Minutes -January 3, 2023

Council Meeting

City of Patterson, Louisiana

The Regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Patterson, Louisiana was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. 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.

6:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING – A discussion was held on Ordinance 2022-12 adopting ordinance to amend and reenact Appendix A – Zoning of Code of Ordinances (including the phrase “and as amended” after reference to the 1976 map). Russel Cremaldi the first amendment is going to add the words “and as amended,” after the number 1976, in section 1.2. The second amendment is we are no

longer using an RT zoning designation for residential trailer variance; it is now called an R3. This is in section 4.1.03. When final draft was prepared, RT was used instead of R3. Only changes are designation from RT to R3 in section 4.1.03. These two amendments do not change anything, it just makes it clear and accurate on what we intended to do. Pat Gordon with South Central Planning gave a brief discussion on the Public Hearing regarding the maps for Ordinance 2022-12. The colors match National and Parish. Commended William Gil for putting a lot of time on city map. We should check to put on map assessor’s website. Explained different colors and zoning.

Mayor Rodney Grogan called the Council Meeting to order.

Rev. Keith Tayloe from Bethel Pentecostal of Patterson, LA led the invocation.

Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Grogan recommended Councilmember Lee Condolle as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Dewey to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and appoint Councilmember Lee Condolle as Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry. Mayor Grogan did roll call.Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Councilmember Lee Condolle abstained.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Midge Bourgeois as City Clerk. Councilmember Mamie Perry made motion to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Midge Bourgeois as City Clerk, seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Angie Landry as Tax Collector. Motion was made by Councilmember Lee Condolle to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Angie Landry as Tax Collector, seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Russel Cremaldi as City Attorney. Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Dewey to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Russel Cremaldi as City Attorney, seconded by Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Edward Jones as City Magistrate. Motion was made by Councilmember Mamie Perry to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Edward Jones as City Magistrate, seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Erica Rose as City Prosecutor. Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Erica Rose as City Prosecutor, seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan recommended to reappoint Providence Engineers as City Engineer. Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey to accept Mayor Grogan’s recommendation and reappoint Providence Engineers as the City Engineer and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to reappoint Providence

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Engineering as City Engineer. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Midge Bourgeois, City Clerk, called roll. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, Miranda Weinbach were present.

City Attorney Russel Cremaldi, Chief Garrett Grogan and C. J. Franklin from Providence Engineering were in attendance.

Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach to dispense with the reading and approve the December 3, 2022, minutes. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to accept the submission of the financial statement.. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan ask council to amend agenda. There are two items that needs to go on agenda to be discussed. The first is to introduce and add the clause “and as amended” on map. The second item is to get a permit for the MLK march. Russel Cremaldi, City Attorney suggested with the amendment to the zoning ordinance we can amend when we take up for the adoption but is the time to go ahead with the MLK march amendment.

Mayor Grogan asked council for a motion to amend the agenda to allow the Patterson New Age Civic Organization to have a MLK march. Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr. Mayor Grogan asked if anyone in audience and the council that would like to make a comment in regard to amend the agenda to allow the march on January 16, 2023. There were no public comments. Mayor Grogan asked for a vote and a motion to amend the agenda. Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey to amend agenda and seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry. Mayor Grogan did roll call. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry, seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey to approve the MLK march on January 16, 2023. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan advised we will speak on behalf of the guest in continuance with can shake for Project Graduation. The reason this is continuance under Unfinish Business for Project Graduation for we gave permission for last month a can shake to be held January 14, 2022, did not want to infringe on new council for new council may not want all the can shakes. Mayor Grogan encourages the can shakes for Project Graduation benefits our high school seniors.

There were no public comments on agenda or subject matters that will be spoken on tonight.

Motion made by Councilmember Lee Condolle, seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey to adopt Ordinance 2022-12 to amend and reenact Appendix A-Zoning of Code of Ordinances.

Russel Cremaldi, City Attorney announced to Mayor and Council there are two amendments he and Pat Gordon with Planning & Zoning discussed right before meeting. The first amendment is going to add the words “and as amended,” after the number 1976, in section 1.2. The second amendment is we are no

longer using an RT zoning designation for residential trailer variance; it is now called an R3. This is in section 4.1.03. When final draft was prepared, RT was used instead of R3. Only changes are designation from RT to R3 in section 4.1.03. These two amendments do not change anything, it just makes it clear and accurate on what we intended to do.

Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach to amend the Ordinance 2022-12 that was originally introduced to include the two amendments.

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Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle to make the two amendments. Mayor Grogan did roll call. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Motion to second the vote to adopt Ordinance amending Appendix A – Zoning of Code of Ordinances as it has just been amended. Motion was made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Lee Condolle. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan announced that Project Graduation is asking for can shakes for February 4th, March 4th, and April 8th. Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by DeMale Bowden, Jr. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Reappointment of Susie Autin Mendoza as Executive Director of the Patterson Housing Authority. Mayor Grogan explained that the Mayor and Council appoints the Director at the recommendation of the Housing Board Authority. The city does not pay the director’s salary, they have nothing to do with their decisions. The Housing Board recommended and agrees to hire Ms. Mendoza for another four years period commencing in December 2022 and terminating December 2026. Ms. Mendoza shall be paid an annual salary of $64,847.68; this is an increase of $4000, her board makes this decision. Patterson Housing Authority Board recommends to Mayor and Council that Ms. Mendoza goes back in for four years. Ms. Mendoza board can submit another letter anytime to terminate. Motion made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by councilmember Lee Condolle to accept the contract that the Patterson Housing Authority Board recommended for another four years. Mayor Grogan did roll call. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan announced appointment of Commissioners to the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural District which consist of nine members, one a business owner, one a city councilmember to serve as advisor. These are not paid positions. Letters were submitted to Mayor Grogan on appointments to this board. Five of the previous board members will return. Slade Sanders will be returning as Chairperson. Past board members returning are Dawn Rentrop, Leslie Marshall, Susie Mendoza, David Bourdier, Joyce Williams. There were three that submitted letters to be on board; Dominique Besse Thomas, Etoyi “Bubba” Jones, and Kasey Sons.

Dominique Besse Thomas introduced herself to the council. She has served in many different capacities in St. Mary Parish. She was on the Morgan City Main Street Board for 12 years, wrote two grants for their board, produced two Nutcrackers to provide monies for the Arts and Humanity and St. Mary Parish Children. This money went to the artist to perform in the public schools. Ms. Thomas was in charge of three Christmas festivals for the City of Morgan City. She looks forward to working on the board.

Etoyi “Bubba” Jones introduced himself to the council. Mr. Jones advised he is more of an action and less words type of guy. Been a residence of Patterson for 47 yrs. He is ready to get things moving for the City of Patterson on the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural Board.

Mayor Grogan thanked Dawn Rentrop on her work in Morey Park and for staying on the board.

Mayor Grogan asked Chairperson Slade Sanders to step forward to let the council know his intent as Chairperson for the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural District. Born and raised in Patterson, Mr. Sanders said Patterson took him under their wings. He spoke of his upbringing, stating it pushed him to be a better person and understand the different walks of life. He advised he fits in, he has learned were to put his positivity, been married 37 years, lived in Lafayette for a while but decided to move back to Patterson. Once a Pattersonian always a Pattersonian, people who don’t live in Patterson, do not understand Patterson. Mr. Sanders stated when he moved back to Patterson he asked Mayor Grogan, where do you need me or where would you like to put me? He felt if he was going to be back in this community he wanted to be a part of it. Looking forward to being the Chairperson for the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural District.

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Mayor Grogan made recommendation for Slade Sanders to be Chairperson for the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural District. The Co-chairperson would be made amongst the board. Mayor Grogan’s recommendation for the board members are Slade Sanders, Dawn Rentrop, Leslie Marshall, Susie Mendoza, David Bourdier, Joyce Williams, Dominique Besse Thomas, Etoyi “Bubba”

Jones, and Kasey Sons. Motion made by Councilmember Lee Condolle and seconded by

Councilmember Ray Dewey. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Mayor Grogan made recommendation for Slade Sanders to be Chairperson for the Patterson Lower Atchafalaya Historic and Cultural District. The Co-chairperson would be made amongst the board. Mayor Grogan’s recommendation for the board members are Slade Sanders, Dawn Rentrop, Leslie Marshall, Susie Mendoza, David Bourdier, Joyce Williams, Dominique Besse Thomas, Etoyi “Bubba” Jones, and Kasey Sons. Motion made by Councilmember Lee Condolle and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

City has an abundance of surplus which consist of computer towers excluding the hard drives. These has to be refused. We will not declare as surplus due to hard drives have been removed. The hard drives will be put in vault. Once approved the trash truck will pick up and dispose of them in the garbage. Motion by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry to refuse Exhibit “A”, list of items with model number, serial number and quantity. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

A Resolution of Respect was read by Mayor Grogan for the late Mr. James “Jimmy” Bernauer. Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by DeMale Bowden, Jr. to adopt a Resolution of Respect for the late Mr. James “Jimmy” Bernauer. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

A Resolution of Respect was read by Mayor Grogan for the late Ms. Geraldine Verdun. Motion made by Councilmember Lee Condolle and seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Motion to grant permit for the MLK march on January 16, 2023 was made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Lee Condolle, Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes.

Steve Bierhorst had no matters to discuss.

Chief Garrett Grogan had no matters to discuss.

Sharon Gillum had no matters to discuss.

Ronald Davis had no matters to discuss.

William Gil, Zoning and Planning thanked the council for approving the maps.

Holden Murray announced that free ACT tutoring will be held at the Patterson Community Center for juniors and seniors in Patterson area. Tutoring most likely will be the last two Saturdays in January and the day before testing in February.

C.J. Franklin of Providence Engineers gave report on street work, also announced that tomorrow, Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. there will be a telephone conference on the pre-construction.

Mr. Russel Cremaldi had no legal matters to discuss.

Slade Sanders advised they were thinking of hosting an event “Date in the Park” on February 11, 2023. With Mardi Gras balls starting up, they will most likely move it to March. There will be an acoustic band,

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food trucks, tables with white clothes, lights. Mr. Sanders mention a meeting with the Louisiana Race Boat Commissioners Association to bring boat races to Patterson.

Beverly Domengeaux, St. Mary Council on Aging, wished everyone a great 2023, how she loves Patterson, asked we do not forget the senior citizens. She thanked everyone for all they do to help her council.

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

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Midge Bourgeois, City Clerk Rodney A. Grogan, Mayor