

## REGULAR MEETING

May 9, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023, 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: Clifton LeJeune, District C; Johnny Armentor, District B; 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 April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1793A – a resolution adopting the 2023 Parish-Wide Hazard Mitigation Plan. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1793A. Mayor Guinn explained that this resolution proves that the City is working closely with the Parish and surrounding communities to reduce risk in the event of a natural disaster. After a few questions and comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1793A.

Resolution No. 1793B – a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the FY 2023 pre-application packet from the State Revolving Loan Fund (Wastewater Facilities) through the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the City of Jennings' Wastewater System. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1793B. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that as the City expands capacity to produce more water, the City must also look at expanding sewer capacity to treat more water. Mayor Guinn stated that this resolution is not an obligation and is only an early step to see if the City qualifies. After no other questions and a few comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1793B.

Resolution No. 1793C – a resolution declaring the City of Jennings Hurricane Renovation – Tupper Museum 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. 1793C. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this project involved hurricane repairs and the repairs are complete. After no further questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1793C.

Ordinance No. 1795 – an ordinance authorizing the City of Jennings to rezone the Sunshine Addition Annexation from S to C-3; and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to introduce Ordinance No. 1795. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that Sunshine Equipment has chosen Jennings to expand its agriculture dealership. Mayor Guinn explained that it is standard practice that any time a parcel is annexed, it is zoned suburban. Thus, this rezoning will allow Sunshine Equipment to operate in a commercial district. Mayor Guinn stated that the zoning board had met earlier and there was unanimous support for the rezoning. After no other questions and comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1795.

Ordinance No. 1794 – an ordinance authorizing the City of Jennings to annex the Sunshine Addition; and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to adopt Ordinance No. 1794. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that the City has been working closely with Sunshine Equipment to accommodate a new agriculture dealership. Mayor Guinn explained that this is a great opportunity for the City of Jennings as it will increase sales tax revenue and offer new job opportunities. After no other questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1794. Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None          Abstained: None          Absent: Carolyn Simon

It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Hydrate Chemical Bulk Lime for FY 2023-24. Bids were opened on May 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Guinn stated the water plant uses this substance for the treatment of drinking water. The only bidder was *Carmeuse Lime & Stone* out of Baton Rouge. Mayor Guinn stated that there were some discrepancies with this bid. After no other comments or discussion, by voice vote of 2 yeas and 2 nays from Mr. LeJeune and Mr. VanHook, the motion to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Hydrate Chemical Bulk Lime for FY 2022-23 **FAILED**. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to **REFER** this item to the Mayor's office for further comparison. After no comments or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** this item to the Mayor's office for further comparison.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Chlorine Gas for FY 2023-24. Bids were opened on May 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Guinn stated this specialty item routinely used at the water plant for the treatment of drinking water. This product is also used at the Sewer Plant. The only bidder was *Hawkins, Inc.* out of Sulphur. The bid amount was a slight increase of .11 cents per pound from last year. The bid amount was 1.6069/pound with a fuel charge 29.50 per delivery, \$4.50 per delivery handling fee and \$7.50 rental per cylinder. Mayor Guinn stated that there were no major changes in prices from the previous year and recommended accepting low bid. After no other comments or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to authorize the mayor to **ACCEPT** the lowest responsible bidder for Chlorine Gas for FY 2023-24.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for #610 AND #57 Grey Limestone for FY 2023-24. Bids were opened on May 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. *Rock Solid Materials, LLC* had the low bid for #610 Grey Limestone and #57 Grey Limestone to be **picked up** at \$42.75 and \$44.75 per ton respectively. *Rock Solid Materials, LLC* had the low bid for #610 & #57 Grey Limestone to be **delivered** at \$47.25 & \$49.25 respectively. Mayor Guinn explained that this is a product used by the Utilities and Street Departments and there were no discrepancies in the bids. After no further comments or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to authorize the mayor to **ACCEPT** the lowest responsible bidders for #610 AND #57 Grey Limestone for FY 2023-24.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Hot Mix (AC-30) Asphalt for FY 2023-24. Bids were opened on May 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. The low bidder was *R.E. Heidt Construction Company, LLC* out of Westlake. The bid amount was \$99.00 per ton which was a \$12.00 per ton increase from last year. Mayor Guinn explained that this is a product used throughout the City and there were no anomalies with this bid. After no comments or discussion, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to authorize the mayor to **ACCEPT** the lowest responsible bidder for Hot Mix (AC-30) Asphalt for FY 2023-24.

Mr. LeBlanc motioned and Mr. Armentor seconded to discuss whether to approve and confirm a beer & liquor permit to Alexa LeJeune (d/b/a Two Two One) for retail sales – Class A – drinking on premises located at 221 N. Main St. Mayor Guinn stated that the paperwork was in order with clear background checks. After no comment or discussion, the council voted to **approve and confirm** the beer/liquor permit to Alexa LeJeune (d/b/a Two Two One) for retail sales – Class A – drinking on premises – located at 221 N. Main St. Yeas were from Mr. Armentor, Mr. LeBlanc, and Mr. VanHook; Mr. LeJeune abstained.

Mr. Armentor motioned and Mr. LeJeune seconded to discuss the demo & cleanup of the property located at 101 Garrett Ln belonging to Hage Rentals, LLC. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. Mr. Guillory was present and explained that he could not do anything with the property for three years since he acquired the property through Sheriff tax sale. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that he had

received many complaints about the property because of debris. City Attorney Derek Bisig explained that Mr. Guillory had the tax certificate and thus is a record holder of the property but not the legal owner of the property. After much discussion and comments, it was moved by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** the property at 101 Garrett Ln belonging to Hage Rentals, LLC which has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation to the Mayor's office to negotiate with the legal owner of the property including cleanup and possible demolition.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune to discuss the demo and cleanup of property at 1019 Grace St. belonging to David Stelly. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. City Inspector Phil Arceneaux explained that Mr. Stelly has not responded to the condemnation letter. Mr. Arceneaux stated that Mr. Stelly was still living in the home and it is unsafe. After many questions and comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc, and carried by yeas of voice vote of those in attendance, to **REFER** this property to the mayor's office.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to discuss the demo and cleanup of property at 404 Dubois St. belonging to Lacle, LLC. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. City Inspector Phil Arceneaux explained that this property was obtained by Lacle, LLC in a tax sale and his office has received many complaints. After a few questions and comments, it was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune, and carried by yeas of voice vote of those in attendance, to authorize the Mayor to **DEMOLISH** the property located at 404 Dubois St.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on May 9, 2023 of the Jennings City Council at 6:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Chad Crochet

Chad Crochet, Secretary  
Jennings City Council

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Stephen VanHook, President  
Jennings City Council