**Minutes – July 11, 2017**

**Council Meeting**

**City of Patterson, Louisiana**

**The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Patterson, Louisiana was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The meeting was held at 1314 Main Street in the Council meeting room at 6:30 PM.**

**Mayor Rodney Grogan presided over the meeting.**

**6:30 PM - Stop receiving bids for surplus vehicles.**

**PUBLIC HEARING – A public hearing was held to discuss an Ordinance proposing the amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to amend Section 4-03 of the City Charter so as to provide for the Appointment of the Police Chief by the Mayor; include provisions for the Police Chief’s grant of authority and persons eligible to exercise police authority; omit provisions related to the Police Chief’s salary, benefits, and restrictions on holding other offices and employment. A discussion was held on an Ordinance proposing the Amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to amend Section 3-05(2) of the City Charter so as to provide that the Chief of Police shall appoint, suspend and remove City Employees working within the Police Department with the advice and consent of the Mayor and City Council, except that the Chief of Police may suspend City Employees working within the Police Department for a period not to exceed ten days without the advice and consent of the Mayor and City Council. A discussion was held on an Ordinance proposing the Amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to adopt Section 4-03.1 of the City Charter so as to provide for term limits for Police Chief, if elected; the effective date of such amendment; and the application of such amendment on an incumbent Police Chief. Mayor Grogan stated that he is not in agreement with an appointed Chief of Police and it has been 25 plus years since this has been voted on by the public. Chief Patrick LaSalle said this is his 6th term as Chief of Police. Chief LaSalle said he agrees with the Mayor and does not want an appointed Chief of Police. He also does not want term limits. Mr. Billy Badeaux was not in favor of having term limits for the Chief but not having term limits for the Mayor and Councilmembers either. Councilmember Joe Russo is not in favor of Term Limits; he feels we are too small for term limits. Some citizens spoke that they were not in favor of an appointed Chief of Police or term limits.**

**There being no further discussion, Councilmember Rentrop made a motion to close the public hearing seconded by Councilmember Mendoza. The council unanimously agreed.**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Mayor Grogan called the Council Meeting to order.**

**Deacon Williams led the Invocation.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said in unison by all.**

**Angela Shilling-Boyles, City Clerk, called roll. Councilmembers Darnell, Mendoza, Rentrop, Russo and Turner were present.**

**Also present was City Attorney, Russel Cremaldi, Police Chief Patrick LaSalle and Clay Breaud with Providence / GSE.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Russo to dispense with the reading and approve the June 6, 2017 Minutes. Councilmembers Darnell, Mendoza, Rentrop, Russo, and Turner voted yea.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Turner and seconded Councilmember Mendoza to accept the submission of the financial statement. Councilmembers Darnell, Mendoza, Rentrop, Russo and Turner voted yea.**

**No public comments were made concerning the agenda.**

**Suzanne DeMahy announced she is a candidate for the 16th Judicial Court Judge. The election is October 14, 2017.**

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**July 11, 2017**

**Council Meeting**

**Mayor Grogan asked to amend the agenda to include two can shakes. Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to amend the agenda to include a can shake for the 14U State Baseball Team going to Regionals, Councilmember Darnell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. The Council unanimously agreed. Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to amend the agenda to include a can shake for the 12 U All Stars heading to the Babe Ruth World Series, second by Councilmember Russo. A roll call vote was held. The Council unanimously agreed.**

**Mayor Grogan opened the sealed bids for the surplus vehicles. There were no bids on the Ford Mustang. The 2001 Ford Taurus had two bids.**

**Barry Lasseigne, bid of $870.00 and Brent Foreman, bid of $751.00. Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to allow the Mayor to accept the highest bid, seconded by Councilmember Rentrop. The Council unanimously agreed.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza to amend the election date to November 18, 2017 on an Ordinance proposing the amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to amend Section 4-03 of the City Charter so as to provide for the Appointment of the Police Chief by the Mayor. A roll call vote was held. Councilmembers Darnell, Turner, Russo voted nay; and Councilmembers Rentrop and Mendoza voted yea. The Ordinance was not amended. The Ordinance did not pass.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Rentrop to amend the election date to November 18, 2017 on an Ordinance** **proposing the Amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to amend Section 3-05(2) of the City Charter so as to provide that the Chief of Police shall appoint, suspend and remove City Employees working within the Police Department with the advice and consent of the Mayor and City Council, except that the Chief of Police may suspend City Employees working within the Police Department for a period not to exceed ten days without the advice and consent of the Mayor and City Council. Councilmember Rentrop removed his motion from the floor. The Ordinance did not pass.**

**There was no motion to amend with the election date or to adopt the Ordinance proposing the Amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to adopt Section 4-03.1 of the City Charter so as to provide for term limits for Police Chief, if elected; the effective date of such amendment; and the application of such amendment on an incumbent Police Chief. The Ordinance did not pass.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Darnell to adopt an Engagement Letter with Kolder, Champagne, Slaven and Company. Councilmember Darnell, Mendoza, Rentrop and Turner voted yea. Councilmember Russo abstained.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza and seconded by Councilmember Russo to grant a can shake to the 14 U Baseball. The Council unanimously agreed.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza and seconded by Councilmember Darnell to grant a can shake to the 12 U girls Softball. The council unanimously agreed.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza and seconded by Councilmember Rentrop to introduce an Ordinance proposing the amendment to the City Charter by calling for a charter amendment election to amend Section 3-05(2) of the City Charter so as to provide that the Mayor shall be authorized, without City Council approval, to appoint all city employees except those working within the Police Department; and the Mayor shall be authorized, with City Council approval and in accordance with personnel policies adopted by the City Council, to suspend, demote, otherwise discipline and remove all city employees, except those working within the police department.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza and seconded by Councilmember Darnell to introduce an Ordinance proposing the amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment election to amend Section 4-03 of the City Charter so as to provide that the Chief of Police shall be authorized, with approval of the City Council and in accordance with personnel policies adopted by the City Council, to appoint, suspend, otherwise discipline and remove City employees working within the Police Department.**

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**July 11, 2017**

**Council Meeting**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Rentrop and seconded Councilmember Mendoza to introduce an Ordinance proposing the amendment to the City Charter by calling for a charter amendment election to amend Section 2-06(D) of the City Charter so as to provide that notice and amendment of Council Meeting Agendas shall be pursuant to State Open Meetings Law.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Mendoza and seconded by Councilmember Rentrop to introduce an Ordinance proposing an amendment to the City Charter by calling for a Charter Amendment Election to amend Section 2-10(A) (11) of the City Charter so as to provide that an Ordinance is required to convey or lease or authorize the conveyance or lease of any lands or other immovable property of the City Government.**

**City Attorney Russel Cremaldi prepared a Grievance Procedure. Mayor Grogan and Mr. Cremaldi asked the Council to read over it carefully and let them know if they have any questions or comments.**

**Chief LaSalle reminded everyone to be very careful with the Hwy 90 construction going on. He thanked everyone for their support.**

**Steve Bierhorst asked Mayor and Council if they wanted to keep the 2001 Ford Mustang at the same minimum bid of $1,200.00. They all agreed for the minimum price to stay the same.**

**Mayor Grogan stated the new Patterson Jr. High School is tentatively opening August 8, 2017. The street repairs on Twin Street will not begin until all heavy equipment is gone. The drainage will be addressed first, then the street repairs.**

**Ryan Aucoin stated the bid specs for the final design on Morey Park should be complete at the end of the month. Signs are now posted on the wharf stating “No Swimming” and “Fishing Allowed, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.” Main Street Committee is getting ready for the Atchafalaya Sprint in September and the Fall Festival in October.**

**A Mobile Animal Clinic will be held July 15, 2017.**

**A Business Seminar will be held July 24, 2017 at City Hall that is free to the public.**

**“Stuff the Bus” will be held Saturday, July 29, 2017, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

**Clay Breaud with Providence Engineering gave an engineering report.**

**There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Rentrop. The Council unanimously agreed.**

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**Angela Shilling-Boyles, City Clerk Rodney A. Grogan, Mayor**