

REGULAR MEETING

September 10, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 10th day of September, 2019 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. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the August 13, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1755A – a resolution to adopt a compliance questionnaire for fiscal year 2018-2019 audit per request by the Legislative Auditor. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1755A. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that this was a questionnaire required each year for the audit. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1755A.

Ordinance No. 1755 – an ordinance to amend the Jennings City Code, Chapter 15, Sections 15-20 and 15-21. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to adopt Ordinance No. 1755. City Attorney Kevin Millican stated that this ordinance simply streamlines the process at the City Inspector's office of not having to notify the same property owners over and over again of the same code violations. Mayor Guinn stated that he had not received any complaints regarding this ordinance. With no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1755.

Yeas: Johnny Armentor, Anthony LeBlanc, Clifton LeJeune, Carolyn Simon & Stephen VanHook

Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Mr. Armentor motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to discuss to approve and confirm a beer and liquor permit to R. Andrew Clyde, Mindy K. West & John A. Moore – Manager Sara Scott Gibson – to (*Murphy Oil USA, Inc.*) - d/b/a *Murphy USA #7742* for retail sales – Class B – no drinking on premises – located at 323 W. Interstate Drive. Mayor Guinn stated that all the paperwork was in order with a clear background check. District Manager Ben Quick stated that the remodel project expanded their 150 square foot kiosk to a 1400 square foot kiosk and was finishing 3 weeks earlier than projected and would open soon. After no other comment or discussion, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried to **approve and confirm** the beer/liquor permit to *Murphy USA #7742* for retail sales – Class B – no drinking on premises – located at 323 W. Interstate Drive. Yeas were from Mr. Armentor, Mr. LeBlanc, Ms. Simon and Mr. VanHook; Mr. LeJeune abstained

Mr. Armentor motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to discuss to approve and confirm a beer and liquor permit to Charles S. Burgin & Hollins B. Trahan, Sr. to (*B & C of Jennings*) - d/b/a *Big O's* for retail sales – Class A – drinking on premises – located at 1847 S. Lake Arthur Avenue. Mayor Guinn stated that all the paperwork was in order with a clear background check. Mr. Charles Burgin stated that he had opened three other bars in Jennings before and had a good reputation. Councilman Armentor asked if there would be security on the premises and Burgin assured him that there would be security and that he always ran a clean place. After no other comment or discussion, it was moved by

Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried to **approve and confirm** the beer/liquor permit to *Big O's* for retail sales – Class A – drinking on premises – located at 1847 S. Lake Arthur Avenue. Yeas were from Mr. Armentor, Mr. LeBlanc, Ms. Simon and Mr. VanHook; Mr. LeJeune abstained

Mr. Armentor motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss the demo & cleanup of the building at 823 South Main Street adjudicated to the Parish at 79% and the City at 21%. Mayor Guinn explained that some of these blighted properties are used to store drugs and are places of illicit activity. Since these properties are owned by government entities, it makes the process of demolition and cleanup much easier. Mayor Guinn wanted to assure the public that he is taking progressive action and is in the process of cleaning up blighted properties within the City. The expense of tearing down and cleaning up the properties will be incurred by the City and put into the cost of the sale of the property. The City will then be reimbursed when the property is sold. After more discussion, it was moved by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **refer the demolition and cleanup** of 823 South Main Street to the Mayor's office to proceed.

Mr. LeJeune motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss the demo & cleanup of the home at 507 Wilbert D. Rochelle Avenue adjudicated to the Parish at 79% and the City at 21%. Mayor Guinn stated that this home was another concern of the police chief for drug activity. The home was declared unsafe and not structurally sound. Guinn also stated that the City has a budget line item to demo property and since these properties belong to governmental entities the procedure less burdensome. The cost of demolition and cleanup will be about \$8,000 each. Attorney Millican explained that this home went up for tax sale but no one bid on it, so it fell into the City's hands. After more discussion, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **refer the demolition and cleanup** of 507 Wilbert D. Rochelle Avenue to the Mayor's office to proceed.

Mr. Armentor motioned and Mr. LeJeune seconded to discuss the demo & cleanup of the home at 819 Lucas Street adjudicated to the Parish at 79% and the City at 21%. Mayor Guinn stated that this home is also associated with illicit activity and was also declared unsafe and not structurally sound. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **refer the demolition and cleanup** of 819 Lucas Street to the Mayor's office to proceed.

Next was to authorize the Mayor to sign to accept the Five (5) Foot Sidewalk Project along Florence Street (Guillotte Brothers, Inc.) as substantially complete as per request of Engineer Karl Aucoin of *Aucoin & Associates, Inc.* Mayor Guinn stated that the project came out very nice with lots of attention to detail. Councilman VanHook said that it will be much safer for the children to walk to school. After no other comments or questions, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **authorize the Mayor** to sign to accept the Five-Foot Sidewalk Project along Florence Street as substantially complete.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on September 10, 2019 of the Jennings City Council at 5:54 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council