

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, December 9, 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 Mike Whitlock opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on November 12, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the financial statement for November 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Main Street Manager Amie Poladian stated that Christmas on Main was awesome. She went on to thank the Chamber of Commerce for partnering with Main Street to host this event for the last 36 years. Thanks went out to the Christmas Extravaganza Committee, the Public Works Department, for all their hard work making the city look so pretty for Christmas, and Teen Youth Challenge Group for helping with the crowd control at all the activities for Christmas on Main. Thanks again to the Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas Parade, Cocoa Crawl and Mistletoe Market which brought a lot of business to the city and was well attended.

The Paint at the Park Party that was held in October made it into the National Main Street Newsletter and was also recognized by Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser's Office and Springhill was included in his state direct newsletter.

Frank Lofton the new owner of the former Branch Bros. Building worked alongside Amie and applied for a state level grant and they got news recently that his building was awarded a no match grant in the amount of \$55,000.00. You will soon see in 2025 improvements being made on that building.

Work is continuing on the Department of Transportation Grant which is due tomorrow.

January 2025 will be ramping up for the Mardi Gras Event. It will be a night time lighted parade on February 7, 2025 followed by a party with food trucks, jugglers, stilt walkers and other things.

GG's is having a Sip and Shop Party on December 12, 2024. It is a classy party. Everyone is invited from 6 PM – 8 PM.

LAMA is selling gumbo tonight at the Farmers Market for anyone that doesn't want to cook.

John French with JBF Engineering had recommendations concerning the equipment bid opening conducted on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. This was discussed in length at the Pre-Council Meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 4 PM. Mayor Huddleston stated that the bids were broke into 5 different packets so he was calling for a vote on each of the five packets.

Packet A – Blower Package – There were two bids for the blower package. The bids were Gulf States Engineering Co, Inc. in the amount of \$720,000.00 and QSM in the amount of \$721,985.00. Even though Gulf States Engineering Co, Inc. was the low bidder on this packet, it was the recommendation from Mayor Huddleston to go with QSM as they had a local representative in the area and they also had the bids on some of the other pieces of equipment and he felt that it would be in the city's best interest to go with a local representative and there was not much difference in the amount of money involved.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to go with the bid from QSM in the amount of \$721,985.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Packet B – Sluice Gates – There was one bid from Golden Harvest, Inc. represented by QSM in the amount of \$278,150.00.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to go with the bid from Golden Harvest, Inc. in the amount of \$278,150.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Packet C – Disk Filter – There was only one bid from Nuove Energie USA in the amount of \$495,000.00

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the bid from Nuove Energie USA in the amount of \$495,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Packet D – Bar Screen and Compactor – There was only one bid from Headworks, Inc. represented by QSM in the amount of \$187,953.00.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the bid from Headworks, Inc. in the amount of \$187,953.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Packet E – Diesel Generator and ATS – There were three bids for Packet E. The first bid was from Nixon Power Services for a Kohler generator in the amount of \$245,740.00, the second bid was from Taylor Power Systems for a Taylor generator in the amount of \$195,188.01, and the third bid was from Precision Mechanical Power Services, Inc. for a Generac generator in the amount of \$356,441.41. It was the recommendation from John French, JBF Engineering to not accept the Taylor Power Services, Inc. for the Taylor generator as the City has confirmed issues with the existing Taylor generator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to approve the bid from Nixon Power Services for the Kohler generator because it was more dependable than the Taylor generator.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to approve the list of utility write-offs totaling \$11,395.34.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the 2025 alcohol license renewals.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to approve the Police Chief's recommendation to hire Cheyenne Gilley and Amandia Hamilton as patrol officers.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to pay the monthly vendor bills for November 2024 in the amount of \$196,127.03

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: Mayor Huddleston stated that he attended the Community Christmas Concert held at the Westside Community Center on Saturday night and it was a super nice event. It was well attended with over 100 people there and he wanted to commend Alderman Frazier for the good job that she did putting it together and it was a really nice event.

Alderman Frazier went on to add that State Representative Wayne McMahan, School Board Member Debbie Thomas, Webster Parish Police Juror Allen Gilbert, and Luster Coleman representing Sheriff Jason Parker were also in attendance along with Mayor and Mrs. Huddleston.

No further announcements the meeting was adjourned.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor