

**CITY OF WALKER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

January 11, 2021

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on Monday, January 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jimmy Watson and Council members: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major and Richard Wales.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Wes Courtney followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2020 council meeting.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Mayor Jimmy Watson opened the meeting by announcing that the elected officials will be sworn in by the City Attorney, Bobby King. Mr. Bobby King administered the oaths to all council members, Mr. Richard Wales, Mr. David Clark, Mr. Eric Cook and Mr. Gary Griffin as well as Police Chief, Mr. David Addison. Mr. Jimmy Watson congratulated everyone on another four years. Mayor Watson announced that he and Mrs. Major have already been sworn in prior to the meeting and that the Mayor Pro Temp will now be nominated.

Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to nominate Mrs. Scarlett Major as Mayor Pro Temp.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Mayor Watson stated that he now requests approval of the appointed officials for the next four years. Mayor Watson announced that he is appointing Mrs. Tammy Payton as City Clerk. She was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Richard Wales made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to approve the appointment of Mrs. Tammy Payton as City Clerk.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Mayor Watson announced that he suggests appointment of Mrs. Janice Valenti as Clerk of Court. She was the previous Clerk of Court, Jan McDonald's assistant.

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major to approve the appointment of Ms. Janice Valenti as Clerk of Court.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Watson suggests appointment of Bobby King for City Attorney/City Prosecutor. He has been with the City of Walker now for five years.

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to appoint Mr. Bobby King as City Attorney/City Prosecutor.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Watson suggests appointment of Todd Caruso as Court Magistrate for Mayor's Court.

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to appoint Mr. Todd Caruso as Court Magistrate for Walker Mayor's Court.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. Gary Griffin Introduced the Ordinance to update/amend employee pay schedule to be heard at a public hearing at the next council meeting.

Mrs. Scarlett Major Introduced an Ordinance to Amend Ch. 19/Utility Impact Fees/Tap Fees to be heard at public hearing at the next council meeting.

Chief Addison announced that he would like to promote Doug Mincin from Corporal to Sergeant. He stated that Mr. Mincin has 25 years of experience and he is currently over the Detective Division. He is a crime analyst and provides stats to the FBI. He is also a field sobriety instructor, certified homicide investigator and crisis negotiator.

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to promote Doug Mincin from Corporal to Sergeant.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Chief Addison recommends hiring Ms. Melanie Godwin as a new crossing guard. He stressed crossing guards are very important to the department. Ms. Godwin lives in Denham Springs and works at Walker Elementary School in the cafeteria. She has submitted her applications with the city and has passed the drug screening.

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to hire Ms. Melanie Godwin as a part time Crossing Guard.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Chief Addison recommends hiring Mr. Michael Kirby as a crossing guard. He lives in Walker and is retired from driving in the transportation industry and was in the Army from 1976-1982. He also worked with St. James Parish Sheriff's office from 1992-2006 in which he was promoted to Deputy Sergeant and has experience directing traffic. Mr. Kirby has gone through the application process and drug screening.

Mr. David Clark made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to hire Mr. Michael Kirby as a Crossing Guard.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Watson announced that Mike Cotton will provide the November 2020 Financial Report. Mr. Cotton addressed the council stating there was an increase in sales tax and a decrease in Utility revenue for November so the net amount is about \$27,000 in our biggest revenues. We will start on December this week and then start on the closeouts in the weeks coming up. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to see him.

Mayor Watson recognized Boy Scout Troop 158 for attending the meeting.

Mayor Watson also brought to the attention of the council that there has been some vandalism at our parks and this will be on the next agenda to discuss further. Additional security cameras will be installed to protect the investment of the park as over \$2 million dollars have been spent for improvements. Hopefully by bringing awareness to the council and public we can prevent further vandalism.

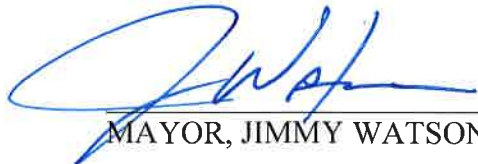
With no further business to discuss, Mr. Richard Wales made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to adjourn.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

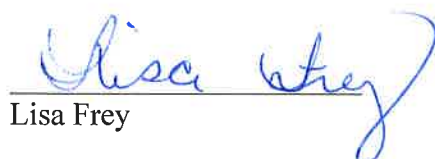
Absent: None

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



MAYOR, JIMMY WATSON

ATTEST:



Lisa Frey