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

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

**Thursday, May 20, 2025⎪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 Jeffery Hayes, Sr.

Councilman Randall Johnson

Councilman Hoza Redditt, Sr.

Absent: Councilman Melvin Hasten, Sr.

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

Presiding: Lionel Johnson, Sr., Mayor

Recording: Constance Barbin, City Clerk

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

Motion Consideration to amend the agenda to include item 9b VI. 1610 Ravier Lane – Dilapidated Structure

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Redditt, motion was approved.

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

1 ABSENT [Councilman Hasten]

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.

* Ms. Susan Landry – Crawfish boil for Invest Fest fund raiser – 6/7/2025 at 12:00; move executive sessions to end of meetings.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION** - To Approve and Adopt Minutes for Regular Meeting dated April 17, 2025

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Johnson, minutes from regular meeting, dated April 17, 2025, were approved and adopted.

1. **RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE(S)**
   1. Eugenia Davis
   2. Dennis York
   3. Jermaine Harris
   4. Yolonda Mosby
   5. Doris Wilson
   6. Leonard Jackson, Sr.

On a motion Councilman Johnson and a unanimous second, motion was approved.

1. **MOTION TO BEGIN - A Public Hearing**
2. An Ordinance to establish 4 single-member and 1 at-large municipal voting districts to be implemented by Spring 2027 municipal elections
3. Application for rezoning from R1A – (Low Density Residential) to M1 – Light Industrial.

Name of Applicant: Christian Baynham (on behalf of East West Land Co. LC)

Name of Property Owner: East West Land Co. LC

1. Ordinance to amend City of St. Gabriel Code of Ordinances Section 2- 2: Municipal Vehicles

A motion by Councilman Johnson to table agenda items 5b, 5c, 7b and 7c, and seconded by Councilman Redditt, was approved.

1. Resolution to adopt millage rates for 2025
2. Resolution approving cooperative endeavor agreement between City of St. Gabriel and the Middleburg Institute
3. Resolution authorizing the utilization of city funds for the renovation of the Bayou Paul Colored School

A motion by Councilman Johnson to table agenda items 5b, 5c, 7b and 7c, and seconded by Councilman Redditt, was approved.

**ROLL CALL**: 3 YEAS [Councilman Cushenberry, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Redditt].

1 NAY [Councilman Hayes]

1 ABSENT [Councilman Hasten]

On a motion by Councilman Johnson, and a second by Councilman Redditt, motion to begin a public hearing was approved.

1. **MOTION TO END – A Public Hearing and Return to Regular Meeting**

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, with a second by Councilman Johnson, motion was approved.

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE**
2. An Ordinance to establish 4 single-member and 1 at-large municipal voting districts to be implemented by Spring 2027 municipal elections

On a motion by Councilman Johnson, with a second by Councilman Redditt, motion was approved.

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

1 ABSENT [Councilman Hasten]

1. Application for rezoning from R1A – (Low Density Residential) to M1 – Light Industrial.

Name of Applicant: Christian Baynham (on behalf of East West Land Co. LC)

Name of Property Owner: East West Land Co. LC

Tabled.

1. Ordinance to amend City of St. Gabriel Code of Ordinances Section 2- 2: Municipal Vehicles

Tabled.

1. Resolution to adopt millage rates for 2025

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, with a second by Councilman Johnson, resolution was adopted.

1. Resolution approving cooperative endeavor agreement between City of St. Gabriel and the Middleburg Institute

On a motion by Councilman Redditt, with a second by Councilman Cushenberry, resolution was adopted.

1. Resolution authorizing the utilization of city funds for the renovation of the Bayou Paul Colored School

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, with a second by Councilman Redditt, resolution was approved.

1. **DISCUSSION/INTRODUCTION**
2. Notification to Iberville Parish Government addressing revenue sharing concerns.

Based on the 2020 census, a letter was sent to the parish president regarding the distribution of funds for recreation, senior center and sales taxes as relates to COSG. Records request has been made to the COO of the parish.

1. Ordinance establishing the Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (MOHSEP) for the City of St. Gabriel, Louisiana and providing for its organization. Duties and responsibilities.

This is to ensure COSG is functional during emergencies.

Motion made by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Redditt to accept introduction and set a public hearing for Thursday, 6/19/2025.

1. 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget; set a Special Budget meeting for Thursday, June 5, 2025 and Public Hearing for Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. regarding the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget

Jacob Waguespack of Faulk and Winkler, LLC gave a brief overview of the proposed 2025 – 2026 Fiscal Year Budget.

Motion made by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Cushenberry to accept introduction and set a Special Meeting for Thursday, 6/5/2025 and a Public Hearing on Thursday, 6/19/2025. Corrections to be submitted by COB 6/12/2025.

1. **CODE ENFORCEMENT –** Notification to correct or appear for dilapidated structures
   1. Update on April 17, 2025 agenda items

Councilman Johnson requested a draft of the proposed ordinance amendment by May 5, 2025.

* + 1. 2180 Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure

Completed.

* + 1. 2095 Jake Lane – Abandoned Vehicle

No response from property owner. Code enforcement to get with PD to tag and send 2nd notification; thereafter, it will be towed.

* + 1. 2070 Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure

Completed.

* + 1. # Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure

Extension requested and granted.

* + 1. 1875 Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure

Completed.

* + 1. 1780 Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure

No response. Code Enforcement to get with PD to tag and send final notification.

* 1. New items for May 20, 2025
     1. 1770 Jake Lane – Dilapidated Structure
     2. 2000 Jake Lane – Abandoned Vehicle
     3. # Jake Lane – Abandoned Vehicle
     4. 1570 Besson Lane – Dilapidated Structure
     5. 1920 Besson Lane – Dilapidated Structure
     6. 1610 Ravier Lane – Dilapidated Structure

On a motion from Councilman Johnson, and a second from Councilman Cushenberry, motion was approved.

1. **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

* An officer will be attending Lafourche Training Academy from 5/27/2025 – to 8/17/2025.
* Asked for official date PD officers will no longer be used as resource officers.
* 1 candidate ready for hire; 1 candidate waiting on drug screen.

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Hayes, the hiring of Amari Castle was approved.

1. **MAYOR’S REPORT**

**Action Items:**

* Pay App #25 J Reed Constructors $101,442.61 Municipal Building

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

* Pay App #26 – J Reed Constructors $70,479.85 Municipal Building

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

* Pay App #2 – Luster Group $11,250.00 O’Neal Park Pavilion

Change Order $14,727.25

On a motion by Councilman Johnson, and second by Councilman Redditt, pay app and change order were approved.

* Pay App #2 – Luster Group $31,050.00 Sunshine Park Pavilion

Pay App #3 – Luster Group $88,120.00 Sunshine Park Pavilion

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Johnson, pay apps 2 & 3 were approved.

* Request to acquire lots #8 ($30,000) & #9 ($30,000) on Ravier Lane

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

**Announcement:**

* Congratulations to graduates of MSA East and East Iberville.
* Staff crawfish boil rescheduled to Thursday, 5/29/2025.
* Senior May Day postponed to later date.
* Council invited to LMA district meeting, on 6/17/25, at the Addis Community Center.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Johnson, the meeting was adjourned.