

CITY OF HARAHAHAN
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAHAN, LOUISIANA
MAYOR AND HARAHAHAN CITY COUNCIL
July 16, 2015

The Mayor and the Council met on the above date for the regular meeting at 7:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Mayor called the Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Miceli, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Benton, Councilman Huete, Councilman Johnston, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Captain Chris Benoit representing Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr, Police Chief Tim Walker, City Attorney Tommy Anzelmo, Jr.

Absent: Councilman Wheeler

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Miceli reported that 4 of 5 sites for sewer repair are complete. The last is the pump station #5 at Macque and Lancashire and it is almost done. The budget is working fine. Accounting is being done better. Now the city's debt must be addressed and paid down as quickly as possible. She stressed that recurring revenue is put toward recurring bills and one time revenue is for one-time expenses only. The BP lawsuit is almost finished - a windfall that will help the city financially. She acknowledged Representative Kirk Talbot and asked that he make his report.

Mr. Talbot addressed the council saying the legislative session ended last month. The capital outlay bill will bring new revenue into the city for certain projects. The state got \$6.8 billion from the BP settlement and it will be broken up in several ways - 45% to budget stabilization fund. Rest for Medicare & Medicaid.

Mayor Miceli thanked him for his hard work in administration and finding funding for the city.

Councilman Baudier asked why did the state cap the film industry credits?

Mr. Talbot said that fraud issues played a role. He said that a special session in February will revisit the problem. They expect that the film industry will be more organized then.

Councilman Baudier said that the Fantastic Four is making money for Georgia. He said that waiting 2 years will cost the state money.

Mayor Miceli said that the city received \$90,000 for capital outlay from the state for this year.

Mayor Miceli also requested that everyone get along & asked that everyone be respectful with their comments.

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mae Jean Cazenave, Oak Ave. spoke on the insurance request from the council. She suggested they take the insurance from their jobs instead of expecting the city to pay for their health insurance.

Eric Chatelain, Colonial Club Dr. - asking for his ordinance to be deferred because there is not a full council. Councilman Wheeler is absent. He then said he would pull the ordinance.

John Riehm, Rypass Ave. reiterated the problem of the sand coming over the levee - it's a health hazard to bikers, walkers and neighborhood. Sprinklers only cover part of the area. From Rypass to Bailey has no working sprinklers.

Mayor Miceli asked that he and his neighbors email her with their problems. She is meeting with Corps of Engineers and needs to have information and names of the people affected. She asked for his help to present the problem to corps.

Rhonda Bagby - thanked all councilmen for help for elderly including State Rep. Talbot. She said she has never heard of someone voting for themselves to be full time employees. It should be by a vote of people. She admonished Ms. Quinlan, Times Picayune reporter for being biased and not reporting the facts.

Terri Valenti, Colonial Club Dr. said she is against substandard size lots, the city plan suggested larger lots. She is saddened that the city would consider creating substandard lots but she is aligned with Oak Ave. residents. Insurance for part time employees is a ridiculous proposition. Councilmen Baudier & Wheeler said that they provide insurance at their personal companies so why aren't they covered there. To take money from police and fire departments to fund part time employees' insurance

should not be done. The city needs to take care of its full time employees. Do not add part time employees.

A motion was offered by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Huete to amend the agenda to have Police Chief Walker give his report.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

Police Chief Walker gave the police statistics report for the month of June. He showed the council thank you notes from Cub Scout Pack 33 and another 500 thank you notes from Parish residents. He showed 3 hand-drawn posters from Pack 33 also.

Mayor Miceli asked that they be displayed in City Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the June 18, 2015 Council Meeting.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2015 Council Meeting.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the June 24, 2015 Special Council Meeting.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2015 Special Council Meeting/Budget Hearing.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

The Board of Adjustments and Appeals did not meet in June.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the July 1, 2015 meeting of the Planning & Zoning Board.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2015 meeting of the Planning & Zoning Board.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS

None

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (Public Hearing)

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

1. An Ordinance approving the resubdivision of 965 Oak Ave., Lots 16,17,18,19, Sq. V, Harahan Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Gilbert, Kelly & Couturie, Inc., dated March 15, 2015.

A motion was made by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Huete to defer the ordinance.

Board Discussion:

Councilman Baudier said Mr. Chatelain is trying to find an alternative idea.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Huete,

NAYS: Benton, Johnston

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION DEFEATED

The City Clerk read the ordinance in its entirety.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing: Johnston/Huete

Laurie Domingues, Oak Ave. is opposed to this resubdivision. Would get higher taxes from 2 homes instead of 3 rentals.

Eric Chatelain, Colonial Club Dr. – the current property pays \$15 a year in taxes. He doesn't have a full council tonight. Asked that the ordinance be pulled – he is withdrawing his application.

City Attorney Anzelmo stated that the vote has to proceed.

Councilman Huete asked if she can pull the ordinance since she sponsored it.

A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to take a 10 minute recess for the city attorney to research the question.

The Mayor called for the vote – it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

MOTION APPROVED

The Mayor called the meeting back to order at 8:23 pm

City Attorney Anzelmo said that the ordinance can be withdrawn prior to the vote.

If withdrawn, the ordinance can be brought up at the next meeting for first reading.

The ordinance was withdrawn by Councilman Huete.

The following Ordinance was introduced unanimously by the Council.

The city clerk read the ordinance in its entirety.

2. An Ordinance levying a tax of 13.93 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation on all taxable properties in the City of Harahan for the year 2015 and authorizing the Tax Collector to collect the said taxes on all taxable property within the incorporated limits of the City of Harahan and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing: Baudier/Johnston

Barbara Butera, Carolyn Dr. asked if the millage increased.

The City Clerk replied that the new fire millage of 5 mills brought the millage total from 13.87 in 2014 to 13.93 for 2015.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing: Johnston/Baudier

Board Discussion:

None

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

ORDINANCE PASSED

The following Ordinance was introduced unanimously by the Council.

The city clerk read the ordinance in its entirety.

3. An Ordinance adopting the Annual Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Sewerage Department for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2015 for the City of Harahan,

Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing: Johnston/Huete

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing: Johnston/Huete

Board Discussion:

None

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

ORDINANCE PASSED

The following Ordinance was introduced unanimously by the Council.

The city clerk read the ordinance in its entirety.

1. An Ordinance adopting a Budget for the Sales Tax Fund for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2015 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing: Johnston/Huete

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing: Johnston/Baudier

Board Discussion:

None

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wheeler

ORDINANCE APPROVED

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (First Reading)

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Baudier.

The City Clerk read it by title only.

1. An Ordinance providing that the Harahan Municipal Code be supplemented to fix the compensation of the elected public officials of the City of Harahan as required by L.R.S. 33:404.1.

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Huete.

The City Clerk read it by title only.

2. An Ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots A and B-2, Square 1, Jefferson Court Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Gilbert, Kelly & Couturie, Inc., dated March 19, 2015.

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Huete.

The City Clerk read it by title only.

3. An Ordinance amending Ordinance 1080 to allow individual City of Harahan Council Members to place items of business on the City of Harahan regular and/or special meeting agendas pursuant to the order of business section 2-57 of the Harahan Municipal Code.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for June 2015 total receipts \$579,897.55.

REPORTS

Councilman Huete ~ asked about the web site. She wants their name, addresses, phones & emails there.

Councilman Johnston gave his phone number for citizens to contact him.

Councilman Benton - no report

Councilman Baudier - no report

Mayor Miceli thanked the people for their support.

PAY BILLS

Bill's paid for June, 2015 in the amount of \$867,202.62.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Scalise Lawsuit

A motion was made by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Johnston to go into Executive Session to discuss the Scalise Lawsuit at 8:38 pm.

The Mayor called the meeting back to order at 9:06 pm.

ADJOURN

A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to adjourn at 9:06 pm.

The Mayor called for a vote. The vote was:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

Tina Miceli, Mayor

Nicole Lee, Municipal Clerk

A. The following matter involving pending litigation may be considered:

- 1. Phillip Canella vs. Arch Ins. Co., City of Harahan, Todd A. St. Cyr and Allstate Ins. Co.; 24th JDC, Case 744-961, Div. "I".**
- 2. Susanne K. Scalise vs. City of Harahan, LA, Anne Gordon, Louise Slayden, Ronald Gordon, Gail Gordon; 24th JDC, Case 744-986, Div. "O".**
- 3. City of Harahan, et al, v. BP Exploration & Production, Inc., et al, U.S.D.C., Eastern District of Louisiana, No. 2:13-cv-01397.**

B. The following matter involving prospective litigation for which formal written demand has been made may be considered.

C. The following matters involving discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of:

Name: