

Minutes -November 1, 2022
Council Meeting
City of Patterson, Louisiana

The Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Patterson, Louisiana was held on Tuesday, November 1, 2022. The meeting was held at 1314 Main Street in the Council meeting room at 6:00 P. M.

Mayor Rodney Grogan presided over the meeting.

Mayor Rodney Grogan called the Council Meeting to order.

Pastor Lee Condolle from One Faith Fellowship of Patterson, LA led the invocation.

Councilmember Joe Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Damita D. Young, City Clerk, called roll. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, Joe Russo were present.

City Attorney Russel Cremaldi, Major Clyde Phillips and Melanie Caillouet from Providence Engineering were in attendance. Chief Garrett Grogan was absent.

Motion made by Councilmember Dawn Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Travis Darnell to dispense with the reading and approve the October 4, 2022, minutes. A motion was made Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to accept the submission of the financial statement. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Mayor asked for agenda to be amended explaining that the newspaper requires that our agenda be presented to paper by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays, to be printed on Fridays. The newspaper only prints twice per week so at times things come up that we need to discuss at a meeting, but the agenda has already been sent into newspaper so that is why we need to amend the agenda. Damita Young submitted her letter of resignation last month and was asked to stay on until tonight so that a replacement can be appointed. In January, the new council and mayor will be taking oath of office, asking that Midge Bourgeois who has worked with Ms. Damita Young fill the remaining weeks as Interim City Clerk until January then we have to go back with actual appointment as required by the charter. A motion was made by Councilmember Joe Russo and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to amend the agenda. Mayor Grogan asked for public comment on amending the agenda, there was no public comments. Mayor done roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Mayor asked again if there were any public comments, there was none.

Guest, Tina Johnson, PHS Key Club Representative ask that Breanna Alexander, PHS Key Club president, to speak. Ms. Alexander ask to get approval to hold can shake on Saturday, November 12, 2022, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on corner of Catherine Street and First Street. Ms. Alexander spoke on Key Club character building and leadership. A donation given to Allise Salazar, Outreach, for the senior lunches. A motion was made by Councilmember Travis Darnell and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Sundrea Butler, representing LockD' N Travel Ball, to get approval to hold can shake on Saturday, November 5, 2022, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on corner of Catherine Street and First Street. Council approved can shake. A motion was made by Dawn Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Motion made by Councilmember Dawn Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to adopt Ordinance #2022 – 10A, a salary increase for the Chief of Police from \$54,000 to \$59,000 effective December 1, 2022. Salary excludes state supplemental pay of \$6,000 and any other benefit, if any. Mayor did roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Joe Russo to adopt Ordinance #2022 – 10B. The livestock ordinance was to supplement Section 6-18 of the Code of Ordinances so as to add Subsection 6-18 (b) to require Planning Commission recommendation and council approval regarding livestock, those who would want large animals or small animals such as pigs for school projects will need to go before Planning and Zoning first for approval then come before the mayor and council. Mayor did roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Mayor Grogan made recommendation that Midge Bourgeois replace Damita Young effective immediately following this council meeting as the interim City Clerk for in January when we bring in new council, we have to do appointments then, by law we have to appoint a city clerk, we will be doing this again in January. A motion was made by Councilmember Lee Condolle and seconded by Councilmember Joe Russo. Mayor did roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Mayor read annual evaluation letter regarding the St. Mary Parish tipping fees for landfill increase effective November 14, 2022, the parish council has approved a \$1.50 per ton increase.

Mayor read letter from Baldwin Redi-Mix announcing concrete increase to of \$15.00 per cubic yard effective January 1, 2023 – July 1, 2023, with an anticipated increase on July 1, 2023.

Mr. Kenneth Holmes, Child Welfare with the St. Mary Parish School Board, spoke on the Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the Patterson Police Department for a Resource Officer to be placed between Hattie Watts Elementary and Patterson Jr. High School. The school board will pick up the complete tab of the salary of the officer while school is in session, when school is not in session, they will work for the police department. All resource officers will get training so they will know what is expected to do and will work hand in hand with the school principals. All this will be specified in the contract. This is a 5-year term, but the school board or police department may terminate the contract with or without cause with 90 days written notice to the Superintendent of the St. Mary Parish School Board or to the Chief of Police. The school board has entered into an agreement with Lafourche parish school Resource Department for our officers to go into partnership with Lafourche to initially get trained, they will also do required state training. Mr. Holmes advised that Dr. Bagwell was adamant that all resource officers be trained the same way. It is a mandate that all resource officers have to be trained working along with the principals of what you can and cannot do with children. A motion was made by Travis Darnell and seconded by Joe Russo. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Introduction of Ordinance #2022-11, this ordinance is to supplement and amend Section 22-93 of the Code of Ordinances so as to provide for collection of lien and privilege related to grass-cutting costs as an ordinary property tax lien. Mr. Russel Cremaldi, City Attorney, advised there are statues that require landowners to keep their property in sanitary condition. The landowner will need to be given sufficient notice to get the grass cut, if city has to cut grass, then the landowner needs to be given chance to pay city back first. . However, the state law has provided if the city has to do grass cutting then the occurred cost, then the municipalities can tact cost onto property tax bill. Steve Bierhorst advised most of the time he is able to find family member of land that will take care of grass cutting but there have been times when property owners have moved out of town. A motion was made by Councilmember Travis Darnell and seconded by Councilmember Dawn Rentrop.

Melanie Caillouet, Providence Engineers, requesting authorization to advertise the Request for Proposals for the water and gas meter replacement project. This project being funded by Capital Outlay, proposals will be scored on several factors, highest scored will be award project. Water meters will be installed South of the rail and gas meters in Bayou Vista. A motion was made by Councilmember Joe Russo and seconded by Councilmember Travis Darnell. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Melanie Caillouet, Providence Engineers, possible action to award the 2022 street improvement project rebid to the lowest bidder. At 10:00 a.m. this morning, bids were opened, there was only two bidders. City has \$751,000 set aside for project. Shady Grove will be asphalt, Bridge Rd will be asphalt and portion of Jake St. will be asphalt. A Resolution was signed for Alternate 1 bid. A motion was made by Councilmember Dawn Rentrop and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey. Mayor did roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes. Ms. Caillouet ask that a motion be made allowing the mayor to sign a deducting change order removing aggregated portion of Jake Street from the alternate. A motion was made by Councilmember Lee Condolle and seconded by Councilmember Dawn Rentrop. Mayor did roll call. Councilmembers Lee Condolle, Travis Darnell, Ray Dewey, Dawn Rentrop, and Joe Russo voted yes.

Mayor Grogan presented Damita Young a plaque of appreciation for her 15 years of service to the City of Patterson. A round of applause was given to Ms. Young.

Reginald Weary, CFO, announced next month council meeting to amend the budget.

Mayor thanks Ms. Beverly Domengeaux with the Council of Aging on her meeting. Advised that the Council of Aging will need to appoint someone to their board since Reginald Weary termed out. This is a 3-year term.

Mayor thanked the Police Department for their event "Night Out Against Crime," the Fire Department for their open house and the public who came out to clean up for Beautification Day. The Business After Hours and Fall Festival was great, gave kudos to Holden Murray for Trunk or Treat event last night, had 200 plus children, was a great turnout, plus a safe environment.

Holden Murray thanked everyone for attending Trunk or Treat at the Community Center. He announced upcoming events beginning with Veterans Day program on November 10th at 4:00 p.m., Christmas Tree lighting on November 20th, Christmas parade on December 11th and Christmas Bike Run on the night of December 17th.

Mayor announced on November 15th the Senior Thanksgiving luncheon will be at the Patterson Civic Center beginning at 11: 45 a.m.

Mayor mentioned that election is on Tuesday, November 8th. City Hall is a polling site, asking council to consider closing the office for day due to all the people, confusion with people voting and people wanting to pay bills. In the past, whoever is a candidate was not allowed on premises during voting hours. Recommending City Hall be closed but Public Workers Department & all other departments will report to work as normal. With councils' permission, City Hall will be closed on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

Mr. Russel Cremaldi advised there are no legal matters to discuss.

Mayor announced the game between Patterson High School and Berwick High School on Friday night. Mayor advised he challenged Mayor Duval Arthur to a dance off to whoever wins.

Sharon Gillum had no matters to discuss for water plant.

Terry Space had no matters to discuss for street department. Mayor commended Terry and his crew for a job well done with the grass cutting.

Mayor Grogan announced Greg and Paige Roussel donated a manger scene to the City of Patterson and we appreciate.

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