

MINUTES

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Springhill, Louisiana met in regular session in the Council Chambers at Springhill City Hall on Monday, November 12, 2024 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor W. Ray Huddleston presiding.

PRESENT: Dimettera Frazier, Dennis Smith, Stacey Willard, Mike Whitlock, and Derek Melancon, Aldermen.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston called the meeting to order.

Alderman Dimettera Frazier opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on October 14, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Stacey Willard to approve the financial statement for October 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Kathy Babers, Community Liason Representative from Congressman Mike Johnson's Office was first on the agenda but was not able to be here today so she will be back at a later date.

Karen Guice with Webster Parish Council on Aging was present to address the Mayor and Board of Aldermen concerning the December 7, 2024 Voting Ballot to approve a small property tax of 1.75 mills to help Webster Parish Senior Citizens.

The funds derived from this millage tax will be used for the purpose of constructing, improving maintaining, and operating and supporting the many programs and services supporting the elderly in the Parish through the Webster Parish Council on Aging. Some of the services provided are: Congregate Meals, Meals on Wheels, Recreation, Homemaker Services, Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, Information Resources, Transportation, and Community Outreach.

Webster Parish Council on Aging's mission statement is to help enable our seniors to stay self sufficient as long as possible, so that they can live a productive life in their own homes and maintain their independence as they age.

Ms. Guice went on to state that unless this millage tax is passed some of these services may be in jeopardy of being eliminated. These are very important services that are provided to the Senior Citizens of our Parish and we thank you for your vote.

Main Street Manager Amie Poladian reminded all business owners that the next round of quarterly Municipal Grants is kicking off on Friday, October 18, 2024 and runs through January 15, 2025. These are façade grants to help with the exteriors of downtown business owners.

Amie thanked everyone who helped set up and participated in Food Truck Friday Night. It was a great event.

The last event for the year is Shop Small Business Saturday, November 30 which promotes shopping at home with our local businesses and a lot of our Main Street Businesses will be open late to help celebrate the Christmas on Main Activities that kick off with the Chamber of Commerce Annual Christmas Parade starting at 5 PM. Immediately following the parade at 6 PM there will be the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Clock Tower Triangle. After the tree lighting ceremony there will be lots of free activities for everyone to enjoy. There will be Face Painting, Caricatures, Barrell Train Rides, Games with Prizes, Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, Bounce House, and there will be multiple food vendors on site with a variety of treats.

Come on out and enjoy all the wonderful Christmas on Main Activities!

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to authorize the Mayor to enter into an engagement letter with Cook and Morehart for AUDIT FYE 06/30/2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

Derek Melancon introduced an Ordinance for pay raise increases for the Mayor and Police Chief to compensate them for the use of their personal vehicles.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Stacey Willard to consider the bid from Tim Smith Construction in the amount of \$10,600 for cleaning out the drainage ditch between 3rd Street SW and Highway 371,

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Huddleston presented three quotes for the fencing of the Westside Drainage Pond. They were as follows:

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|---------------------------------|----------|
| Everstrong Fencing Company----- | \$20,698 |
| Lynch's Lawn & Fence----- | \$12,360 |
| Nelson Equipment----- | \$18,000 |

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to accept the low quote from Lynch's Lawn & Fence in the amount of \$12,360.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the quotes from Nash Security Systems for the security camera systems at the CAC Building - \$3,300, Eastside Rec and Pool Building - \$5,750, and Westside Community Center - \$2,175.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to approve the Police Chief's recommendation to hire Dominick Mims as a patrolman.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Mike Whitlock to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to accept resignation letters from Charles Edgell and Jimmy Faulkner.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to pay the monthly vendor bills for October 2024 in the amount of \$140,635.55.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: Alderman Derek Melancon thanked Amie and the City Workers for all their hard work for the Food Truck Friday Night Event.

Mayor Huddleston thanked the City Workers, Mike Vercher, and a lot of volunteers for all their hard work for getting all the Christmas decorations ready for the City's Christmas Season. Also, a big Thank You to Christmas Extravaganza Committee for the new Christmas Tree over by Highway 371.

Alderman Dimettera Frazier invited everyone to the first Community Christmas Concert at the Westside Community Center on Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 4 PM.

North South Contractor Ed Bankhead will be putting up decorations for the outside of the building and they are in partnership with First Baptist Cullen for the inside.

No further announcements the meeting was adjourned.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor