

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020 - 6:00 P.M.

ST. GABRIEL CITY HALL COMPLEX - 5035 IBERVILLE STREET - ROOM 32

ST. GABRIEL, LOUISIANA

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at approximately 6:08 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilman Ronald Grace, Sr.

Councilman Jeffery Hayes, Sr.

Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr. (ZOOM)

Councilman Ralph Johnson, Sr.

Councilman Kelvin York, Sr.

5 of 5 Council Members were in attendance for a quorum.

Presiding: Lionel Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Recording: Constance Barbin, City Clerk

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

A moment of prayer was led by Mayor Lionel Johnson, Jr. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC FORUM** **– Please register with the City Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting indicating your topic of discussion. Topics should be on agenda items and/or city government concerns.**

None listed. Moved to agenda item VII.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

* 1. Minutes for Regular Meeting dated February 20, 2020

On a motion by Councilman Johnson and a second by Councilman York, minutes were approved.

* 1. Minutes for Special Meetings dated April 23, 2020 and April 28, 2020

Councilman Grace – Requested amendment to April 28, 2020 minutes to reflect his dissatisfaction with outcome of Phase 5 and his inability to meet with contractors. Requested that only emergencies items qualify for an amendment to the agenda.

Councilman Johnson – Spoke on rights of council to amend agendas at any time.

On a motion by Councilman York and a second by Councilman Grace, minutes with amendments were approved.

**NOTICE OF INTENT –** To set a Public Hearing to set forth the adjusted millage rate (16.79) and roll forward to millage rate (16.84) not exceeding the maximum authorized rate (16.84).

**INTRODUCTION** – 2020-2021 Financial Budget and set Special Budget Meeting for Thursday, June 4, 2020 and Public Hearing for Thursday, June 18, 2020.

Mayor Johnson – Provided budget copies to council for review and requested a motion to set Special Budget Meeting.

On a motion by Councilman Grace and a second by Councilman York, Special Budget Meeting was set for Thursday, June 4, 2020.

Mayor Johnson – Requested a motion to set Public Hearing for Thursday, June 18, 2020.

On a motion by Councilman Johnson and a second by Councilman Hayes, Public Hearing was set for Thursday, June 18, 2020.

**INTRODUCTION** - Ordinance to amend Chapter 30, "Floods", Article II, Flood Damage Prevention - Section 30-91 “General Standards” and Section 30-92 "Specific Standards'' of the code of ordinances for the City of St. Gabriel with public hearing to be set.

**MOTION TO BEGIN - A Public Hearing**

1. Proposed application for subdivision, rezone and variance for RailPort Development Industrial Park to be located at 1905 Highway 75

On a motion by Councilman Grace and a second by Councilman Hayes, motion was approved.

John Chumba, City Project Consultant – Provided overview of agenda item and the process for approval.

Christopher Senegal, Rail Logics Business Developer – Provided overview of proposal from Railport Development.

Sydney Rich, Duplantis Design Group – Provided overview of engineering component of proposed Railport Development.

Public Forum Comments:

Tyrone Williams – Spoke on developments within the City that are non-compliant and inquired about a response from the City regarding the voting rights of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Marion Fox, Jefferson Davis Economic Developer – Spoke on benefits of having Rail Logic in Jefferson Davis Parish.

James Snelson – Submitted a letter in support of proposed Railport Development in which was read aloud by Mayor Johnson.

**MOTION TO END – A Public Hearing and RETURN to Regular Meeting**

On a motion by Councilman Johnson and a second by Councilman York, motion was approved.

**MOTION CONSIDERATION –** Ratify employment of police personnel

* 1. Tracy Mckneely - Hired on 12/03/2019
  2. Landon Brouillette - Hired on 7/1/2019

On a motion by Councilman Johnson and a second by Councilman Hasten, motion was approved.

**MAYOR REPORT**

ACTION ITEMS:

**-** Pay App #6 Wharton-Smith Inc. Sunshine WW Treatment $112,100.00

On a motion by Councilman Hayes and a second by Councilman Johnson, pay app was approved.

-Bid Acceptance from Expert Maintenance and Construction for $234,250.00 for Williams Street Park Pavilion and from Francine Horticulture for $191,738.00 for Community Center Splash Park

On a motion by Councilman York and a second by Councilman Johnson, bids were accepted.

UPDATES:

-Maryland Street and Ointment Street project

-University Club South streets improvement

-COVID-19 update

-Recognition of Griffen Café, Mike Smith of Exxon, LPC for COVID-19 donations/support

-Official Condolences: Mrs. Jessie Mae Browder; Mrs. Ethel Mae Videau

-Conflict with property survey on Morris Street

-2020 remaining holiday schedule

-Announcement of graduation dates for East Iberville and MSA East

-Declaration of Juneteenth Holiday, Friday June 19, 2020

**COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilman Grace – Announcement of City of St. Gabriel and St. Gabriel Health Clinic upcoming COVID-19 screening

Councilman York – Inquired about dumpsters located at community center; requested more dumpsters throughout City; inquired about activity near Highway 30 on property zoned M1

Councilman Johnson – Provided council and Mayor with synopsis of Juneteenth; proposed neighborhood clean-up

Councilman Hasten – Voiced concerns with dirt bikes and 4 wheelers on levy; requested plexiglass in council chambers between council members

**ADJOURNMENT**