

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 20th day of February, 2018 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: Johnny Armentor, District B; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: Carolyn Simon, District A

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

It was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the January 9, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Resolution No. 1733A – a resolution revoking the dedication of surplus equipment belonging to the City of Jennings to make available for sale or disposal. Mayor Henry Guinn explained that the money received from the sale of surplus is recorded as revenue for each fund that originally paid for the item. After no comment or discussion, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote, with the exception of Ms. Simon who was absent, to **INTRODUCE & ADOPT** Resolution No. 1733A.

Ordinance No. 1734 – an ordinance to implement four-way stop signs at each point at the intersection of Wood Street & South Broadway Street, Jennings, Louisiana and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances therewith. It was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Armentor to introduce Ordinance No. 1734. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote, with the exception of Ms. Simon who was absent, to **INTRODUCE** Ordinance No. 1734.

Ordinance No. 1733 – an ordinance to authorize the City of Jennings to rezone the property of Bryan A. LeBlanc at 715 S. Louise Street, Lot 22 & 23 from A-1 to A-2: and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Armentor to adopt Ordinance No. 1733. Mayor Guinn stated that after notifications to surrounding property owners there was no negative feedback, so he didn't see an issue with this ordinance moving forward. After no public comment or questions, it was carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote, with the exception of Ms. Simon who was absent, to **ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1733**.

Under Other Business President VanHook asked the Council if there was any objection to move Item B (to approve and confirm a beer/liquor permit) and Item C (discussion of the home at 403 W. Nezpique Street) ahead of Item A (FYE 06/30/17 Audit Report). It was a unanimous voice vote of those in attendance to move Items B & C ahead of Item A on the Agenda.

Next was to approve and confirm a beer and liquor permit to *Ragen LaBouve & Antonio White – (Urban Linquist Solutions, LLC) - d/b/a Strickland's Spirits and Eats* for retail sales – Class A – drinking on premises – located at 203 E. Nezpique Street, Ste. 105. Mayor Guinn stated that all the paperwork was in order and there should be no reason to deny this request. After no comment or discussion, it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried to **approve and confirm** the beer/liquor permit to *Strickland's Spirits and Eats* at 203 E. Nezpique Street, Ste. 105. Yeas were from Mr. Armentor, Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. VanHook; Mr. LeJeune abstained; Ms. Simon absent.

Then Mr. Bobby Johnson or Ms. Darlene Doucet was to present a plan of action concerning the renovation or destruction of the home at 403 W. Nezpique Street belonging to the estate of Rena Reddell. The home had been declared unsafe and falling down. On December 12, 2017 Mr. Johnson had come before the Council to discuss the status of this home and at that time the Council had given him 60 days to come up with a plan of action. Ms. Doucet was informed of the date to appear before the Council. No one was in attendance. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **refer this matter to the Mayor's office to begin the process of further follow-up of this property.**

Next Mr. Aaron Cooper, CPA presented the City of Jennings' Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/17. Mr. Cooper stated that he had given the City an Unqualified Opinion. The auditor believed that the financial statements are fairly stated. Cooper commented that the City was in an excellent financial position, with no weakness. The compliance finding was from allegations made to the Legislative Auditor Hotline that the former Police Chief used public assets for personal use. Audit procedures provided evidence that this may have occurred, but the dollar amount is considered immaterial. It was noted that the former Police Chief had made restitution in the amount of \$240.00 to the City for storage of his personal furniture while moving. The auditor recommended that the City review policies regarding use of assets with its employees. Corrective action was taken: City management has implemented polices regarding use of assets with its employees. After going through the totals of the revenues and expenditures of the operating budget of the different funds and the assets, Mr. Cooper thanked the Mayor and City's financial staff for working with the auditor to answer any questions.

With no further business, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on February 20, 2018 of the Jennings City Council at 5:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council