

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 8, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 8th day of December, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings City Council Chambers, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana with President Stephen VanHook and a quorum present.

Jennings City Council Members present: Carolyn Simon, District A; Johnny Armentor, District B; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: Trey Myers, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D

The Prayer was led by Ms. Simon and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Armentor.

It was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous voice vote to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the November 10, 2015 Regular Meeting.

First was to introduce Ordinance No. 1707 – an ordinance to increase the Department of Motor Vehicles service fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per transaction and repealing all or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. Mayor Terry Duhon stated that the original service fee was set in 1996 and there have been no increases since that time. As part of an agreement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to remain in Jennings, the City had to provide and maintain a building for them. This also includes contents of the building, utilities, cleaning and all maintenance. These costs have increased over the years resulting in a deficit for the City. After no further comments or discussion, it was moved by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous voice vote to **INTRODUCE** ORDINANCE NO. 1707.

The first item in other business was to discuss the status of the home located at 637 Second Street. Attorney David Marcantel stated that he tried to contact the owners of the property, Alfred & Tonya White, to inform them about the condition of their home located at 637 Second Street. His certified letters were returned to him as unclaimed. Marcantel stated that he had placed an advertisement in the newspaper and as of now had received no communication from them and had exhausted all measures of contact. Mayor Duhon provided the Council with pictures of the fire damaged home. City Attorney Kevin Millican stated that at this point he recommended that the Council turn the property over to the City for demolition and cleanup. After no further comments or discussion, it was moved by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous voice vote to turn the property over to the Mayor's office for demolition and cleanup.

Next, Council President Stephen VanHook read the Public Notice Announcement that notice is hereby given in compliance with La. R.S. 42:19.1 that the City Council of the City of Jennings, Louisiana, will meet in open and public session on the 12th day of January, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the regular meeting place of City Council, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana, to consider calling an election to be held on April 9, 2016, in the City of Jennings for renewal of certain ad valorem property taxes for the purpose of support, maintenance and upkeep of the Carnegie Public Library and for the purpose of improving and maintaining public streets, parks and bridges within the City. Public Notice will be published in *Jennings Daily News* on December 9, 2015.

Then, Council President Stephen VanHook read the Public Notice Announcement that notice is hereby given in compliance with La. R.S. 42:19.1 that the City Council of the City of Jennings, Louisiana, will meet in open and public session on the 12th day of January, 2016 at

5:30 p.m. at the regular meeting place of said City Council, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana, to consider calling an election to be held on April 9, 2016, in the City of Jennings, Louisiana, to authorize levy and collection of an additional 20-year, ½ percent sales and use tax within the City for the purpose of funding debt service, operational, payroll and capital needs of the City. Public Notice will be published in *Jennings Daily News* on December 9, 2015.

Next on items to add to the Agenda was Resolution No. 1706A – a resolution affirming support for application to the Governor’s Office of Community Development, 2015-2016 Local Government Assistance Program for a grant to be used for the Safety Building Renovations/Improvements. Motion was made by Ms. Simon to add Resolution No. 1706A to the agenda because the City had just received the application letter and grant applications must be received by January 8, 2016. The next Council meeting is January 12, 2016 which would be after the deadline for the grant. Mr. Armentor seconded the motion. After no public comment, motion carried by unanimous voice vote to add Resolution No. 1706A to the Agenda.

Mayor Duhon informed the Council that we had applied for this same grant last year and was notified in August that we had been approved for \$18,800 to be used for the renovation of the Safety Building. Since the City could benefit from additional monies for the renovation of the Safety Building, we will apply again this year. After no further discussion or comment, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1706A**.

With no further business, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous voice vote to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on December 8, 2015 of the Jennings City Council at 5:42 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz
Barbara Lantz, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council