

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2024

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall—13600 Aydell Lane on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jimmy Watson, followed by prayer led by Councilman Eric Cook. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, commenced with the roll call of the council members.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Milton-Major and Richard Wales.

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt/approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024 council meeting. There were no comments or objections.

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approve said minutes.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The Walker High School JROTC was afforded special recognition during the September council meeting. Mayor Watson introduced Lt. Colonel USMC, Jason K. Tubbs who is MCJROTC Sr. Marine Instructor. (Retired) Lt. Col. Tubbs led the WHS Marine Corps to a victorious first place position in the Marine Corps Raider Nationals in Boswell, PA April 26-27, 2024. Lt. Col. Tubbs gave high commendations to the WHS Corp for their remarkable marks in the 5K mountain run, the obstacle course, one mile casualty rescue, a Raider fitness challenge, and the one-rope bridge. These events were judged based on correct techniques and timeliness. With the assistance of 1st Sgt. Johnson, the cadets present were awarded framed certificates and commemorative City of Walker coins by Mayor Jimmy Watson.

The City of Walker finance director, Mike Cotton, reviewed the July 2024 finance report before the council. He reported sales tax increased by 1% and gas revenue increased by 15.5%.

Council member, David Clark, introduced an ordinance for the Issuance of \$1.25 Taxable Revenue Bond (LDH), Series 2024A without discussion. This ordinance will be on the October 2024 agenda.

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, brought the following resolutions before the members of the council:

Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign on Behalf of the City of Walker; Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Application for Manganese Filtration System, Well 5 at Our Lady of the Lake

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Loan Application 100A to DHH and signatory authority for all other relative contracts and documents for the needed improvements to the City of Walker Water System LA1063017 was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Resolution Requesting Authorization to Declare a Vehicle
as Surplus Property

Mr. Etheridge requested the approval of the council to declare FA#1027, a 2018 Dodge 4500 Series 6.7 Cummins Diesel as surplus and to depose them in accordance with Louisiana State law.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, the above resolution was approved as requested.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

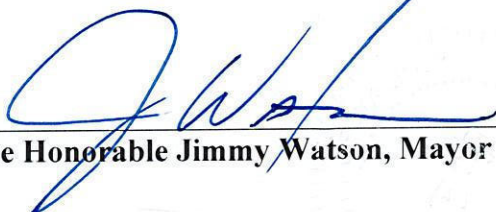
ABSENT: None

Upon request by Mayor Watson, Tammy Payton read an Honorary Proclamation declaring September 16 – 20, 2024, National Adult Education & Family Literacy Week. The City of Walker is a proud participant in the Educate & Elevate Campaign that supports efforts to improve educational opportunities for adults. This proclamation was signed and sealed by Mayor Watson on Monday, September 9, 2024.

Additional Comments

- ◆ Mayor Watson announced the rescheduling of the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall due to upcoming inclement weather conditions. The wall is projected to return in two weeks. Details will be posted on the City of Walker’s website and Facebook.
- ◆ The Mentor Benefit Banquet is also cancelled. The rescheduled date will be announced.
- ◆ Mayor Watson informed every one of the storm preparedness efforts the city is making in anticipation of the bad weather expected.
- ◆ A slideshow of the new pavilion facility at Sidney Hutchinson Park was provided courtesy of Council member, Scarlett Major.
- ◆ It was announced that a billboard recognizing Brian Thomas, Jr. is now on display. Thomas is #7 with the Jacksonville Jaguars.
- ◆ Richard Wales commented on how impressed he was with the JROTC and the positive things our youth are accomplishing. Our city should continue to honor and acknowledge them.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn the September 9, 2024 council meeting.


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:


Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk