

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2021

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on Monday, March 8, 2021 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 Mr. Griffin, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2021 council meeting.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Livingston Parish Clerk of Court, Jason Harris, addressed the council members and public with a formal introduction. He rendered a brief oration of the functions of the Clerk of Court office by first admonishing his predecessor, Tom Sullivan, for a remarkable tenure as the former Livingston Parish Clerk of Court.

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, presented the January 2021 Financial Report. The net profit before transfers was (\$882,682) for the period ending 01/31/2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook to enter public hearing.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Jamie Etheridge presented to the Mayor and the City Council members a request to amend Budget Amendment No. 1 to purchase a new utility billing software to replace the existing billing software, CUSI. This billing system has become antiquated thereby, making it difficult to get technical support when necessary.

1. It was motioned by Mr. Wales, seconded by Ms. Major, to approve Budget Amendment No.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Wales, to close the public hearing.

Yeas: Major, Wales, Griffin, Clark, Cook

Nays: None

Absent: None

A resolution was presented by Mr. Griffin to approve the new Waste Management contract. The contract is a five (5) year contract effective February 28, 2021 to February 28, 2026. It was motioned by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve this resolution.

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

A resolution was presented by Mr. Cook for an ordinance to create a new water/gas customer category for the Community Development District.

Upon a motion by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approve the Utility Servitude for Whispering Springs Regulator Station site. This will entail moving the regulator from one site to another.

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

Mayor Jimmy Watson read a proclamation declaring the month of March “**Flood Awareness Month**”.

The Livingston Leadership Class of 2021 presented a rendering design which will honor all first responders—past, present, and future. It will be called the First Responders Monument located at Sidney Hutchinson Park next to the Safe House. Nancy Kimble and her fellow classmates thanked the City of Walker for committing to contribute ¼ of toward the cost for the monument. Each City Council member agreed to pledge \$100 to the First Responders Monument project.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Danny Achord of 13346 Pendarvis Lane addressed the Walker Council about the existence of lights and a power-grid that is on his property that services the public. He cited several past incidents such as blown transformers which still raises serious concerns. Mr. Achord stated that Entergy told him the lights belong to the City of Walker. Mayor Watson acknowledged that Mr. Achord had spoken to him previously about his grievances but, assumed the matter was resolved. Bobby King stated that he contacted Entergy to determine if it’s an issue of servitude or a ride-away. This matter may possibly require the DOTD involvement.

Mayor Watson announced that the Safe House is open and in use for activities like Biddy ball, Pickle ball, and line dancing. Future projects such as partnering with The Council on Aging for food distribution and other activities are in progress. Exercise equipment will be installed by Our of Lady of the Lake. Also, the new playground is almost completed at Sidney Hutchinson Park. A ribbon cutting for both will soon be announced. Lastly, Mayor Watson stated that the projected date to move into the new city hall is the end of April.

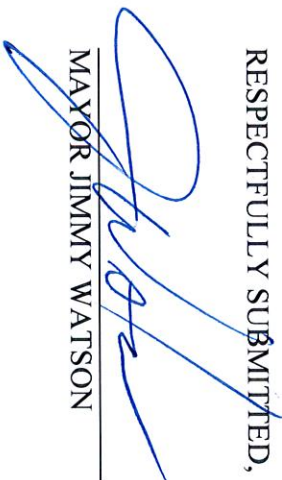
With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



MAYOR JIMMY WATSON

ATTEST:



Tammy Payton - Municipal Clerk