

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.

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

ST. GABRIEL, LOUISIANA

**MEETING MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PRAYER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at approximately 6:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilman Ronald Grace, Sr.

Councilman Jeffery Hayes, Sr.

Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr.

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**

Mayor Johnson led with a moment of silence to observe the passing of former Governor Edwin Edwards followed by a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Ms. Mary Ray – concerns with blighted property at 5750 Monticello

Ms. Deanna Purpera - concerns with blighted property at 5750 Monticello

1. **MOTION** **CONSIDERATION** - To approve and adopt minutes for Regular Meeting dated June 17, 2021

On a motion by Councilman Grace with a second by Councilman Hasten, minutes were approved with request from Councilman Grace to add discussion with City Attorney, Mr. Phil Canova regarding moratorium.

1. **PRESENTATION** – Mr. Scott Nesbit present “Ecological Education Center/Park” concept on behalf of Spanish Lake Restoration, LLC

Mr. Scott Nesbit, Mr. Perry Franklin and Mr. Grant Murphy presented the concept of a partnership between Spanish Lake Restoration and the City to develop “Ecological Education Center/Park”.

1. **PRESENTATION** – Redistricting - the process of drawing boundaries for electoral and political districts in the U.S. presented by demographer, Dr. William Blair

Dr. William Blair presented the process and timeline for redistricting.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION –** To BEGIN a Public Hearing
   1. To Consider the recommendation to condemn and demolish dangerous or dilapidated building located at 5750 Monticello, St. Gabriel, LA 70776

On a motion by Councilman Hasten with a second by Councilman York, motion was approved.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION –** To END a Public Hearing and RETURN to Regular Meeting

On a motion by Councilman Hayes with a second by Councilman Hasten, motion was approved.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION -** To Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the recommendation to condemn and demolish dangerous or dilapidated building located at 5750 Monticello, St. Gabriel, LA 70776

Mr. John Chumba, City Consultant presented the reasons for and process to condemn and demolish said property. Mr. Lloyd Snowten presented a historical overview on the efforts of the Public Services Department to resolve the issue. Councilman Johnson with a second from Councilman York made a motion to clean the property and continue efforts to locate the property owner.

ROLL CALL: 4 YEAS [Councilman Grace, Councilman Hayes, Councilman

Johnson, Councilman York]

1 NAY [Councilman Hasten]

1. **NOTIFICATION –P**roposed RailPort facility located by LA 75, Carville, LA 70721.

**Current Zoning**: M2 Heavy Industrial

**Pending Approvals**: Drainage, Site Plan, Traffic Studies

Councilman York with a second from Councilman Grace made a motion to defer the agenda item until the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

ROLL CALL: 3 YEAS [Councilman Grace, Councilman Hasten, Councilman York]

2 NAYS [Councilman Hayes, Councilman Johnson]

1. **COUNCIL REPORT**

**Councilman Hayes –** encouraged community to get vaccinated; suggested incentive for vaccinated employees

**Councilman Johnson –** announced and emphasized that going forward thatJuneteenth celebrations will be held on the third Saturday of June and that all council members will be identified on Juneteenth promotional flyers; requested research on annexing St. Gabriel from the center of the levee to the center of the Mississippi River; requested a ceremony to retire old city seal and flag and reinstall new city seal and flag; suggested local officials assess the map of local waterways to identify ownership; suggested the City assess ways that residents can help alleviate flooding and drainage

**Councilman York –** inquired about back-to-school events

**Councilman Grace –** offered condolences to those killed during the Miami building collapse

**Councilman Hasten –** no comment

1. **MAYOR REPORT**

**Announcements/Comments/Updates:**

-COVID-19

-Community Center – retirement and resignation of staff; rebranding

-Council chambers

-Juneteenth

-FEMA resource meeting; City information campaign on FEMA

-Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA) 84th Annual Convention

-Back to school event hosted by Minister Daryl Ingram, Jr.

-Acknowledged issues with localized flooding and drainage; presented mitigation efforts

-Acknowledgment of condolence for Governor Edwin Edwards

-Acknowledgment of condolence for Mr. Houston Thomas

**Action Items:**

Bid opening for Sunshine Wastewater Treatment Plant with lowest bid from L. King Company, LLC

Mr. Tony Arikol of Professional Engineering Consultants recommended the city award the contract to L. King Company, LLC as the lowest bidder at $398,217.

Councilman Hasten offered a motion to accept with a second by Councilman Hayes.

ROLL CALL: 2 YEAS [Councilman Hasten, Councilman Hayes]

3 NAYS [Councilman Grace, Councilman Johnson, Councilman York]

With (2) YEAS and (3) NAYS, bid was not accepted.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**