

**CITY OF ST. GABRIEL**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019 - 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 6:14 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilman Freddie Frazier, Sr.

Councilman Ronald Grace, Sr.

Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr. /Mayor Pro-tempore

Councilman Kelvin York, Sr.

Absent: Councilwoman Deborah R. Alexander

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

Presiding: Mayor Lionel Johnson, Jr.

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 – 3-minute limit (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.**

**MOTION TO APPROVE** – Minutes for Regular Meeting dated May 16, 2019

On a motion by Councilman Hasten and a second by Councilman York with one absent, minutes for regular meeting dated May 16, 2019 were approved.

**MOTION TO APPROVE** – Minutes for Special Meeting dated May 28, 2019

On a motion by Councilman Frazier and a second by Councilman Grace with one absent, minutes for special meeting dated May 28, 2019 were approved.

**MOTION TO BEGIN** –A Public Hearing

On a Motion by Councilman Grace and a Second by Councilman Hasten with one absent, Public Hearing began.

1. An Ordinance declaring a portion of the property in Section 102, T9S, R1E, bounded on the west by Carville and on the north by Community Canal, as no longer needed for a public purpose and authorizing the Mayor to accept an offer from the Boardwalk Louisiana Midstream, LLC for a servitude across said property
2. Proposed Amendments of the Operating Budget for the year ending June 30, 2019 and adopt the 2019-2020 Financial Budget.

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

On a Motion by Councilman Hasten and a Second by Councilman Grace with one absent, Public Hearing ended.

**MOTION TO ADOPT -** An Ordinance declaring a portion of the property in Section 102, T9S, R1E, bounded on the west by Carville and on the north by Community Canal, as no longer needed for a public purpose and authorizing the Mayor to accept an offer from the Boardwalk Louisiana Midstream, LLC for a servitude across said property

On a Motion by Councilman Grace and a Second by Councilman Frazier with one absent, Motion was adopted.

4 YAYS

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT

**MOTION TO ADOPT -** Amendments of the Operating Budget for the year ending June 30, 2019 and adopt the 2019-2020 Financial Budget.

Councilman York – will employees receive a payout for their accrued time?

Jacob Waguespack - Faulk and Winkler - There is money appropriated but that the budget will need to be amended for the payouts. Also, the legality of the situation will need to be assessed to either payout or keep on the books under a different policy.

Councilman York –Will employees be paid for their accrued time?

Jacob Waguespack – Vacation time cannot be taken away and employees will be compensated in some form. I’m not clear on if the city can remit payment of time all at once. This is a legal question.

Councilman Hasten- We will meet with the mayor to come up with a solution.

Mayor Johnson – There was a glitch in our system that accumulates time for employees. The glitch caused employees to get more than time they should have. My desire was to handle this before the end of the fiscal year. The issue is not as bad as initially thought and will be corrected on July 1.

Jacob Waguespack – Legally, employees cannot accrue more time than what is allowable under the City’s ordinance.

Councilman Grace – Is there a new policy that states employees must use their time as opposed to keeping it on the books?

Mayor Johnson – Employees are allotted a certain number of hours and/or days per fiscal year. Employees can use their time during the fiscal year. The policy does not allow for a bank of hours.

On a Motion by Councilman Hasten and a Second by Councilman Frazier with one absent, motion was adopted.

4 YAYS

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT

**PLANNING & ZONING**

**INTRODUCTION** – Application for Preliminary Plat for Willow Glen Subdivision –90 residential lots.

**Name of Applicant:** River Trace, LLC (Michael Decoteau).

**Name of Owner**: East West Land Company

**Name of Development:** River Trace Subdivision

**Type of Development**:Single Family Development

**Parcel ID:** 0410574700

**Legal description:** Refer to Iberville parish assessor’s data.

**Description**: Proposed single family subdivision application by River Trace, LLC to subdivide an existing 20.51 acres tract of land located off Highway 74, St. Gabriel, LA 70776.

John Chumba - City Project Administrator - Gave breakdown of application including location and current zoning. Applicant is proposing a t-turn around. A pre-application meeting has been held. The agenda is to set a public hearing for the July 18, 2019 city council meeting. There was a public hearing held during the Planning and Zoning meeting on June 19, 2019 and a public hearing was set for July 10, 2019. A neighborhood meeting will be held at the St. Gabriel Community Center on June 26th @6p.m. Certified letters have been mailed to residents within 300 feet of the proposed development. The homes in the subdivision are priced between $180K-$240K.

Councilman Grace – I’d like to ask the developer to wait until the next meeting to introduce the development as there will be new members on the council who should vote on it.

Councilman York – I agree with Councilman Grace that the new council members should hear from the applicant.

Councilman Grace – The Planning and Zoning committee does not have enough members on the board, and I’d like to see that corrected.

John Chumba – The Planning and Zoning Committee has 5 members on it.

Councilman Grace – One of the members never attends the meetings and Mr. Ray Brent stepped down so we only have 3 members.

John Chumba – We have an official quorum with 3 members.

Councilman York – We need five members on the board.

On a Motion by Councilman Hasten and a Second by Councilman Frazier with one absent, a request to table the introduction until the next regularly scheduled council meeting was approved.

4 YAYS

0 NAYS

1 ABSENT

**MAYOR REPORT**

**-**Sunshine Wastewater Treatment Facility

The lowest bid is $1.396 million from Wharton Smith, Inc. and our engineers, PEC have expressed that after review that the bid is a responsible bid and ask that council approve a motion to accept the bid. This will be contingent upon GOHSEP approval.

On a Motion by Councilman Grace and a Second by Councilman Hasten with one absent, Motion was approved.

**-**Surplus property on Morris St.

Phil Canova - City Attorney – Mayor Johnson asked me to review the options that council must sell the property which is no longer needed for public purpose. The property must be deemed as no longer needed for public purpose. Secondly, you would need to decide if you want to sell it at a private sale. If so, you would need to do a notice of intent for an ordinance declaring that the property is no longer needed for public purpose. Third, at the next meeting after the introduction you would need to advertise 3 times, giving notice the ordinance is pending. At the following meeting, the council would decide whether to sell the property at the appraised price. The other option is to hold a public sale which follows the same process with declaring the property as no longer needed for public purpose. The next step includes declaring the minimal sale price of the property and declaring a date to take bids on the property and accept bids on that date. At the following meeting you would declare the highest bidder and decide on accepting that bid.

Mayor Johnson - We have already taken the step of declaring the property no longer useful for public purpose.

Phil Canova – Since the property has already been declared the council would now need to decide on a private or public sale.

Councilman Hasten – When do we make the decision? There is more than one person interested in the property.

Phil Canova – Since there is more than one party interested then it may be fair to do a public bid. The council makes this decision.

Councilman York – That would be the right way to do it so that anyone who wants it can bid on it.

Phil Canova – If it is the pleasure of the council to hold a public bid then I can prepare a notice of intent for the next meeting setting the terms and conditions of the public bid. At the next meeting we can then declare the highest bidder.

Councilman Hasten – Yes it is.

- Mr. George Michael Hilliard, Jr. is recognized for 32 years of service with the State of Louisiana Public Safety Department, retiring as Lieutenant George Michael Hilliard, Jr. Mayor declared June 20th as George Michael Hilliard, Jr. day in St. Gabriel.

-Councilwoman Alexander and Councilman Frazier, Sr. end their term as council members

-State of the City Address June 29th

-Swearing-in Ceremony July 1st

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**Constance Barbin Lionel Johnson, Jr.**

**City Clerk, City of St. Gabriel Mayor, City of St. Gabriel**