

## REGULAR MEETING

June 9, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings City Council Chambers, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana with President Stephen VanHook and a quorum present.

Jennings City Council Members present: Carolyn Simon, District A; Johnny Armentor, District B; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: None

The Prayer was led by Mr. LeJeune and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Armentor.

It was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the May 12, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1757B – a resolution to amend the authorization for the City of Jennings to declare a Jennings Police Department Patrol Unit as surplus equipment and to authorize the Mayor of the City of Jennings to donate the Unit to the Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Department. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1757B. Mayor Henry Guinn stated the resolution adopted last month had a small typo in the VIN number. This resolution is to amend that resolution in order to correct the VIN number. After no comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1757B. Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Ordinance No. 1758 – an ordinance to adopt the Pay Plan and the Operating & Capital Outlay Budget for FYE 06/30/2021. It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce Ordinance No. 1758. The Mayor stated that a hearing for public participation of the Proposed Budget was held just prior to the Council Meeting in compliance with LRS 39:1306-07 and he had presented the proposed budget. There were no questions, comments or opposition at the hearing. Mr. LeJeune & the council thanked Financial CPA Consultant Mr. Gregory Marcantel, the Mayor and the Finance Office for all of their hard work in putting the budget together. The floor was then opened for any public questions or comments. After no questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1758.

Ordinance No. 1759 – an ordinance to adjust the water & sewer connection fees and to set the schedule of fees and charges for services for fiscal year 2020-2021. It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. Armentor to introduce Ordinance No. 1759. Mayor Guinn stated that the operations of the Water Plant continue to increase each year and the 5% increase was necessary. This increase amounts to \$1.00 per month or about 3 cents per day for the average customer. Ms. Simon stated that the water & sewer fees were not increased last year. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1759.

Ordinance No. 1760 – an ordinance to adjust the garbage collection and disposal rates to the CPI Index for FY 2020-21. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce Ordinance No. 1760. Mayor Guinn stated that Republic Services is under contract to provide curb

side trash pickup and in that contract, they are allowed a 2% increase based on the Consumer Price Index. This ordinance reflects a 2% increase to stay in line with the contract. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1760.

Ordinance No. 1761 – an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to execute and adopt the annual Joint Service Agreements with various public entities. It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce Ordinance No. 1761. Mayor Guinn thanked previous mayors, Terry Duhon and Gregory Marcantel and the council, for working diligently over the years to save money to steer Jennings through the crisis that we are currently experiencing. These Joint Service Agreements require funds to operate and with the reserve acquired, it will not affect these Joint Service Agreements. The council agreed with the Mayor. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1761.

Ordinance No. 1762 – an ordinance to increase the salary of the Mayor of the City of Jennings, Louisiana and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce Ordinance No. 1762. Mr. LeJeune stated that the idea of the increase did not originate with the current mayor, it originated with the council. LeJeune stated that it takes much dedication, open mindedness and thick skin, as well as financial ability to hold the position of mayor. Marcantel stated that he was asked by the council to do a survey of mayors' salaries of cities comparable to the size of Jennings. From that survey it was noted that the salaries ranged from \$70,000 to the higher \$70,000's, therefore the council took the middle to increase the mayor's salary to \$75,000. President VanHook reminded everyone that this increase does not apply to the current mayor, it applies to the next mayor to be voted in by the people in the next term. Ms. Carolyn Barker asked if the council members had polled their constituents about the increase. The council answered that they talk with their constituents on a regular basis. President VanHook also stated that this was an introduction to the ordinance, thus giving constituents time to call their council members to voice their opinions before the adoption vote. After no other public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1762.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to authorize the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Fuel for FY 2020-2021. The Mayor stated that there was only one bid and it was Shop Rite/Fleet Rite who has been the supplier for the City for the past six years. The bid was the same for the past six years at a margin of cost plus 10 cents for each grade. After no other public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Fuel for FY 2020-2021.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to authorize the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Drainage Improvements from the East side of Davis Addition to LA 97. After reviewing all bids submitted on May 19, 2020 for this project, *Aucoin & Associates, Inc.* recommended awarding a contract to the low bidder *Guillotte Brothers, Inc.* in the amount of \$208,261.00. After discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Drainage Improvements from the East side of Davis Addition to LA 97.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Ms. Simon to authorize the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Drainage Improvements along Magnolia Drive, Sherman Street & Davis Addition. After reviewing all bids submitted on May 19, 2020 for this project, *Aucoin & Associates, Inc.* recommended awarding a contract to the low bidder *Guillotte Brothers, Inc.* in the amount of \$390,932.00 contingent upon approval from Facility Planning & Control. The Mayor stated that we will use the Capital Outlay Grant for reimbursement of a portion of this project. After discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Drainage Improvements along Magnolia Drive, Sherman Street & Davis Addition.

It is mandated each year by the State of Louisiana that the City of Jennings assigns an Official Municipal Journal. It was moved by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote **TO NAME** the *Jennings Daily News* as the City's Official Municipal Journal for the year 2020-21.

President Stephen VanHook reminded everyone of the Special Meeting to be held on June 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. which was called for by the City Clerk at the request of the council members.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas voice vote to **ADJOURN** this Regular Meeting on June 9, 2020 of the Jennings City Council at 5:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary  
Jennings City Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen VanHook, President  
Jennings City Council