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

**St. Gabriel Council Chambers │5035 Iberville Street, St. Gabriel LA 70776**

**Thursday, September 19, 2024⎪6:00 p.m.**

**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 William Cushenberry, Jr.

Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr.

Councilman Jeffery Hayes, Sr.

Councilman Randall Johnson

Councilman Hoza Redditt, Sr.

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

Presiding: Lionel Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Recording: Constance Barbin, Deputy City Clerk

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Johnson led with a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Please register with the City Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting indicating your topic of discussion. Topics should be on agenda items.

* Susan Landry – Community liaison
* Ms. Burnett – Sewer issues
* William Smith – American Legion Post 583 requests City be designated a Purple Heart City

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION** - To Approve and Adopt Minutes for Regular Meeting dated August 15, 2024

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Redditt, minutes from August 19, 2024 were approved and adopted.

1. **PROCLAMATION PRESENTATON**

Mr. William Smith and Commander Yolanda Andrews-Mateur (1st female commander of Post 583) discussed the process for the City to become a designated a Purple Heart City. The commander also stated Post 583 is headed in a new direction. It is there to help our veterans with their needs and be a partner in the community.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION - To BEGIN Public Hearing**
2. To amend the City of St. Gabriel code of ordinances toprovide for payment of United States armed forces service member employees
3. To amend the City of St. Gabriel code of ordinances to establish a vehicle pursuit policy
4. To amend City of St. Gabriel Code of Ordinances “Section 2-32 Agenda”
5. To establish a City Finance Committee

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

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

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

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION – To Approve**
2. Amendment to City of St. Gabriel code of ordinances toprovide for payment of United States armed forces service member employees

**ROLL CALL**: 5 YEAS [Councilman Cushenberry, Councilman Hasten, Councilman Hayes, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1. Amendment to City of St. Gabriel code of ordinances to establish a vehicle pursuit policy

**ROLL CALL**: 5 YEAS [Councilman Cushenberry, Councilman Hasten, Councilman Hayes, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1. Amendment to City of St. Gabriel Code of Ordinances “Section 2-32 Agenda”

**ROLL CALL**: 5 YEAS [Councilman Cushenberry, Councilman Hasten, Councilman Hayes, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1. To establish a City Finance Committee

**ROLL CALL**: 4 YEAS [Councilman Cushenberry, Councilman Hasten, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1 ABSTAIN [Councilman Hayes]

**8. INTRODUCTION** – **Ordinance to compensate qualifying elected officials for Hurricane Francine**

* 1. MOTION CONSIDERATION – Introduce and set a public hearing (10/17/2024) for the creation of ordinance to compensate qualifying elected officials for Hurricane Francine

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

**9. MOTION CONSIDERATION – To BEGIN Executive Session, Personnel matters**

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

**10. MOTION CONSIDERATION – To END Executive Session and Return to Regular Meeting-**

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

Attorney Dallon Bush stated that the City Council and the Mayor had recessed temporarily into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and disciplinary action undertaken by the Chief of Police, pursuance to Title 33, Section 423. It is proper for Council take a vote on whether disciplinary actions undertaken by the Chief of Police are approved and ratified by Council.

**ROLL CALL**: 4 YEAS [Councilman Hasten, Councilman Hayes, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1 ABSTAIN [Councilman Cushenberry]

Motion affirming personnel recommendations by Chief Ambeau was passed.

**11. MAYORS REPORT**

**Action Items:**

* Pay App #20 – J. Reed Constructors $178,507.59 Municipal Complex

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

**Discussion:**

* Update on retiree insurance proposal

Mr. Troy Jones of JJL&W Insurance Consulting Firm, LLC gave an update of the proposed changes to the retiree insurance

On a motion by Councilman Hasten, with a second by Councilman Johnson, a motion to accept the proposed changes was approved.

* Thank you to City’s elected officials and employees for their hard work in preparing for Hurricane Francine.

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

On a unanimous motion by Council, the meeting was adjourned.