

Monroe City Council Legal and Regular Session
June 23, 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 23, 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.

Council member(s) absent: Attorney Eddie Clark.

Chairwoman Woods declared a quorum.

She commented the Citizen's participation would be reinstated. Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to reinstate the Citizen's Participation. (There were no public comments).

The Invocation was led by Rev. Van Price, Pastor, New St. James Baptist Church and the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilwoman Wilson.

COMMUNICATIONS & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Mr. Harvey thanked Rev. Price for the prayer, he wished everyone a happy belated Father's day and a happy fourth of July; he commented that early voting began on last Saturday to continue through to July 4th and the election is on July 11th; the locations for early voting are at the health unit located at the corner of Desiard Street/ North 18th and also at the West Monroe Convention Center.

2. Mrs. Ezernack welcomed each one and thanked Rev. Price for the prayer.

3. Mr. Wilson thanked Rev. Price for the prayer and Mr. Willis for their attendance; he recognized everyone for their celebration of Juneteenth holiday and belated Happy Father's Day; he asked voters to go out and vote for your candidate, as the numbers have been low on voting. He wished everyone a Happy 4th.

4. Mayor Mayo thanked Rev. Price and Mr. Willis for their attendance and for their leadership of service. He spoke regarding concern for those not wearing their masks and social distancing.

5. Ms. Woods wished all father's a Happy Belated Father's day and everyone a Happy 4th; she asked that everyone practice social distancing. Early voting is Monday-Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.; she asked that everyone wear masks and be safe.

Upon a motion of Mrs. Ezernack and a second by Mr. Harvey, the minutes of the Legal and Regular session of June 9, 2020 were unanimously approved. (There were no public comments).

PRESENTATION: NONE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PROPOSED CONDEMNATIONS: Public Comment: NONE.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF BIDS: Public Comment

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Accept the bids of Belt-Pro and Industrial Mill for work tools and etc., #2021-00000003 as recommended by the Director of Administration as meeting the specifications of this bid. The bidder responses meet the specifications of this bid. Funds will be derived from the Inventory Account and billed accordingly. The Tax and Revenue Division has confirmed that these bidders are tax compliant. (There were no public comments).

RESOLUTIONS AND MINUTE ENTRIES:

1. Council: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7745, granting an exception to the Open Container Ordinance to 2 Dudes Brew & Que (Red, White & Que Block Party) pursuant to Monroe City Code Sec. 12-231 D. (Open Container Ordinance), and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

2. Department of Administration: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Consider an Application by Ganapathi Restaurant, Inc., (Sreenivasa Tadikonda) dba Little India, 903 N. 4th 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).

(b) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7746, authorizing Mayor James E. Mayo to accept State Treasury's Coronavirus Relief Funds and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

3. Department of Planning & Urban Development: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7747, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to enter into and execute a contract by and between the City of Monroe and Our House, Inc. dba Christopher Youth Center under the **State of Louisiana Housing Corporation Emergency Solutions Grant Program for the Homeless (ESGP) FFY 19'** in the amount of \$62,108.50.00 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Ms. Downs commented that an amendment agreement was made, and this is a new grant agreement. This nonprofit serves between 50 -75 youth annually.

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7748, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to enter into and execute a contract by and between the City of Monroe and The Wellspring Alliance for Families under the State of **Louisiana Housing Corporation Emergency Solutions Grant Program for the Homeless (ESGP) FFY 19'** in the amount of \$62,108.50.00 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Ms. Downs commented that an amendment agreement was made, and this is a new grant agreement.

(c) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7749, authorizing Mayor James E. Mayo to accept a grant award, "BJA FY 20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program," and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

4. Legal Department: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7750, stating the City of Monroe's endorsement of North 3rd Street Properties and their Project #20190110-RTA to participate in the benefits of the Louisiana Restoration Tax Abatement Program. (There were no public comments).

5. Mayor's Office: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7751, authorizing Mayor James E. Mayo to enter into an agreement with the Picard Group in association with the Monroe Chamber of Commerce and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

6. Department of Public Works: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7752, approving the execution of a Maintenance Agreement by and between the City of Monroe and the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, relative to mowing and litter pickup within the limits of the City of Monroe, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(b) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7753, authorizing Mayor James E. Mayo to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Land 3 Architect Inc. for the storm damage repairs to the city's property currently being occupied by the Department of Motor Vehicles and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mr. Harvey asked for the architect's role in the project; Mr. Phillips stated it was to put the deal packs together.

7. Department of Community Affairs: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7754, authorizing the City of Monroe to advertise for bids for the storm damage repair of the Masur Museum, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(b) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7755, authorizing Mayor James E. Mayo to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Land 3 Architect Inc. for the storm damage repairs to the Masur Museum and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(c) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to remove from the agenda to Adopt a Resolution approving and authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding by and between the City of Monroe and Lafourche Parish Government and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

8. Police Department: Public Comment: None.

9. Fire Department: Public Comment: None.

10. Engineering Services: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7756, approving the execution of a Maintenance Agreement by and between the City of Monroe and the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, relative to traffic signals in the state highway system which are located within the limits of the City of Monroe, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(b) Upon a motion by Mr. Harvey, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7757, authorizing the Purchasing Manager to advertise for bids on the Hawes Pump Station Diesel Drive Replacement Project. The estimated cost of this project is \$455,200.00. The DBE Goal is 0% and source of funds Capital Infrastructure Sales Tax Funds. (There were no public comments).

(c) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Harvey and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7758, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order No. One (1) to the Kansas Lane Extension Clearing & Grubbing Contract, between the City of Monroe and LaDotd for an increase in the contract amount of \$114,059.40 and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

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BREAK IF NEEDED:

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES: Public Comment: None.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION AND
SUBJECT TO PUBLIC HEARING: NONE.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Curtis Garth, citizen, spoke regarding an investigation report of a crime against citizens and his request. City Attorney Sturdivant commented that he has spoken with Mr. Garth on numerous occasions and the Assistant City Attorney has researched at the courthouse, a lot of the documents were related to the 4th Judicial District court and will call him regarding getting the records from the clerk of court. The statute of limitations has run out. Ms. Woods commented that the council had no jurisdiction and would refer him back to Mrs. Sturdivant.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m., upon a motion of Mrs. Ezernack and seconded by Mr. Wilson. (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.**