



City of Lake Charles

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Special Meeting Minutes City Council

*Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, John Iyoub, Mary Morris,
Johnnie Thibodeaux, Stuart Weatherford
Council President: Luvertha August*

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER - Luvertha August, President of the Council, presided

INVOCATION - Rodney Geyen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mark Eckard

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - John Iyoub, Johnnie Thibodeaux, Luvertha August, Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, Mary Morris, and Stuart Weatherford

Absent: 0

Also present were Mayor Nicholas E. Hunter, Mr. David L. Morgan, City Attorney and Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

The monthly financial reports for February were provided in March to the City Council members by the Department of Finance. The reports for April were provided in May to the City Council members. The reports include the Budget to Actual Revenues and the Budget to Actual Expenditures.

Ms. August stated this was a special meeting allowing 28 persons in the Council Chambers. Persons can call in to listen to the meeting. She deferred to David Morgan, City Attorney, who outlined the procedure for this special meeting. Mr. Morgan introduced into the record the Notice of the Special Meeting and stated that the city provided a number of ways for which the public could provide comments regarding the items on the Special Meeting agenda either by e mail, telephone, fax, drop box or written letter. He did confirm for the record that public comment communications were received by the City Council Office and the Legal Department regarding various items on the agenda and those comments would be read into the record as the item were considered on the agenda.

Ms. August stated Item No. 14 was being deleted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 6, 2020

Ms. Morris recommended changing the wording in the second to last paragraph of the notes for item No. 13 by adding the wording "therefore the motion failed" for clarity. The paragraph now reads "Ms. August stated there is a motion on the floor by Ms. Morris to defer No. 13 until such time staff has time to look over her concerns. Ms. August called for a second. The motion did not receive a second, therefore the motion failed." The minutes were approved by the following vote:

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

1. 41-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase sixty (60) emergency portable ballistic shields for use by the Lake Charles Police Department, Patrol Division.

Sponsors: Rodney Geyen

Appointed Rodney Geyen Chairman

2. 123-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3336, Oak Park Lateral Drainage Improvements.

Sponsors: Rodney Geyen

Appointed Rodney Geyen Chairman

3. 124-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase an annual supply of traffic control products, under a twelve (12) month contract with the option to renew for an additional twelve (12) months for use by the Public Works Department, Communication and Traffic Division.

Sponsors: Johnnie Thibodeaux

Appointed Johnnie Thibodeaux Chairman

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. 28-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1807 Medora Street, Malaika Ternice Carter, 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. He read in comments received by e-mail from Malika Carter, owner, stating she requested the City demolish the structure. Mr. Morgan recommended time delays of 7/7 which were approved by the following vote:

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18692

5. 29-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1910 Prater Street, Dennis Soileau, 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. Morris 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: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18693

6. 58-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2910 8th Street, Lazare James, 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. Joshua Glover, 2187 E. Gauthier Rd. #234, representing the owner, Lazare James, asked what the cost would be if the City demolished the structure. He also asked if he could tear it down himself. Mr. Morgan responded and time delays of 30/30 were recommended and approved by the following vote:

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18694

7. 83-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2335 See Street (Shed Only), Charles Joseph Stevens, Jr., 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. Morris recommended time delays of 15/30 which were approved by the following vote:

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18695

8. 84-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 3046 Opelousas Street, Alberta Babineaux Estate, Andre Patrick Babineaux Estate, Ernest Babineaux Estate, Louis Randolph Babineaux Estate, Clara Ann Citizen Estate, Harriet Theresa Guillory Estate and Helen A. Myles, 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. Ms. Morris recommended time delays of 45/45 which were approved by the following vote:

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18696

9. 85-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2803 Belden Street, Vincent Benay Moore, Jr., owner.

Robert Hester, building inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the structure as being totally renovated with just a few more days of work. 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 called for a vote for demolition which failed by the following vote:

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

For: 0

Against: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

10. 87-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2711 Myrtle Grove Street (Pool Only), Daniel Mouton and Alvina Pouchie Mouton, owners.

Robert Hester, building inspector, gave a report as to the condition of the pool and Mr. Morgan presented photographs and documents regarding the property which were made a part of the record. Daniel Mouton, 2711 Myrtle Grove Lane, owner of the pool, stated the pool was empty and is pumped out daily when needed. On the recommendation of Mr. Eckard, the item was deleted.

11. 162-2020

Public hearing and consideration on alteration of shoreline (Lake Charles) through the renovation of a boathouse for recreational use, located at 303 Shell Beach Drive, by Richard LaBorde.

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 61-2020

12. 54-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3331, Hillcrest Park.

Sponsors: Rodney Geyen

A motion was made to reject the bid and rebid the project. The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

13. 144-2020

An ordinance amending Section 2-102 and Section 5-203 of Appendix A - Zoning of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana by modifying the definition and adding a new subsection 5-203(18) to ensure that building construction does not occur within dedicated City easements/servitudes.

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18697

14. 150-2020

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a lease agreement with the Drost Law Firm, LLC for the access and use of a portion of the Transit Center's parking lot that is not in use at the northeast corner of Clarence and Bilbo Streets.

This item was deleted.

19. 155-2020

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3348, New City Golf Course Entrance Road which includes the installation of a lift station and sewer line along McNeese Street.

Ms. Morris stated the project name was MorganField Golf Course Entrance Road and asked Mr. Morgan to clarify which Cooperative Endeavor Agreement pertained to the golf course. Mr. Morgan stated the golf course ordinance with agreement was number 18012. He indicated the golf course has not yet been named but it will be the City's golf course. Mike Huber, Director of Planning, stated the road being built will serve the new golf course and will be 100% city property and will serve the City of Lake Charles for that purpose only. Mr. Huber suggested renaming the project to read "New City Golf Course Entrance Road". Ms. Morris wants to make sure the New City Golf Course is replacing Mallard Cove Golf Course. Mr. Geyen made a motion to amend the resolution to read "New City Golf Course Entrance Road". The motion was seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux and passed by the following vote.

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

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 62-2020

A motion was made that this item be adopted as amended. The motion carried by the following vote: Mr. Thibodeaux was designated Chairman.

For: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

Enactment No: 62-2020

15. 143-2020

A resolution of the City Council requesting that the Calcasieu Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness in conjunction with other related organizations and the municipalities within Calcasieu Parish jointly plan and strategize a response in the event that Calcasieu Parish experiences severe weather conditions (i.e. flooding, tornado, hurricane, etc.) during the COVID-19 Pandemic requiring temporary emergency shelters and/or the evacuation of citizens as well as addressing possible hospital overcrowding to ensure their safety and welfare.

Sponsors: Luvertha August

Ms. August stated the Task Force briefings are very informative as far as the COVID-19 pandemic was concerned. However, there is another issue to consider which is our weather that could change at any time. We need to get a contingency plan in place for evacuations in case of a bad weather event. She appreciates the fact that this is on the agenda for June 3rd and will be given serious consideration.

Deferred to the June 3, 2020 City Council meeting.

16. 152-2020

A resolution accepting Project No. OP0706 Fire Station No. 1 Building Repairs as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45 day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 63-2020

17. 153-2020

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3256, Comeaux Drainage Improvements and Overlay Project as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 64-2020

18. 154-2020

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to adopt and accept the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) for FY 2020 as directed by the Federal Transit Agency (FTA) for use by the Public Works Department, Transit Division.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 65-2020

20. 156-2020

A resolution authorizing the City of Lake Charles to advertise to receive sealed bids for Project No. CP3368, 7th Avenue and 20th Street Drainage Improvements.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 66-2020

21. 157-2020

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2515 Woodard Street, Louis Joseph Simien, subject to a tax sale to City of Lake Charles, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 67-2020

22. 158-2020

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 4103 Common Street, Mansehra Business, LLC, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 68-2020

23. 159-2020

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2600 Moeling Street (pool only), WFH LC, LLC, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 69-2020

24. 160-2020

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 4123 Worthy Drive, Troy Evan Greene and Heather Christina Rantal Greene, owners.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 70-2020

25. 161-2020

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 1800 Broad Street, Golden Discount, LLC, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 71-2020

26. 167-2020

A resolution accepting Project No. CP3264, Interstate Corridor Beautification, Phase III, as substantially complete and authorizing the advertising of the 45-day lien period.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 72-2020

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: 7 - Ieyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, Morris, and Weatherford

Against: 0

THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES ARE FOR INTRODUCTION BY CONSENT AND WERE READ INTO THE RECORD THE DAY FOLLOWING THIS MEETING AT 9:00A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

27. 163-2020

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Coastal Environments, Inc.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

28. 164-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP9778, Rosa Hart Theatre Repairs.

Sponsors: Mary Morris

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council. Ms. Morris was designated Chairperson.

29. 165-2020

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with U. S. Forensic.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

30. 168-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3348, New City Golf Course Entrance Road which includes the installation of a lift station and sewer line along McNeese Street.

Sponsors: Johnnie Thibodeaux

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

31. 169-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for Project No. CP3368, 7th Avenue and 20th Street Drainage Improvements.

Sponsors: Rodney Geyen

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

32. 170-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2515 Woodard Street, Louis Joseph Simien, subject to a tax sale to City of Lake Charles, owner.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

33. 171-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 4103 Common Street, Mansehra Business, LLC, owner.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

34. 172-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2600 Moeling Street (pool only), WFH LC, LLC, owner.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

35. 173-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 4123 Worthy Drive, Troy Evan Greene and Heather Christina Rantal Greene, owners.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

36. 174-2020

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 1800 Broad Street, Golden Discount, LLC , owner.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

37. 175-2020

An ordinance amending Section 20-63 of the Code of Ordinances to lower the speed limit on Canal Street from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour from W. Sale Road to W. McNeese Street.

Sponsors: Mark Eckard

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

38. 176-2020

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana to designate the Lake Charles American Press as the Official Journal of the City of Lake Charles, Louisiana, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Introduced as read into the record on the consent agenda by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council.

Ms. August stated items 27 - 38 would be read into the record by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council, on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 9:00a.m. in the City Council Chambers.

On a point of personal privilege, Mayor Hunter stated in addition to the weekly conference calls with City Council members, he wanted to give an update on what he and the City have been involved with throughout the pandemic. He has been participating in meetings with the Executive Policy Group on multiple occasions with the Parish, School Board, Law Enforcement, Mayors of other municipalities in the parish and medical entities. He has had daily communication with the local hospitals on availability of hospital beds and ventilators. He stated public safety city services have been maintained, communication has been going on with non-profit groups for food distribution and they have been checking with nursing homes to see if the City can assist them in any way. He stated we have conducted phone calls with the faith community regarding resources available, acted as a conduit for sharing accurate information and we have had multiple conversations through social media with local medical professionals and others on multiple topics. We have adapted the city buildings to fit the best practices suggested by the State Department of Health and the CDC and provided the necessary PPE to employees. We continue to monitor the situation daily and are awaiting an update from the Governor regarding Phase 2. He stated he is so proud of our staff and our city employees especially during this pandemic. He stated our community has really stepped up through this but while it has been a difficult time there is a lot to be proud of.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Council, Ms. August declared the meeting adjourned at 6:30p.m. The next City Council meeting is June 3, 2020.

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 draft copy for approval of the Minutes of a meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 20th day of May, 2020.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 29th day of May, 2020. 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 20th day of May, 2020.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 29th day of May, 2020. 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.