

**CITY OF WALKER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

October 8, 2018

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on October 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Present were Mayor Jimmy Watson, Council members David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major. Absent was Richard Wales.

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. David Clark to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2018 meeting as presented.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

Nays: None

Absent: Wales

Mayor Jimmy Watson recognized Pastor Edgar Lee Thomas for his 20 years of leadership and service to Greater St. Mark Baptist Church and presented Pastor Thomas with a key to the City. Mayor Watson stated that Pastor Thomas along with his wife Mrs. Marvette Thomas have hearts dedicated to God and have been great assets to the church and the community of Walker.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an Ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the November meeting for a bond regarding the proposed City Hall.

Mr. Larry Williams presented the DPW report stating that from June 1 – October 1, 2018 the Gas Department changed out twenty-seven (27) gas meters; set eighty-seven (87) new gas meters; forty-two (42) new services; received four thousand one hundred nineteen (4,119) locate tickets from LA One Call; The gas department has made a tie in for Audubon Lake Subdivision off of Cane Market Road to enhance pressure for the subdivision. Also installed was 1,630 feet of four-inch poly gas pipe to help loop system off of Simms Road and pick up about 22 lots for upcoming subdivision; there is a contractor relocating a gas line along Florida Blvd and Juban Road for the upcoming new round-about; also a contractor is ready to bore I-12 just east of Juban Road to enhance pressure below the interstate.

Mr. Jimmy Watson stated Walker has the second largest gas system in the state; recognize Larry and appreciated him.

Mr. Mike Cotton presented the Financial Report stating that all reports are current as of August 2018.

Mr. Clark introduced Budget Amendment No. 7 to transfer \$500,000 between funds.

Mr. Christopher Piper, who petitioned the council to address the proposed Dollar General location, stated that he lives at 30458 JoAnn Drive in Walker and he thanked the Mayor and council for allowing him to speak. He expressed his concern and the concerns of the residents in Ball Park Subdivision of the zoning of the land to subdivide property for the proposed Dollar General. He states there is a great concern of traffic issues to increase, etc. He expresses there are issues of safety, health and general welfare concerns on Walker North as well as flood concerns due to the elevation of the proposed building. He requests that the site plan from Dorsey Development be rejected based on the issues he expressed as well as the property not being zoned correctly and discrepancies on the zoning map.

Mr. Bobby King recommends a land use study for the area.

Several citizens were present and voiced their views in opposition to the Dollar General being built.

Following public comments, Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to approve the Resolution for the site plan by Dorsey Development for the proposed Dollar General.

Yeas: Clark, Griffin, Major  
Nays: Cook  
Absent: Wales

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. David Clark to enter into a Public Hearing.

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

Following a public hearing, Mr. David Clark made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to approve Budget Amendment #5 for \$7,500.00 to purchase a 2011 Ford F-150 truck from the Livingston Parish Tourism.

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

Following a public hearing, Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to approve Budget Amendment #6 for \$15,000.00 to be used along with insurance proceeds for the purchase of two replacement police units.

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

Following a public hearing, Mr. David Clark made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major to approve condemnation for Joseph Harper Heirs – 30230 Walker North – Trailer 1.

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

Following a public hearing, Mr. David Clark made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major to approve condemnation for Joseph Harper Heirs – 30230 Walker North – Trailer 2.

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

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to end the public hearing and return to the regular agenda.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

Nays: None

Absent: Wales



Chief David Addison presented the police report indicating that there were 886 citations, 1,213 calls for service and 193 arrests were performed in the month of August 2018.

Mr. Etheridge stated that Forte & Tablada has drawn up the plans for the Dog Park and may begin work in the next 30-40 days.

Mr. Etheridge also mentioned the concerns of the citizens about Sidney Hutchinson Park being locked and restricting walking access to the walking trail; he stated that there is currently construction at the park and there is a road being relocated using City Labor and soon there will be another area for access to the park and the walking trail.

The recycle bin has been removed from Ball Park Road as the bin was being used improperly and being contaminated. The City is considering citywide recycle days throughout the year. Waste Management is not interested in providing individual recycling service due to the expense.

The Keith Street bridge project is in progress and a jurisdictional determination has been submitted to the Corp of Engineers which is a 90-day process they are into about 30 days of so far.

Mr. Etheridge concluded his updates stating that the project at Brown Street is in the final stages and once approved the projects will go out for bid; just waiting to hear back from FEMA at this point.




There being no additional comments and no additional business to discuss, Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major to adjourn.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

Nays: None

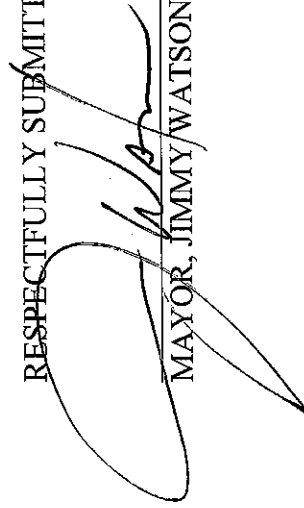
Absent: Wales

ATTEST:

  
Myra Streeter, Clerk  
MMC; CMA; CAA



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

  
MAYOR, JIMMY WATSON