



City of Lake Charles

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

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

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER - Stuart Weatherford, President of the Council, presided

INVOCATION - Rodney Geyen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mike Huber

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - John Ieyoub, Johnnie Thibodeaux, Luvertha August, Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, Mary Morris, and President or Presiding Officer Stuart Weatherford

Absent: 0

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

The monthly financial reports for December, 2020 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 JANUARY 6, 2021

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. 336-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for the purchase of annual supply of materials and supplies for installation and repair of water mains, services, and fire hydrants, under a twelve (12) month contract, with an option to renew for an additional twelve (12) months, for use by the Public Works Department, Water Division.

Sponsors: Mark Eckard

Appointed Mark Eckard Chairman

2. 317-2020

An ordinance accepting the lowest responsible bid and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase #4000 ready mix materials, for a twelve (12) month period with the option to renew for one (1) additional twelve (12) month period, for use by the Public Works Department, Streets Division.

Sponsors: Mark Eckard

Mr. Eckard recommended accepting the bid from Louisiana Concrete with fly ash in the amount of \$117.50/cubic yard. The ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

For: Luvertha August, Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, Stuart Weatherford, John Ieyoub, Mary Morris and Johnnie Thibodeaux.

Mr. Morgan asked the Council to reconsider this ordinance as the items accepted were not correctly stated. A motion was made by Mr. Eckard, seconded by Mr. Weatherford reconsider. The vote was as follows:

For: Luvertha August, Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, Stuart Weatherford, John Ieyoub, Mary Morris and Johnnie Thibodeaux.

Mr. Eckard recommended accepting the bid from Louisiana Concrete with fly ash in the amount of \$117.50/cubic yard; without fly ash in the amount of \$119.50/cubic yard and flowable fill in the amount of \$100.00/cubic yard. The ordinance was adopted 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: 18816

3. 345-2020

An ordinance amending the Official Zoning Map from a Residential Zoning District to a Neighborhood Zoning District classification in order to re-construct a retail neighborhood convenience store with the following variances: 1) reduction of required landscaping related to off-street parking; 2) access management abutting public right of way; 3) bufferyard reduction abutting residential uses; 4) direct all lighting away from any residential uses; 5) re-design ingress/egress along Prien Lake Road and Edgewood Lane to include landscaping to extent practical; and 6) maintain existing canopy setbacks 0' and 2'; 7) erection of an 8 ft. fence 5 ft. from the rear of the building; 8) use of retail space limited to low impact business, sandwich shop or professional office; 9) Operating hours are Sunday through Thursday 5:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 5:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.; 10) restrict parallel parking on Prien Lake Road; 11) Enclose dumpster with brick columns on all four corners with wood fencing around it; and 12) East 40 ft. of property remain residential, respectively at 3721 West Prien Lake Road.

Robin Basone, representing Hayatt Enterprises, LLC spoke in favor of rezoning the convenience store location and answered questions from the Council.

Chad Mudd, 410 East College St. spoke in favor of the rezoning.

Patty Palmer, 2711 Edgewood Lane, representing the neighborhood streets Edgewood Lane, Magnolia Lane and Park Drive, spoke in opposition to the rezoning. Ms. Palmer presented a Petition of Opposition signed by the property owners affected by the requested zoning change which listed their reasons for opposition which was made a part of the record. She also presented computerized photographs of the location. Ms. Palmer outlined their concerns in addition to those that were listed on the petition. Ms. Palmer asked for additional time to speak and was granted three additional minutes by the following vote:

For: Luvertha August, Mark Eckard, Rodney Geyen, Stuart Weatherford, John Ieyoub, Mary Morris and Johnnie Thibodeaux.

Ms. Morris and Mr. Geyen asked Ms. Palmer if consideration would be given to concessions to resolve some of the issues and she was agreeable.

Fayaz Khan, 4210 Maid Stone Dr., the applicant, provided additional information regarding the convenience store.

Mr. Ieyoub suggested recommendations and the following stipulations were added to the already existing variances:

- 7) Erection of an 8 ft. fence, 5 ft. from the rear of the building;*
- 8) Use of retail space limited to low impact business, sandwich shop or professional office;*
- 9) Operating hours are Sunday through Thursday 5:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 5:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.;*
- 10) Restrict parallel parking along Prien Lake Road;*
- 11) Enclose dumpster with brick columns on all four corners with wood fencing around it; and*
- 12) East 40 ft. of property remain residential.*

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

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

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18817

4. 346-2020

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement to purchase Panasonic Toughbook laptop computers and accessories for the Lake Charles Police Department through Louisiana State Contract #4400003681.

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

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

Against: 0

Enactment No: 18818

5. 349-2020

An ordinance amending the 2019 City of Lake Charles Community Development Block Grant action plan to include approximately \$1,005,428 allocated under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (CDBG-CV). This money will be used for small business stabilization, rental/mortgage assistance, support of mental health services, and the establishment of an un-programmed fund.

Mr. Weatherford read in the title of the ordinance then stated he would recuse himself as this item affects his current employer.

Gerald Bryant, Chief Operating Officer of Lake Charles Memorial Health System, 1701 Oak Park Blvd. spoke in favor of the ordinance and outlined how the hospital would contribute their services to the program. Mr. Geyen thanked the Mayor for his efforts with this program. Mayor Hunter thanked Mr. leyoub and Kimberly Dellafosse, Assistant City Administrator, who were instrumental in its coordination.

Mayor Hunter called on Mark Tizano, the new Community Development Director for the City, who answered questions from the Council.

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

For: 6 - leyoub, Thibodeaux, August, Eckard, Geyen, and Morris

Against: 0

Abstain: 1 - Weatherford

Enactment No: 18819

6. 344-2020

A resolution to Commissioner of Insurance James J. "Jim" Donelon and the Southwest Louisiana Legislative Delegation requesting administrative and/or legislative action to address many issues related to hurricane damage adjustments and to require that greater clarity and transparency be provided by homeowners' insurers and agents in the State of Louisiana.

Sponsors: John Ieyoub and Mark Eckard

Mr. Ieyoub stated that constituents, a family member or even you have been frustrated with the way insurance companies are handling claims from the storms of 2020. There has not been a lot of clarity, transparency and many other concerns which are listed in the resolution. After hearing concerns from constituents we submit this resolution with the hopes that issues can be clarified in the event of other storms in the future. Mr. Ieyoub thanked Mr. Morgan and his staff for helping with this resolution.

He stated the objective is to send a message to representatives in Baton Rouge to let them know that this Council has heard the cries of our constituents. We hope they will continue to monitor, enforce and simplify how homeowner claims are handled in our state.

Mr. Eckard, who coauthored the resolution, stated there are so many areas where there is room for improvement and we need to bring those concerns, as the people who have lived through this, to the insurance commissioner and to the delegation to ask that they look at the concerns outlined in the resolution.

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: 3-21

7. 1-21

A resolution setting date for public hearing on condemnation of a structure located at 2507 Creole Street, Don Joseph Daigle, owner.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 4-21

8. 2-21

A resolution setting date for public hearing and consideration of the Lake Charles Planning & Zoning Commission's decision to approve a Variance in order to establish a crematory within existing building less than the required 750 ft. from a Residential Zoning District, at 1611 Gerstner Memorial Drive.

This item was adopted on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: 5-21

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

9. 3-21

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with Motorola Communications for the purchase of sixteen (16) mobile radios for use by the Lake Charles Police Department, utilizing State of Louisiana Contract #4400014555.

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

10. 4-21

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement with Beard Equipment Co. (John Deere) to purchase one (1) John Deere Pro Gator 2030 A and one (1) John Deere HD300 Select spray attachment for use with John Deere Pro Gator 2030A for use at Mallard Cove Golf Course utilizing State Contract #4400017193.

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

11. 5-21

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Purchasing Agreement with Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office, utilizing Contract #24875 for the purchase of 700/800 MHZ Radio and Communication Equipment from Motorola, Inc., for all City of Lake Charles Departments and Divisions.

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

12. 7-21

An ordinance ordering demolition and authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into an agreement for demolition of structure located at 2507 Creole Street, Don Joseph Daigle, owner.

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

13. 8-21

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the developer of Autumn Crest Subdivision regarding servitudes, a lift station location and traffic signal obligations.

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

14. 9-21

An ordinance authorizing the City of Lake Charles to enter into a contract with Mark Tizano for services to the Community Development Department.

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

Mr. Weatherford stated items 9-14 would be read into the record by Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council, at 9:00a.m. Thursday, January 21, 2021 in the City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Weatherford declared the meeting adjourned at 6:50p.m. The next regular meeting of the City Council will be February 3, 2021.

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 of a meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 20th day of January, 2021

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed hereon the official seal of said City, this 28th day of January 2021. 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 January, 2021.

WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and impressed upon the official seal of said City, this 28th day of January, 2021. 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.