

# CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 9, 2021

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Watson followed with prayer led by Eric Cook. After the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, the municipal clerk called the roll.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2021 council meeting.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENCE: None

Mayor Watson kick started the August 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting by recognizing and presenting council members Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major, and Richard Wales with service awards for the four to five terms each have been elected and served as public officials for the City of Walker. These awards were provided through the Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA) during 2021 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The June 2021 financial report was presented by Mayor Watson in the absence of financial director, Mike Cotton. It was reported that the net profit for the period ending 06/30/2021 was \$439,820. Mayor Watson advised the council members to contact Mr. Cotton should there be any questions.

Ms. Major introduced Amendment, Chapter 4 for Animals and Fowl: Animal Fighting Paraphernalia. Ms. Major also introduced Amendment, Chapter 4 for Obstruction of Justice.

Mr. Clark introduced Budget Amendment 5 for Improvements for Parks and Recreation and Budget Amendment 5 for Improvements for Parks and Recreation.

Chief of Police, David Addison, presented to the council members a request to approve the change in status of Raven Stafford to upgrade her employment from part-time to full-time.

Upon motion by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Cook, Raven Stafford employment status was approved and thereby upgraded to full-time.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Addison presented Pfc. John Taylor before the members of the council to recommend his change in rank to Corporal.

Upon motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the council approved Pfc. John Taylor change in rank to Corporal.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Addison presented Pfc. Jeremy Milton before the members of the council to recommend his change of rank Corporal.

Upon motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Cook, the council approved Pfc. Jeremy Milton change in rank to Corporal.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Addison presented Pfc. Jonathan Oliver before the members to recommend his change in rank to Corporal.

Upon motion by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Wales, the council approved Pfc. Jonathan Oliver change in rank to Corporal.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

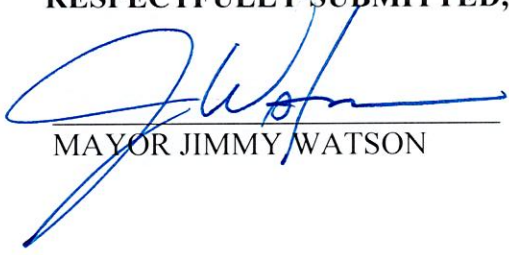
Jamie Etheridge reported the opening of the Elm Street bridge scheduled for Tuesday, August 10, 2021. He also reported that the overlay projects for Travis Street and Ball Park Road are about 99% complete with the exception of a few touch-ups.

Kresten Brown of Forte and Talbalda, provided an update on a \$50,000 grant through the Lake Pontchartrain Restoration Program. The grant funds are to be utilized to address the Sewer Vulnerability Project to replace sewer manholes throughout the City of Walker. Also, Mr. Brown informed the council that phase 1 of the South I12 Sewer Project will soon be underway. This project will tie the gravity pump system into the existing system. Tammy Payton posed a question to Mr. Brown regarding any overlay plans for Johnson Street and the corner of Johnson and Sycamore. Mr. Brown stated that he did not have any information on any future overlay plans. However, Jamie Etheridge addressed the inquiry by stating that he and the mayor have evaluated the condition of the street and have discussed plans to address it.

Ms. Wendy Montalbano presented before the council the Dude Solutions Program. This software aids in smarter maintenance operations. Its purpose is to consolidate information on all pending, open, and completed projects in the city. This allows not only visibility but, it monitors work progress. Critical insight can be gained that afford users the data to make better decisions. This improves work and communications in the Department of Public Works. Ms. Montalbano offered her assistance to council members to set up their access credentials into the program.

With no further business to discuss, it was motioned by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook to adjourn.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



MAYOR JIMMY WATSON

ATTEST:



Tammy Payton - Municipal Clerk