

REGULAR MEETING

October 8, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 8th day of October, 2024 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. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the September 10, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Ordinance No. 1816 – 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. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to adopt Ordinance No. 1816. The ordinance description 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. 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. 1816.

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

Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Ordinance No. 1817 – 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. 1817. The ordinance description 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. 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. 1817.

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

Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to authorize the mayor to accept the lowest responsible bidder for the Holiday Dr. Waterline Extension to North of I-10 Project. Bids were opened on October 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. *Co-D Construction* had the low bid of \$496,771.47. The mayor explained that this project consists of removing an old six-inch waterline and replacing it with a new twelve-inch waterline along the southern service road to the newly annexed parcels north of I-10. After no public questions or comments, 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 Holiday Dr. Waterline Extension to North of I-10 Project.

Mr. LeJeune motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss/update on the property located at 403 W. D. Rochelle belonging to Dale Hughes II. Mr. Hughes II explained that he was working on securing the structure and that there may be parties still interested in using the structure for grain storage. After a lengthy discussion and comments, the council requested that they be updated at the November 12, 2024 meeting on the work being done to the structure with an itemized list of that work. No other action was taken.

Mr. LeBlanc motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss/update on the property located at 815 N. Morton St. belonging to Barrett Ward Leonards. There was no representative of the property present at the meeting. City inspector, Howard “Mack” Hessifer, explained that his office has made many attempts to contact the owner with certified letters and phone calls without any success. Mr. Hessifer stated that the home is a safety hazard. Mayor Guinn explained that if the property is referred to his office for condemnation, a curator would be hired to make every last attempt to contact the owner. After a few questions and comments, it was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to move the property at 815 N. Morton St belonging to Barrett Ward Leonards to condemnation and demolition.

The council unanimously voted to add to the agenda the request of Mr. Morgan to discuss zoning of the property located at 203 S. Louise St. Mr. Morgan asked for explanations regarding non-conforming use and the zoning of the 203 S. Louise St. property. After a lengthy discussion and comments, no action was taken.

Resolution No. 1805C is **ON HOLD**.

Ordinance No. 1814 is **ON HOLD** until the November 12, 2024 meeting.

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 of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on October 8, 2024 of the Jennings City Council at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Chad Crochet

Chad Crochet, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council