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

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

**Thursday, June 19, 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 Melvin Hasten, Sr.

Councilman Jeffery Hayes, Sr. 6:50 p.m.

Councilman Randall Johnson

Councilman Hoza Redditt, 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.

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.

* Mr. Donald LaCost – Beautification of Legion Rd.; drainage between Hwy. 30 & Legion Rd.; abandoned homes & cars on Legion Rd.; placement of a “No Thru Traffic sign” at Legion Rd. & Hwy. 30.
* Ms. Grace Marcel – Thanks for looking into mitigating flooding on Besson & St. Francis LN; move trailer to improve drainage.
* Ms. Susan Landry – University Club development; round-about on Hwy. 30.
* Ebony Raby – Help with emergency response.

1. **MOTION CONSIDERATION -** To Approve and Adopt Minutes for Regular Meeting dated May 20, 2025

On a motion by Councilman Cushenberry, and second by Councilman Redditt, minutes from regular meeting, dated May 20, 2025, were approved and adopted.

1. **PRESENTATION –** St. Gabriel Girl Scout Troop #10654

Troop was started this year to help provide activities for community kids. Troop wanted to thank the City for use of the facilities.

1. **PRESENTATION –** The Middleburg Institute

Joyce James, founder of the Middleburg Institute, thanked the Mayor and Council for hosting their first annual Crawfish and Invest Fest on June 7th with over 200 in attendance. Their goal is to provide opportunities for young people and adults.

1. **PRESENTATION -** Application for rezoning from R1A to M1 – Light Industrial.

Presenter: Ty Gose on behalf of East West Land Co. LC

The track is 7 acres on the west side of Hwy. 30, north of VCP Plant. Since light industrial zoning does not permit manufacturing, proposed building would be an office warehouse storing materials (i.e. gaskets, pumps, etc.) for plants when they have turn-arounds.

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE –** 2025-2026 Holiday Schedule

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

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE –** Resolution to Acquire Property for Drainage Improvements declaring the City of St. Gabriel’s intent to acquire property on St. Francis Lane for drainage improvements and authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and execute all necessary agreements for relocation and drainage design.

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

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE –** Resolution to officially name St. Gabriel city park located on William Street, in honor of Leonard "Buck" Jackson, recognizing his contributions to the St. Gabriel community.

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

1. **MOTION TO BEGIN - A Public Hearing**
2. Ordinance to amend COSG Code of Ordinances Section 2- 2: Municipal Vehicles
3. Proposed amendments of 2024-2025 Operating Budget and adopt 2025-2026 Financial Budget

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

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE**
2. Ordinance to amend COSG Code of Ordinances Section 2- 2: Municipal Vehicles

A motion by Councilman Johnson to defer agenda item 12a, and seconded by Councilman Cushenberry, was approved.

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

1 ABSENT [Hayes]

1. Proposed amendments of 2024-2025 Operating Budget and adopt 2025-2026 Financial Budget

Motion made by Councilman Cushenberry to give every employee, except elected officials, a $2.50 across the board raise.

Substitute motion made by Councilman Johnson to modify Councilman Cushenberry’s motion to give every employee a $2.00 raise, except elected officials, was seconded by Councilman Redditt.

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

Motion made by Councilman Hayes, with a second by Councilman Hasten, to table agenda item 12b.

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

3 NAYS[Cushenberry, Johnson, Redditt]

Motion made by Councilman Cushenberry, with a second by Councilman Johnson to adopt 2025-2026 Financial Budget.

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

2 NAYS **[**Hasten, Hayes]

1. **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

* Chief Ambeau discussed PD budget.

1. **MAYOR’S REPORT**

**Announcements:**

* Code enforcement complaints received.
* Looking to change policy to an 80-hour workweek for PD, with any hours worked over 80 paid at overtime.
* Making progress on fleet management process.
* Looking to expand Mayor’s Court to include Code Enforcement violations.
* Great strides made in regard to economic development.
* Official Juneteenth Celebration is tomorrow, 6/20/2025, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
* Friday Night Live next Friday, 6/27/2025.
* Friday, 7/4/2025, State of the City and July 4th celebration.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

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