

REGULAR MEETING

January 14, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 14th day of January, 2020 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; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: None

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

It was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1755G – a resolution of the City of Jennings authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development obligating the City to pay 10% of the construction cost, and assume all legal liability for, and all maintenance and operating cost, of subject lighting system (Intersection of I-10 and LA 26). It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1755G. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that last month the council approved a generic lighting resolution with DOTD, but specific contracts are in place with each exit, therefore a resolution for each is necessary. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1755G. Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Resolution No. 1755H – a resolution of the City of Jennings authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development obligating the City to pay 10% of the construction cost, and assume all legal liability for, and all maintenance and operating cost, of subject lighting system (Intersection of I-10 and LA 97). It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1755H. After no comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1755H. Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Resolution No. 1755I – a resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Jennings to donate surplus patrol units of the City of Jennings Police Department to the Town of Welsh Police Department. It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc and seconded by Mr. LeJeune to introduce and adopt Resolution No. 1755I. Mayor Guinn stated that these two vehicles were declared surplus several months ago and the Welsh Police Department recently contacted the city for assistance of spare vehicles. Since these vehicles do not serve any purpose for Jennings, we are happy to help other local municipalities. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1755I. Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None

Attorney David Marcantel discussed the status of demo and cleanup of the home at 1326 South Main Street belonging to Karllis Davis. There was fire damage to the home and the demo notice was sent on 3/20/2019 with no response. Mr. Davis had not shown up at the council meeting in

November so the matter was turned over to Marcantel's office. Mr. Marcantel stated that he tried to make notification by a certified letter to the address on the Jeff Davis Parish tax accessor's roll and the letter came back unclaimed. Marcantel then sent another certified letter to another address that was on file and that letter came back unclaimed also.

Next, Mr. Marcantel discussed the status of the demo & cleanup of the home at 1331 Penny Street belonging to Gerard Frey. The first demo notice was sent on 9/20/2019 with no response. Mr. Frey had not shown up at the council meeting in November so the matter was turned over to Marcantel's office. Marcantel reported that Mr. Frey had bought the property at a tax sale and the lien redemption period has not expired. He sent certified letters to Cary Turner the former owner of the property and Gerard Frey. Both certified letters were signed as received, but no one had contacted him.

Then, Mr. Marcantel discussed the status of the demo & cleanup of the home at 110 E. Willis Street belonging to Joseph & Cheryl Clark. The home had fire damage and a demo notification was sent on 9/25/19 with no response. The Clarks had not show up at the council meeting in November so the matter was turned over to Marcantel's office. Mr. Marcantel had contact with Mr. Clark who informed him that he expected to get insurance proceeds and the matter was in litigation. Marcantel advised Mr. Clark to come to the council meeting, but he was not in attendance. After no other comment or questions, it was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote **TO CONDEMN** the structures at 1326 South Main Street belonging to Karllis Davis, 1331 Penny Street belonging to Gerard Frey & Cary Turner and 110 East Willis Street belonging to Joseph & Cheryl Clark and to send order to the Mayor's office to proceed with demolition and cleanup.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to authorize the Mayor to sign to accept the Advanced Meter Reading System Phase 2 Project (Ferguson Waterworks) as substantially complete. Mayor Guinn stated that this project had greatly increased the ability to read the meters throughout the city. There were several inactive meters that were not bid out in this phase so, the City will replace these meters before we begin the next and final phase. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote **TO AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to sign to accept the Advanced Meter Reading System Phase 2 Project as substantially complete.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor to authorize the Mayor to sign to accept the Safety Building Exterior Improvements Projects (L.K. Breaux & Associates, Inc.) as substantially complete. Mayor Guinn stated that this project had definitely enhanced the downtown area and he had received many compliments. He thanked the council and Architects Southwest for seeing the project through completion. After no other comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote **TO AUTHORIZE** the Mayor to sign to accept the Safety Building Exterior Improvements Projects as substantially complete.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to go into Executive Session with respect to prospective litigation.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote to come out of Execution Session and go into Regular Session.

At that point it was motioned by Mr. LeJeune and seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote **TO AUTHORIZE** the Mayor's office, attorneys and engineers to negotiate with the Bonding Company to recoup administrative and attorney fees and to

forgo liquidated damages.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas voice vote to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on January 14, 2020 of the Jennings City Council at 6:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council