

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 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 6:11 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** – **Please register with the City Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting indicating your topic of discussion. Topics should be on agenda items.**

Ms. Catherine Williams – concerns about proposed Railport development

1. **MOTION** **CONSIDERATION** - To approve and adopt minutes for Regular Meeting dated July 15, 2021

On a motion by Councilman Hasten with a second by Councilman Johnson. Minutes were approved and adopted.

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE** - Resolution of Condolence
   * 1. Family of Honorable Mr. Edwin Edwards – former Louisiana State Governor
     2. Family of Mr. Houston Thomas, Sr. – native and resident of St. Gabriel; father-in-law of Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr.
     3. Family of Ms. Azure Pierson – resident of St. Gabriel
     4. Family of Mr. Eddie Hargrove – resident of St. Gabriel
     5. Family of Ms. Prumiller Jones – native of Carville
     6. Family of Mr. Edward Ruffin – native and resident of St. Gabriel; uncle of former Councilman Freddie Frazier, Sr.
     7. Family of Ms. Nancy Thomas Lawson – resident of St. Gabriel

Councilman Johnson made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ms. Nancy Thomas Lawson to agenda item IV. which was seconded by Councilman Grace and approved.

On a motion by Councilman Grace with a unanimous second, motion was approved for agenda item IV. Resolution of Condolence.

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

**Current Zoning**: M2 Heavy Industrial

**Pending Approvals**: Iberville Parish drainage, site plan, traffic studies

1. **INTRODUCTION –** City Policy Manual and Employee Handbook

Mayor Johnson informed council that updates, and changes had been made to the City policy manual and handbook.

1. **COUNCIL REPORT**

**Councilman York** – requested the city be more transparent with the public

**Councilman Grace** – expressed concerns with the lack of public notice regarding Rail Logic’s presence at council meeting; requested to meet with City attorney Mr. Phil Canova to discuss the duties of the planning commission; suggested the city seek the advice of the attorney general regarding the responsibilities of the planning and commission.

**Councilman Hasten** – no comment

**Councilman Hayes** – recognized participants of the backpack giveaway hosted by Minister Daryl Ingram, Jr., and Kawanis Club; requested council and mayor seek advice of engineers to update the City’s ordinance for residential zoning

**Councilman Johnson** – inquired about M2 zoning requirements; emphasized the council’s responsibility to represent the public and address their concerns; suggested fellow council members refamiliarize themselves with the functions and responsibilities of the city council as well as the planning commission and zoning board as it relates to the proposed Railport development by Rail Logix and other matters related to; inquired about start date for Carville sidewalk project

1. **MAYOR REPORT**

**Action Items**

**L. King Company LLC - Sunshine WWTP Effluent Pump Station (screen)**

1. Lowest Bid Acceptance and Approval- $398,217

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

**Tullier Services – Delta WWTP**

1. Change Order #3 - Decrease Amount - $13,303.47

On a motion by Councilman Grace with a second by Councilman Hasten, change order was approved.

2. Pay App #7 - $32,423.42

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

**Industrial Enterprises – Carville WWTP**

1. Change Order#3 - Increase Amount - $985.49

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

2. Pay App #4 - $106,994.53

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

3. Certificate of Substantial Completion

On a motion by Councilman Hayes with a second by Councilman Johnson, certificate of substantial completion was approved.

**Francise Horticulture – Community Center Splash Pad**

1. Pay App #3 (Retainage) - $19,173.80

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

**Announcements**

-COVID-19 update

-Redistricting and 2020 Census

-Iberville Parks and Recreation Department

-Drainage, flooding update

**Presentations**

Mr. Josh Graham with Compliance Enviro Systems utility firm – presented firms findings on subsurface drainage analysis and storm drain evaluation plan.

Ms. Desiree Lemoine – On behalf of Rail Logix provided feedback on council’s concerns with the proposed relocation of Railport, materials to be stored, expectations for local hiring.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**