

Monroe City Council Legal and Regular Session  
June 09, 2020  
6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers-City Hall  
MINUTES

There was a legal and regular session of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Louisiana held this date, June 09, 2020 at the Council's regular meeting place, 400 Lea Joyner Memorial Expressway, City Council Chambers/City Hall Building, Monroe, Louisiana.

The Honorable Juanita G. Woods, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order.

The roll call was done by the Council Clerk, Ms. Riley.

Council members present for roll call: Mrs. Gretchen Ezernack, Ms. Juanita Woods, Mr. Douglas Harvey, Mr. Kenneth Wilson, Attorney Eddie Clark (present via teleconference).

Council member(s) absent: NONE.

Chairwoman Woods declared a quorum.

The Invocation was led by Rev. Orborn Robinson, Pastor of Tried Stone and Union Chapel Baptist Churches; the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilwoman Woods.

COMMUNICATIONS & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Mr. Harvey welcomed everyone present; he congratulated the City on getting removed from the consent decree; he reminded everyone of the Phase 2 Covid and to continue to be cautious.
2. Mrs. Ezernack welcomed all present and thanked Rev. Robinson for the prayer; she thanked everyone involved in getting the City removed from the consent decree and also thanked all for the ribbon cutting event for the 165 Booster station project.
3. Mr. Wilson welcomed all present; he thanked Rev. Robinson for the invocation; thanked the citizens for wearing their masks due to Covid 19 and to remind those that aren't to wear them. He wished a Happy Father's Day to all Fathers.
4. Mr. Clark welcomed all present and wished them a good evening.
5. Mayor Mayo welcomed all present and thanked Rev. Robinson for the invocation; he will be leaving to attend a diversity forum this evening at ULM.
6. Ms. Woods thanked everyone for attending and for practicing social distancing; she asked prayers for those affected by racism and to pray for the George Floyd family; she thanked Mr. Harvey for purchasing and placing a tarp on a property that she called him about; she encouraged the citizens to be a part of the Mayor's forum for inequalities; she asked for everyone to continue wearing their masks due to Covid 19; she congratulated those who were involved with the city being removed from the consent decree; she acknowledged two ribbon cutting ceremonies, the 165 booster station and the lighting project; she wished a Happy Father's Day to all Fathers.

Upon a motion of Mr. Wilson and a second by Mr. Harvey, the minutes of the Legal and Regular session of May 26, 2020 were unanimously approved. (There were no public comments).

Mr. Harvey commented that he has received phone calls from citizens wanting to be a part of the Mayor's forum for inequalities; Mayor Mayo stated he welcomed all people and that none would be turned down from joining.

PRESENTATION: NONE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PROPOSED CONDEMNATIONS:

Public Comment: NONE.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF BIDS: Public Comment None.

RESOLUTIONS AND MINUTE ENTRIES:

Council:      Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7738, appointing the Monroe News-Star as the Official Journal of the City of Monroe, Louisiana, pursuant to the Louisiana R. S. 43:141 et. seq. and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mr. Wilson asked that it would be amended to include the Monroe Dispatch to publish the minutes.

Mr. Harvey asked the selection process; Mrs. Sturdivant said to select a daily journal, as the News Star is the only local daily publication and some projects must be advertised three days consecutively, thus having a daily publication to advertise in this manner versus a weekly journal; Mr. Harvey asked if it was posted online, and their readership versus the actual paper; Mrs. Sturdivant said she didn't know how much was published; Mrs. Ezernack it was published on their website and go to the legal notices; the location of the newspaper must be in the City of Monroe, no other jurisdiction or parish.

Department of Administration:    Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Consider an Application by Yahre Camarea dba Azteca Grill, Inc., 3610 Desiard Street, Monroe, LA 71203 for a New 2020 Class A Alcoholic Beverage Permit. The Monroe Police Department has no disqualifying records and Sales Tax has been Cleared, CO-Cleared, Distance Report Cleared. (There were no public comments).

Department of Planning & Urban Development:    Public Comment:      None.

Legal Department:    Public Comment:    None.

Mayor's Office:      Public Comment:    None.

Department of Public Works:    Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7739, authorizing the City of Monroe to advertise for bids for the storm damage repair of the Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicle Building located at the Monroe Regional Airport, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Department of Community Affairs:    Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7740, authorizing the City of Monroe and Louisiana Healthcare Connections to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Police Department:    Public Comment:    None.

Fire Department:    Public Comment:    None.

Engineering Services:    Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7741, accepting as substantially complete work done by and between the City of Monroe and Jabar Corporation, for the Parkview and Ruffin Drive Water Main Improvements Project, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mr. Harvey thanked Engineering for answering questions about the change order process.

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7742, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order No. Six (6) to the proposed Booster Station Contract, between the City of Monroe and Dixie Overland Construction, LLC, for a decrease in the contract amount of \$119,917.11 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mrs. Ezernack commented it was for a decrease, a good thing.

(c) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7743, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order No. Three (3) to the WTP Water Filters Nos. 1, 3, & 4 Repairs Contract, between the City of Monroe and Peck Construction, Inc., for a decrease in the contract amount of \$46,400.00 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Ms. Woods commented it was for a decrease. She stated to the audience to view the agenda, to visit the website for an online agenda.

(d) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7744, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order No. Three (3) to the WTP Handrail Improvement Contract, between the City of Monroe and Dixie Overland Construction, LLC for a decrease in the contract amount of \$8,636.00 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

BREAK IF NEEDED:

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Public Comment:

None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION AND SUBJECT TO PUBLIC HEARING:

Open Public Hearing/Public Comment/Close Hearing: Chairwoman Woods declared the public hearing open; seeing no one come forward, the hearing was closed.

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Finally adopt Ordinance No. 11,995, amending Chapter 9, Buildings, of the Code of the City of Monroe, Article II Building Codes, Section 9-21 Adoption, (a) ICC Standard Codes (3) International Property Maintenance Code—2015 Edition. As prepared by the International Code Council by Reference and further providing with respect thereto. (PUD) (There were no public comments).

Open Public Hearing/Public Comment/Close Hearing: Chairwoman Woods declared the public hearing open; seeing no one come forward, the hearing was closed.

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Finally adopt Ordinance No. 11,996, amending and adjusting the City of Monroe Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021. (Admin.) (There were no public comments).

ADD-ON: (c) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to add to the agenda to adopt an Emergency Ordinance, declaring the repair of the channel on the center column of primary clarifier #2 at the WPCC and emergency necessitating immediate repair and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(c) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to finally adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 11,997, declaring the repair of the channel on the center column of primary clarifier #2 at the WPCC and emergency necessitating immediate repair and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

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CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: NONE. (will resume normal operations at the last meeting of the month).

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m., upon a motion of Mrs. Ezernack and seconded by Ms. Woods. (There were no public comments).

Ms. Juanita G. Woods  
Council Chairwoman

Ms. Carolus S. Riley  
Council Clerk

Ms. Jacqueline Benjamin  
Council Secretary

**\*For extended details on the Council meeting please call the Council Clerk, Monday-Friday at 329-2252; also, a recording of the minutes can be sent via email to you.**