

REGULAR MEETING

October 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 13th day of October, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings City Council Chambers, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana with President Stephen VanHook presiding and a quorum present.

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

Jennings City Council Members Absent: Clifton LeJeune, District C

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

It was moved by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Ordinance No. 1765 – an ordinance wherein the City Council approves and adopts the adjusted millage rates and repeals all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to adopt Ordinance No. 1765. The ordinance was read in full and opened for public comment, discussion or questions. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that every four years property millage rates are adjusted. This year a small increase of property values was noted, therefore the adjusted millage fell slightly for the General Alimony, Street Maintenance and Library from the prior year. After a period with no comments, questions or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote of those in attendance to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1765.

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

Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: Clifton LeJeune

Ordinance No. 1766 – an ordinance wherein the City Council sets forth the adjusted millage rates and rolls forward to millage rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum authorized rates and repeals all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to adopt Ordinance No. 1766. The ordinance was read in full and opened for public comment, discussion or questions. Mayor Guinn commented that prior to the meeting a Public Hearing was held at 5:15 pm in compliance with LA Constitution Article 7, Section 23(C) and RS 47:1705(B) and there were no comments or questions of those in attendance. Mayor Guinn stated that every four years property values are reassessed. There was a small increase of property values noted, therefore the adjusted millage fell slightly for the General Alimony, Street Maintenance and Library from the prior year. The City would like to roll forward to the prior year's maximum rate which would give a small increase in each millage. After a period with no comments, questions or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote of those in attendance to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1766.

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

Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: Clifton LeJeune

Ms. Simon motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the revised Joint Services Agreement with the Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office for collection of millage tax. Mayor Guinn stated that this agreement allows the Sheriff's Office to collect our millage tax. This agreement will change slightly from last fiscal year as there will be a 2% increase for collections – it

will increase from 4% to 6%. Revised Statutes have changed which add additional burdens to notifications to adjudicated properties. The extra cost to the city is about \$25,900 with a total of about \$77,000 for tax collections. The city is not set up at this time to collect taxes and it will cost considerably more to set up the process for collection. After no other comments or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to sign the revised Joint Services Agreement with the Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office for collection of millage tax.

Mr. LeBlanc motioned and Mr. Armentor seconded to authorize the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible proposal for Disaster Consulting Services for FEMA recovery (Hurricane Laura). The Mayor stated that the city signed under executive order with Landmark to begin the process of disaster recovery from Hurricane Laura. Mayor Guinn recommended to the Council to accept Landmark's proposal for Hurricane Laura. After no other comments or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible proposal for Disaster Consulting Services for FEMA recovery (Hurricane Laura).

Mr. Armentor motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to accept the lowest responsible bidder for the Advanced Meter Reading System Phase III. Mayor Guinn stated that this project started two years ago and this is the final phase to complete 100% of all the water meters in the city. Ferguson was the only responsible bidder with a bid of \$754,987.50. The budget will accommodate this bid. This project will allow us to read meters efficiently and capture consumption accurately. After no other comments or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for the Advanced Meter Reading System Phase III.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on October 13, 2020 of the Jennings City Council at 5:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council