

REGULAR MEETING

November 8, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 8th day of November, 2022 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: Johnny Armentor, District B; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: Carolyn Simon, District A

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. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the October 11, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1791D – a resolution declaring the City of Jennings Renovation – Jennings City Hall Project as substantially complete; and repealing all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1791D. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this project involved hurricane repairs to City Hall, the punch list was completed by the contractor, and substantial completion should be accepted. Mayor Guinn explained that the base bid cost of the project was \$456,964 and was reimbursed by insurance. After questions and comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1791D.

Resolution No. 1791E – a resolution declaring the City of Jennings Renovation – Jennings City Court/DMV Project as substantially complete; and repealing all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1791E. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this project involved repairing substantial damage to the Judge's office and Receptionist's office at City Court and DMV. Mayor Guinn stated that the repairs have been completed and substantial completion should be accepted. Financial advisor Greg Marcantel explained that the cost of the project was \$110,076. City Attorney Derek Bisig stated this cost was reimbursed by insurance. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1791E.

Resolution No. 1791F – a resolution declaring the City of Jennings Renovation – Jefferson Davis Parish Tourist Office Project as substantially complete; and repealing all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. Armentor to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1791F. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this project involved repairing substantial damage to the Gator Chateau and rebuilding the oil derrick. Mayor Guinn stated that the repairs have been completed and substantial completion should be accepted. Financial advisor Greg Marcantel explained that the cost of the project was \$320,259 and was reimbursed by insurance. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1791F.

Resolution No. 1791G – a resolution authorizing the City of Jennings Mayor to reorganize the Jennings Historic District Advisory Commission; and repealing all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1791G. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that the City of Jennings adopted an ordinance creating a historic district with a defined boundary. Mayor Guinn expressed that it is extremely important to continue to protect the integrity of our historic district and the buildings within it. Mayor Guinn explained that this board will consist of a dynamic team of nine members that will be appointed by the City Council. After discussion and

questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1791G.

Resolution No. 1791H – a resolution affirming support for application to the Governor’s Office of Facility Planning and Control, 2023-2024 Capital Outlay Program for a grant to be used for expansion of water system for new development. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1791H. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this money would be used to install approximately four miles of new waterline which would provide necessary water for fire suppression and help to entice economic development. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1791H.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to go into executive session with respect to prospective litigation with insurance regarding bid items.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to Fire Station No. 1 and 2 communication towers. Bids were opened on October 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. *Louisiana Radio Communications* had the low base bid of \$410,000. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that there was no resolution with the insurance company at this time for this project. After no other comments or questions, the motion to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to Fire Station No. 1 and 2 communication towers was **REJECTED** by unanimous nays of voice vote of those in attendance.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to parks (electrical and lighting). Bids were opened on October 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. *E. L. Habetz Builders* had the low base bid of \$1,794,000. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that after much negotiation there was no resolution with the insurance company regarding this project at this time. After no other comments or discussion, the motion to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to parks (electrical and lighting) was **REJECTED** by unanimous nays of voice vote of those in attendance.

It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to parks (architectural). Bids were opened on October 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. *Trahan Construction* had the low base bid of \$458,000. There was also alternate 1 to clean and seal the pavilion at a cost of \$6,200. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that this was a continuation of the parks (electrical and lighting) project and was separated at the request of the insurance company. Mayor Guinn explained that the bids were significantly higher for both parks projects and there was no agreement with the insurance company as of now for this project. After a few comments and questions, the motion to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for repair and renovations to parks (architectural) was **REJECTED** by unanimous nays of voice vote of those in attendance.

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 November 8, 2022 of the Jennings City Council at 6:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Chad Crochet

Chad Crochet, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council