

REGULAR MEETING

June 13, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 13th day of June, 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: Carolyn Simon, District A; Johnny Armentor, District B; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: Anthony LeBlanc, District D

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

It was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the May 9, 2023 Regular Meeting.

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. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to adopt Ordinance No. 1795. Mayor Guinn explained that this was part of the annexation request from Sunshine Equipment (John Deere). After no questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1795.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Carolyn Simon, Clifton LeJeune, Johnny Armentor, & Stephen VanHook
Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: Anthony LeBlanc

Ordinance No. 1796 – an ordinance to adopt the Pay Plan and the Operating & Capital Outlay Budget for FYE 06/30/2024. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce Ordinance No. 1796. Mayor Guinn stated that a hearing for public participation of the Proposed Budget was held just prior to the Council Meeting at 5:00 pm in compliance with LRS 39:1306-07 and the proposed budget was presented. There were no questions or comments at the Public Hearing. The floor was then opened for any public questions or comments. After no comments or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1796.

Ordinance No. 1797 – an ordinance to adjust the water & sewer connections and to set the schedule of fees and charges for services for FY 2023-24. It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce Ordinance No. 1797. Mayor Guinn stated that a four percent price increase is necessary due to rising operation costs of the water and sewer systems. After no questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1797.

Ordinance No. 1798 – an ordinance to adjust the solid waste collection and disposal rates to the CPI Index for FY 2023-24. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce Ordinance No. 1798. Mayor Guinn stated that Republic Services provides curb side trash pickup and in that contract, they are allowed a 2% increase based on the Consumer Price Index. After no comments and questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1798.

Ordinance No. 1799 – an ordinance to authorize the mayor to adopt the annual Joint Service Agreements for FY 2023-24. It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce Ordinance No. 1799. Mayor Guinn stated that passage of this ordinance allows him to enter into agreements with a variety of agencies operating day to day. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1799.

Ordinance No. 1800 – an ordinance to adopt budget amendments for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce Ordinance No. 1800. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that the budget amendments are a direct result of Hurricane repairs. Mayor Guinn explained that there are still Hurricane repairs that have not yet been made. After a few comments and questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1800.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Ms. Simon to authorize the Mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for Fuel for FY 2023-2024. The Mayor stated that there was only one bid received from Shop Rite/Fleet Rite. 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 2023-2024.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to discuss the Franklin Park Improvements Project. Mayor Guinn explained that only one bid from *L. K. Breaux & Associates* was received and was over proposed estimates. After no public comment or questions, it was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to **REJECT** the bid for the Franklin Park Improvements Project.

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 of those in attendance **TO NAME** the *Jennings Daily News* as the City's Official Municipal Journal for the year 2023-24.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon to discuss the traffic on Shine Alley & Garage Alley. Mayor Guinn stated that Shine Alley was included as part of the widening and asphalt overlay project in the 2023-2024 proposed budget and therefore had no need for a change in traffic direction. Mayor Guinn suggested that a traffic study should be performed on Garage Alley before any other motions or suggestions are done. Mayor Guinn explained that the City's right of ways are typically sufficient to accompany the widening of Shine Alley without acquiring private property.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to discuss the Hwy 97 site development. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that this is the old Patel property that has been acquired. Mayor Guinn introduced representatives of the site Blake Soto, real estate manager and Jeff Kudla, engineer. Mr. Soto explained that they are in very early stages of development of the site and see it as a mixed-use commercial development.

President VanHook reminded everyone of the Special Meeting to be held on Thursday, June 22, 2023 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. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **ADJOURN** this Regular Meeting on June 13, 2023 of the Jennings City Council at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Chad Crochet

Chad Crochet, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council