Minutes -June 6, 2023

Council Meeting

City of Patterson, Louisiana

The meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Patterson, Louisiana was held on Tuesday, June 6, 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.

Mayor Rodney Grogan called the Council Meeting to order.

Deacon Ray Dewey led the invocation.

Councilmember Mamie Perry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Midge Bourgeois, City Clerk, called Roll. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach were present. Absent was Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle.

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

Motion made by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey to dispense with the reading and approve the May 2, 2023, minutes. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

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

Mayor asked the public if there was anything on the agenda they would like to speak about, but there were no public comments.

Community Spotlights Award was given to Amelle Dupre with Cub Pack 438. This young lady picked up more than 20 bags of trash along Tiffany St. in Patterson. Mayor acknowledged Ms. Dupre and thanked this young lady for Keeping America Beautiful, especially the City of Patterson. A standing ovation was given to Amelle Dupre.

Umeeka Richard, along with players from the Elite Basketball Team spoke on having a can shake on June 10, 2023, between 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ms. Richards said that the players had all been playing ball together since they were 7 years old and now, they all go to Patterson High School together. Coach Cordelle said that this team not only coaches the team sports, but it teaches them respect and keeping on the right paths of life. The team as a whole has to raise money for tournaments, their meals and travel. Team will be traveling to Houston for a tournament to qualify for Nationals. Councilmember Mamie Perry made motion to approve the can shake, it was seconded by Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Kristal Hebert, St. Mary Center of Hope spoke on ARC. Ms. Hebert introduced Sarah Charlotte, who has been involved and worked for the center 40 years. The program is important to St. Mary Parish, they provide jobs to individuals with disabilities. Ms. Hebert advised they do a lot in the community, they just had Prom which everyone enjoyed, they have a thrift store in Franklin called Hope Float Boutique. She invited everyone to come out and support St. Mary Center of Hope for these individuals with disabilities work hard and take pride in their work. They love seeing and meeting people. Mayor Grogan presented a check to St. Mary Center of Hope.

Allise Salazar, President of The New Age Patterson Civic Organization, along with Krieg Triggs and ReKeisha Triggs presented a plaque as a Platinum Sponsor to the City of Patterson and also thanked Mayor Grogan, City Council, and Chief of Police Grogan for all they do and to let them know how much they appreciated everything. Ms. Salazar advised on behalf of Outreach, they will be holding their annual box fan drive at Dollar General parking lot on June 10, 2023, plus collecting items for hurricane kits for our elderly residents of Patterson.

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Greg Aucoin, candidate for Clerk of Court, wanted to introduce himself. Mr. Aucoin stated that after 50 years Cliff Dressel will not be returning as St. Mary Parish Clerk of Court and he, Greg Aucoin, wanted to announce that he will be running for Clerk of Court. Mr. Aucoin stated his entire career has been in public service, he was a 16th Judicial Court Judge, served 20 years as an Assistant District Attorney, served 10 as a staff attorney, served as City Attorney for the City of Morgan City. Mr. Aucoin asked that come October, I ask for your vote to serve as St. Mary Parish Clerk of Court.

Pat Gordon with South Central Planning and Zoning stated that they added definitions to the zoning ordinance with descriptions explaining these definitions. Mayor Grogan advised that Planning and Zoning did get the ok from the council to move forward so later on under new business we will get a motion and a second to introduce then next month we will go into a public hearing on this matter.

Motion made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Ray Dewey to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-05, authorizing the city to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Acadian Ambulance, granting a right of use of the Old City Hall building, including term of right of use, consideration, and other terms and conditions. Mayor Grogan made a roll call. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Motion made by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach and seconded by Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr to approve the 2023-2024 Budget. Mayor Grogan made a roll call. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Motion was made by Councilmember DeMale Bowden, Jr. and seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry to adopt the Morgan City Daily Review as the Official Municipal Journal for the City of Patterson as required by state. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Mayor Grogan stated as recommended by Pat Gordon of South Central Planning and Zoning and the commissioners of Planning and Zoning that the city goes ahead and introduce the Ordinance Amending the Article Entitled “ Article II. “Definitions” of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances, City of Patterson, Louisiana, so as to amend, delete, and reorganize the definitions contained therein. Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Dewey and seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Mayor Grogan read the Proclamation of National Gun Violence Month. Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Councilmember Miranda Weinbach. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Chief Garret Grogan had nothing to report.

Steve Bierhorst, Public Works Director had nothing to report.

Sharon Gillum, Water Plant Supervisor had nothing to report.

Terry Space had nothing to report.

City Attorney, Russel Cremaldi had nothing to report.

Mayor Grogan announced that Main Street will host Moonlight on the River this Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Morey Park. There will be a food truck and beverages will be sold.

C.J. Franklin with Providence Engineering gave his report. As per Mr. Franklin regarding the lift stations, advised that Chelsea Lambert was here and met with Steve Bierhorst to review everything, plus met with Mayor Grogan. Mayor Grogan advised a meeting on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. Mayor Grogan advised that the money on table is to rehab the lift stations, Mayor Grogan prefers not to rehab to go with options of larger pumps. The reason is looking at future growth.

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Clay Higgins Office – we asked for 1.5 million dollars, it has been awarded; we do have money coming in from the State of Louisiana in the amount of around 2.5 million dollars so why should we rehab these stations. Advised if we are to get close to 4 million dollars the city might as well go with the state of the art, you want to go with the growth of the city, no backward. The money from

Washington, DC requires a 25% match, the reason the match is due to our income coming back from the Census as $48,000, very few people participated in the Census, so we are not considered poverty. Moving forward, there is money out there, but everything has to be shovel ready. C.J. Franklin The Clear Lien Certificate has been received and Pay Request No. 3 (Final and Retainage) has been accepted by Barrier Construction for the remaining amount of $33,931.59 for the 2022 Street Improvements. Need approval for payment and signatures. Motion was made by Councilmember Mamie Perry and seconded by Ray Dewey. Councilmembers DeMale Bowden, Jr., Ray Dewey, Mamie Perry, and Miranda Weinbach voted yes. Mayor Pro Tem Lee Condolle was absent.

Mayor Grogan made the following announcements:

* June 16th – 17th, 2023 – 100 Blackmen Juneteenth and Soul Food Festival in Franklin, LA
* June 26, 2023 – Parish Wide Town Hall Meeting with Louisiana Housing Corporation from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for all first-time home buyers, builders, and developers to financing for at least 1% interest.
* The council meeting for July has been changed to July 11, 2023, since the first Tuesday of the month is July 4th holiday.
* Mayor Grogan thanked Terry Space who is our mechanic along with being our Streets/Drainage Supervisor and his wife Janet donated 70 dozen fresh yard eggs to the Council of Aging.

Mrs. Beverly Domengeaux w/ Council on Aging announced they are looking for a driver. Mrs. Domengeaux congratulates Mayor Grogan for thinking of the future of the City of Patterson.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, Councilmember Ray Dewey made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Mamie Perry. The Council unanimously agreed. Mayor Pro-Tem was absent.

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Midge Bourgeois, City Clerk Rodney A. Grogan, Mayor