received and enter into an agreement for additional interstate maintenance activities.

This item was deferred without date.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY CONSENT

21. 399-23

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to issue a Request for Proposals to hire a Program Manager to manage the Choice Neighborhood Initiative Implementation Grant to revitalize and transform the targeted public housing community called Lloyd Oaks/Dixy Drive Apartments as part of the Mid-City Transformation Plan.

Sponsors: John Ieyoub

Mr. Marks wanted to know if this would still allow the city to have input even though we are appointing a Program Manager. Mr. Ieyoub was appointed as chairperson.

This item was adopted by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 191-23

22. 403-23

A resolution approving the appointment of Renee' Pullins DeVille as Clerk of the Council for the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

This appointment is effective August 1, 2023.

This item was adopted by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

Enactment No: 192-23

19. 397-23

A resolution accepting Project No. HL-54 Hurricane Laura Repairs - Old City Hall Exterior Repairs as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 193-23

20. 398-23

A resolution accepting Project No. HL-67 & HL-68 - Communication Tower - 706 Enterprise Boulevard as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 194-23

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 4 - Eckard, Marks, Weatherford, and August

Against: 0

Absent: 3 - Ieyoub, Geyen, and Harvey Jr.

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES WERE INTRODUCED BY CONSENT AND READ INTO THE RECORD THE DAY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING AT 1:00P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

23. 400-23

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with a firm to provide cybersecurity services for the City of Lake Charles.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' DeVille, Legal Department.

24. 401-23

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an Act of Exchange with McNeese State University with the City of Lake Charles receiving approximately 2 acres on E. McNeese Street and McNeese State University receiving the City's property located at 4649 Common Street.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' DeVille, Legal Department.

25. 402-23

An ordinance approving the City of Lake Charles' 2023 Action Plan. This ordinance will authorize the City of Lake Charles to make application to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for its 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funding allocation.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' DeVille, Legal Department.

26. 404-23

An ordinance declaring the intent of the City of Lake Charles to acquire a full ownership interest of Seven (7) Parcels of Adjudicated Property pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 47:2236, and providing further thereto.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Renee' DeVille, Legal Department.

Mr. Eckard stated items 23-26 would be read into the record on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 1:00p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Eckard declared the meeting adjourned 5:55 p.m.. The next meeting of the City Council is August 2, 2023.

I, LYNN F. THIBODEAUX, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Minutes for approval of a meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 19th day of July, 2023.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 25th day of July, 2023. S/Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

I, LYNN F. THIBODEAUX, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Council of the City of Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. I further certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Ordinances adopted at a meeting of the City Council of said City held on the 19th day of July, 2023.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 25th day of July, 2023. S/Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

The City of Lake Charles fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans With Disabilities Act, and related statutes, executive orders, and regulations in all programs and activities. The City operates without regard to race, color, or national origin. Any person who believes him/herself or any specific class of persons, to be subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI and/or Americans with Disabilities Act may by him/herself or by representative file a written complaint with the City of Lake Charles. The City's Title VI Coordinator/ADA Coordinator may be reached by phone at (337) 491 1440, the Mayor's Action Line at (337) 491 1346, or contact the appropriate Department Head.