

REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 14th day of July 2026, 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; Wayne Ledbetter, District B; Carl Benoit, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: None

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

It was moved by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Special Meeting.

Ordinance No. 1834 – an ordinance to adopt budget amendments for fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. It was motioned by Mr. Ledbetter and seconded by Ms. Simon to introduce Ordinance No. 1834. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that this was to itemize funding for Leroy Davis Park per request at the budget hearing. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1834.

Next was to elect the City Council President for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. It was motioned by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by 4 yeas of voice vote of those in attendance with Stephen VanHook abstaining to **RE-ELECT** Mr. Stephen VanHook as Jennings City Council President for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

Ms. Carter Ledbetter, Director of Tourism, gave an update to the council regarding tourism. Ms. Ledbetter announced that the Gator Chateau reached a new threshold of over 65,000 visitors. She stated that there were over 1,200 people who came to watch the National STOL competition at the Jennings airport. The Director of Tourism also highlighted the success of Turn it up Tuesday, the Fall Festival and other events as well as the influx of visitors from all over the world. There were no public questions or comments, and no action was taken.

Next, Council President Stephen VanHook read the following Public Notice Announcement:
Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at its regular meeting place, the Council Chambers, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana, the City Council plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the City of Jennings, State of Louisiana, to authorize the continuation of an ad valorem tax therein. Public Notice will be published in *Jennings Daily News* on July 22, 2026.

Ms. Simon motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to discuss/update the condemnation and demolition of property located at 1005 Garage Alley belonging to Palmlo III, LLC. There was no representative of the property present at the meeting. City inspector, Phillip Arceneux, explained that the property is vacant and his office has sent the proper notifications to the owner. After no public questions or comments, it was motioned by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Benoit and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance ordering **CONDEMNATION** and **DEMOLITION** of the property at 1005 Garage Alley belonging to Palmlo III, LLC, and refer to the Mayor's office to carry out the orders of the Council.

Mr. LeBlanc motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss/update the condemnation and demolition of property located at 203 School St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC. There was no representative of the property present at the meeting. City inspector, Phillip Arceneux, explained that the property is vacant and his office has sent the proper notifications to the owner. After a few public comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance ordering

CONDEMNATION and **DEMOLITION** of the property at 203 School St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC, and refer to the Mayor's office to carry out the orders of the Council.

Mr. Ledbetter motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss/update the condemnation and demolition of property located at 211 School St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC. There was no representative of the property present at the meeting. City inspector, Phillip Arceneux, explained that the property is vacant and his office has sent the proper notifications to the owner. After a few public comments and questions, it was motioned by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance ordering **CONDEMNATION** and **DEMOLITION** of the property at 211 School St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC, and refer to the Mayor's office to carry out the orders of the Council.

Ms. Simon motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to discuss/update the condemnation and demolition of property located at 110 Mulkern St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC. There was no representative of the property present at the meeting. City inspector, Phillip Arceneux, explained that the property is vacant and his office has sent the proper notifications to the owner. After no other questions or comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance ordering **CONDEMNATION** and **DEMOLITION** of the property at 110 Mulkern St. belonging to Palmlo III, LLC, and refer to the Mayor's office to carry out the orders of the Council.

Mr. Ledbetter motioned and Ms. Simon seconded to discuss/update the condemnation and demolition of property located at 1303 W. D. Rochelle. belonging to Janine A. Coleman Community Development Corp. Ms. Janine A. Coleman, representative of the property was present at the meeting and addressed the Council. Ms. Coleman explained that she has a contract to sell the property expiring in September 2026. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that the property has been in front of the Council several times, yet the property stayed in disrepair. Mayor Guinn explained that if the property is sold, all legal processes to condemn must start over. After a few public comments and questions, it was motioned by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance ordering **CONDEMNATION** and **DEMOLITION** of the property at 1303 W. D. Rochelle, belonging to Janine A. Coleman Community Development Corp, and refer to the Mayor's office to carry out the orders of the Council.

Resolution No. 1805C is **ON HOLD**.

Resolution No. 1827G is **ON HOLD**.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on July 14, 2026, of the Jennings City Council at 6:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Chad Crochet

Chad Crochet, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council