

**CITY OF HARAHAH
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAH, LOUISIANA
MAYOR AND HARAHAH CITY COUNCIL
September 22, 2016 Minutes**

The Mayor opened the regular council meeting for August 29, 2016.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Miceli, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Benton, Councilman Huete, Councilman Johnston, Councilman Wheeler, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Police Chief Tim Walker, Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr, City Attorney Gilbert Buras, Accountant Linda Lulue; Bond Attorney Hugh Martin

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Miceli announced a new outdoor bulletin board that will have up to date announcements. She also thank Officer Ted Ladner for fixing the air conditioning system for tonight's meeting. Beginning on Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 7:00am and ending on Monday, October 17, 2016 at 9:00pm, Camden Street between Hickory Avenue and Time Saver Avenue is closed and will remain closed until October 17, 2016. This closure was previously scheduled for June through September. During the closure, local access on Humphreys Street will be maintained at all times. Motorists will be detoured from Hickory Avenue to 3rd Street to Time Saver Avenue.

We were notified that the TV show NCIS New Orleans will be filming in Harahan until 8 pm tonight and there may be loud noises coming from the site.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. DEQ Bond Attorney for DEQ, David Wolfe of Adams & Reese, Professional Engineer, Jonathan McFarland

Mr. McFarland said Mr. Wolfe will answer most of the questions. A line of credit for \$4 million dollars was opened a few years ago by Mayor Mosca and to date \$1.16 million has been drawn with almost \$3 million left. He listed our options. Since the sewer system is an enterprise fund, when you borrow money and the sewer charges must be enough to run the system and to pay back that loan. An enterprise system must bring in enough money to run the system and pay back with a 10% cushion. It generates revenues to cover the cost of running the business and provide a cushion to build up a fund for repairs. When they agreed to lend the money, the city agreed to look at the rates every year to make sure the debt is being paid. The city has to demonstrate that the monies after paying the cost of running the system that you have enough to pay the debt service on the bond + 10%. The city guaranteed that they would look at the money every year. The city is not meeting that criteria – you are appropriating money from the general fund which short changes all other departments. The customers are not bearing the cost of the system. That situation cannot continue. The system must pay for itself. If you have a millage as you do – it should be dedicated to the system and not take money from the general fund. This raises a red flag and it's time to raise the rates to generate enough from the customers to pay for the system. It is not optional – it is mandated to go through the process and to solve that problem. If the city chooses to add a millage for sewerage, it would take 1-1/2 years to see any money. The beginning of your next budget cycle is starting and the city is in danger of failing to meet the demands of the lender. The city is not currently in default. But whenever the rates are not enough to cover the operating costs – you must raise the rates. This means the customers who use a lot of water will pay more than those that don't. A business must adjust rates to run the business, pay your debts and have a cushion. DEQ is here as your lender, not to put you in default –

but to help you put the system on a self-paying basis. Every dept. that doesn't generate funds – the general fund subsidizes them. Every year, this process must be done – check the rates and if they are not covering the debt you must raise the rates to do so. If you don't it will affect the city's ability to borrow money and possibly subject the city to legislative auditor's inspection. If you do what you need to do – lenders will continue to allow you to borrow. By borrowing money to fix the system – the customers will be helped for the next 20-30 years. It's important to the city to meet its obligation – not to just pay the principal.

The Mayor asked about the 110% that was granted to the city and asked what is the usual percentage.

Mr. Wolfe said most use a percentage of 120-130% - the ratio must have enough left over to create a cushion. The money must come from the customers. Most places have a millage. That money is considered as "other revenues" and can be used – but ideally, the system should pay for itself. DEQ's mission to be a bank and the council's mission is to protect the environment. This is a tool they have to help city stay in compliance with environmental laws. The loan is a tool to get to that point.

Councilman Johnston said this is different than what you said earlier. You said you could take over the system and set the rates.

Mr. Wolfe said he was trying to stress that the total amount is a line of credit for \$4 million. The city has only started drawing the money down. The money being collected now is only enough to run the system – not pay the money back. DEQ is not going to let you pull down any more money unless you can prove you can pay it back. If you want to continue to make improvements you must satisfy DEQ that you have enough money to pay it back. You are on the verge – if the city does not pay back the loan. Interest payments are there until the end of the year – but if the city does not fix the rate – then the DEQ has the right to enforce a number of options - receivership, calling the debt in, Harahan would be the first community to be in default of this debt. The covenants of the bond are designed to prevent this.

Councilman Johnston said we have enough to cover it now – why do we have to raise the rates so much.

Linda Lulue, city accountant said the letter came from the DEQ 30 days ago.

Mr. Wolfe said this must be done before the next budget is passed. The city's situation must be changed – we can not just pay interest and payment on time. Unless you come up with a plan and demonstrate that you will be in compliance pretty soon – we will have to act. Mr. Wolfe continued that they have never had to lecture a city before – Harahan has gone as far as the limit DEQ will allow.

Councilman Huete said she has not been contacted by the DEQ. Until recently she was not aware that this was an issue.

Mayor Miceli said that you stated in the meeting in 2013...

Councilman Huete said I'm talking this year...

Mayor Miceli said as a point of privilege – I was in the middle of a sentence. In 2013, when the previous council voted unanimously to accept the loan, you stated that you knew that the rates that were imposed then were not sufficient to pay back the loan. You knew the rates would have to be increased.

Councilman Huete said so when has it been brought up before the council to increase it other than the last 60 days.

Ms. Lulue said in March 2016, I was contacted by DEQ asked how we were going to pay back this loan. In June, I started the investigation into the matter. As soon as I realized what the problems were I brought it to the council. As soon as the budget was completed, I got on this problem and asked for an extension to study it. It was granted and as soon as I contacted the DEQ – I contacted the Mayor and council concerning this.

Councilman Huete said so none of us knew the magnitude of this until 2 months ago. I'm relaying this to the public. The Mayor said I passed an ordinance in 2013 but if it wasn't brought it to my attention and I can't remember all the ordinances on the books.

Mayor Miceli said you took out a \$4 million dollar loan and you didn't know there was a problem.

Councilman Huete said no one brought it to my attention to you see a problem with that – I don't know how much we have spent.

Ms. Lulue said that in 2015 – I projected our coverage ration that is supposed to be 110% is actually 35.3%. As of 2016, I'm projecting a negative 31-1/2%, and if the council does nothing by 2017 we will be negative 212%.

Councilman Benton said that if we don't come into compliance soon – the remaining funds won't be available. That is the most significant problem – there won't have any money to

Mr. Wolfe said that is correct – no money will be released until you come into compliance with the rate covenant under the loan agreement.

Councilman Benton said that is the most important thing – we can't fix sink holes or upgrade the plant.

Councilman Johnston said if we don't change the rates to what it is supposed to be, we won't get any more money.

Mr. Wolfe said the city and the DEQ had come up with a structure based on our situation to meet the requirements.

Councilman Johnston again said if we don't hit that number, they won't give us any more money.

Mr. McFarland said until you demonstrate that enough money is available there will be no other money drawn down. There is an agreed upon number to meet the coverage in 2017 – but there are numerous ways to meet the coverage – it's up to you.

Councilman Johnston asked if we could use the general fund to pay loan because we are running a deficit.

Councilman Benton said it was her understanding that we cannot use general fund monies to pay the loan back and the only way is to raise the rates.

Mr. McFarland said that was right.

Councilman Huete asked what is the reserve fund balance?

Ms. Lulue answered it is in your packet - \$330,000.

Mayor Miceli said that a crucial point is the maturity date of the loan. Delaying does not change that maturity date. She asked if that wouldn't make the rates or millages become larger the longer it takes.

Mr. Wolfe said when the loan was made it was set up that the city would only pay interest for the first 2 years and then pay back the principal and interest during the next 20 years and the first payment which was very small has been paid. There are 19 years left to amortize this money. If it takes 2-3 years to solve the problem and start accessing this money, it means the cost would be higher each year. In addition to not accessing the money to fix problems, the rates would be even higher and it will cost more that way. You are paying it back in a shorter period of time.

Mayor Miceli said that this was an opportunity to rehab a crumbling system. This goes to basically protecting the health, safety and welfare of the community.

Mr. McFarland said the program was developed under the clean water act and that the whole point is to assist communities to be compliant with with the clean water act. Currently you have overflows, backups into people's homes and yards – this system is absolutely necessary. This loan has an interest rate of under 1% and it is subsidizing the community and designed to help maintain the system and prevent spills.

Mayor Miceli said that multiple emergency breaks have been repaired. An emergency repair is much more expensive than preventative measures.

Mr. McFarland said maintenance is better, the quicker you can get it fixed the better – the less it will cost you. Repairs help not only with hazards but the cost too.

Mayor Miceli said as long as the city keeps rehabing the system – the citizens know we are working on our compliance and trying not to incur fines.

Mr. McFarland said the quicker we can get things cleaned up the less chance of getting compliance involved.

Mayor Miceli asked would happened if we default – what are the consequences. I understand it will affect our ability to borrow money and participate in grant money.

Mr. Wolfe said yes – your credit rating is very important and if you default - it becomes nearly impossible to borrow money for any purpose. It's a mark on the financial history that takes decades to erase.

Mayor Miceli said this could affect police & fire grants.

Mr. Wolfe said yes and if necessary, DEQ will appoint a fiscal administrator and take all decisions out of the city's hands.

Mayor Miceli said if the fiscal administration comes in they could raise the rates even higher than we are projecting.

Councilman Benton said the 2nd phase of the sewer repair is ready to be started – if we don't increase the rates tonight – what will happen to that project since the funds are frozen.

Mr. Wolfe said the ordinance has to be adopted and signed and DEQ will look at projections again and if they are satisfied that the new revenues will support the loan. Then they will unlock the line of credit. The longer it takes, the more expensive the project will become. The clock is ticking.

Mayor Miceli said that's interesting because there is an ordinance on the agenda tonight to take money from the capital fund to effect a repair on the sewerage system.

Councilman Wheeler asked when was the city actually put on notice about the funds moratorium because the council were just made aware of this 2 days ago.

Mr. McFarland said city received notice. . .

Councilman Wheeler said again that the city was notified 48 hours ago and the funds are already frozen.

Mr. McFarland said that after discussions with city this week DEQ realized that although the city was able to pay the debt service on the amount that has been drawn. The city does not have the revenue to pay back the rest if they were allowed to drawn any more money.

Councilman Wheeler said the sewer fees are based on as if the full \$4 million was withdrawn. She said the Increase to \$5.75 is based on pulling the whole \$4 million today.

Mr. McFarland said right now the bond covenants that the city has to supply the amount for the highest debt service for the loan.

Councilman Wheeler said it is such a huge increase and this is such short notice.

Mr. McFarland said that the city needs to be in compliance and notice was sent months ago.

Councilman Wheeler said that the council just received information in the last 60 days. And every day the dollar per thousand changes. Even at the meeting Tuesday – it was a different amount. I was surprised to be told 2 days ago that the funds were being withheld.

Mr. Wolfe said in fairness – DEQ is not in city hall everyday looking over your shoulder – but they may do so in the future. Once the audited financial statements are submitted to the DEQ, it is checked and made sure that the rate covenants are being complied with. And when that doesn't happen they call and follow up by letter and ask for a plan to fix the deficiency – that process has been on-going this year. The audit takes about 6 months – at the meeting last week it was apparent that there was resistance to making the adjustments – and it was then they realized that the city considered not doing anything. In that case – we can not allow any more money to go out. This process has been going on.

Mayor Miceli said the ordinance up tonight has been deferred twice.

Councilman Wheeler said she wasn't talking about the deferrals – she was talking about not releasing the funds.

Mr. McFarland said no it wasn't, but the city was told months ago was to evaluate the non-compliance and to provide a plan.

Councilman Johnston said that the letter from last November was received by the council until the last 60 days. We are the people who

vote on this and make adjustments and we have only known for 60 days.

Mr. McFarland said that the council designated the authority on the bond issue and in this case was the mayor and she receives the mail..

Councilman Baudier – are you asking for a number tonight or a plan?

Mr. McFarland said that the letter the city received today said that the city should provide DEQ with the information within 30 days. We are here to answer your questions.

Councilman Baudier said that at the last meeting he was in favor of raising the rates by 20% to make up for the last 3 years when nothing was done with an additional 5% in each year. Times are hard right now and we don't want to put any more stress on the citizens – it hasn't been done 5% - that's the way it was constructed. My plan - raise it 20% and word it that it would automatically renew at 5% until it pays the loan.

Mr. McFarland said that holding the money back was based on the fact that the money you have right now will not pay the loan back.

Mayor Miceli asked he to speak about the ordinance adopted in 2013 – that provided a 5% raise each year – but that 5% increase does not meet the bond covenants which the council voted unanimously to adopt.

Mr. Wolfe – when the \$4 million closed – it was granted on the projections of revenues and the projections have not come to pass – if the results had matched the projections we would not be here.

Councilman Johnston said the letter that was sent it was banking on the millage that expired in 2012 which brought in \$200,000. Is there any way to make the dollar amount less and use the reserve fund to cover the rest. That way it would be easier on the citizens.

Mr. Wolfe said that he does not know what reserve fund Councilman Johnston is talking about. A Debt service must hold $\frac{1}{2}$ of one year's debt service. That must be held for the entire life of the loan unless you are going into default. That about \$100,000 based on the \$4 million loan. That's a one time revenue source – it's putting off the day of reckoning. it's a simple math formula – net revenues divided by debt service – the debt service is \$200,000 – the resulting fraction must be 110% or greater. How you get to that number is not our job that's your job.

Mayor Miceli said that the city had two sewer millages. But in 2012 – 1.77 mills which brought in \$200,000 lapsed. Since the city has not had \$200,000 since 2012 – and the council has to raise \$200,000 - \$210,000. How the council chooses to get to that number is their decision.

Ms. Lulue asked the DEQ about the 5% increase. They said it would not be enough and would definitely put the city in default. Instead of default they would bring in an engineer to come up with the sewer rates and we would have to pay for the engineer.

Councilman Johnston said did you ask if we could go up 20% and use part of the reserve fund – would that be sufficient enough for them temporarily and we could try and do a millage.

Ms. Lulue said she did ask and DEQ said we must do these rates right now and then pass a millage rate and then drop the rates once the millage passes. She said even if we pass it today – we don't meet the debt ratio for 2016 and they are being awfully patient as lenders.

Councilman Johnston said so if we don't pass this dollar amount tonight, accounts are frozen and there's the possibility of default.

Ms. Lulue said correct.

Councilman Huete asked Mr. McFarland to name the person who reported there was resistance from the council.

Mr. McFarland said he did not mention any names.

Councilman Wheeler said she is confused because you are saying the city has 30 days but DEQ has turned down every plan and is not giving us 30 days.

Mr. McFarland said the city was given 30 days to develop a plan.

Councilman Benton said she understood that the ordinance tonight was the only plan that could provide the desired results.

Councilman Wheeler said the other plan was to put a millage on the ballot to achieve an increase. So our 30 days has turned into 2 days to make a decision.

Mr. McFarland said no you have 30 days to provide a plan.

Councilman Johnston it's confusing – the meeting was all doom - it was you have to do this - & if we don't do this then action will have to be taken.

Mr. McFarland – your confusion is resulting from the difference from performance default and payment default. The city is in performance default. You are not in payment default – you are in default of the terms of the loan.

Councilman Johnston said the money is frozen because of the performance default.

Councilman Huete said we are not meeting the covenants - we have the money – not meeting the verbiage of the loan on paying it back with user fees. The payment this year was \$30,000 and next year is \$50,000 – we can afford it - We can't take from the general fund or capital fund or the reserve fund. Capital fund has \$830,000; Reserve fund has \$330,000 – but the loan has to be paid with user fees. That's how I understood it.

Mr. Wolfe – you must demonstrate that you have enough recurring money to run the plant – one time money does not come back – if you want to draw more money on this loan – you must provide a plan that demonstrate that you can meet the demand in the future. If you want to abandon the rest of the loan – you need to provide enough money to pay back – but if you do & shut it down you risk non-compliance – it's better to use the less than 1% interest because it is cheaper in the long run.

Councilman Johnston said I want to keep accepting the money but that is over double of our current user fees.

Mayor Miceli said if you pass the ordinance tonight – Ms. Lulue said we won't have to raise the rates again because a millage could be put on the ballot.

Councilman Johnston said this is a temporary plan.

Councilman Wheeler said raise the fees tonight and pass a millage then the rates could be lowered to \$4.50?

Ms. Lulue said it's possible – but she does not have the exact number.

Councilman Johnston said it is probably a substantial amount – by 2021 – it will probably be the same because of inflation. This is the answer for now or we won't get any more money.

Mr. Wolfe said by making the system support itself - it will alleviate the pull on the general fund for other departments.

Mayor Miceli introduced Mr. Hugh Martin, Bond Attorney and former City Attorney for the city.

Councilman Baudier asked for a 5 minute recess.

The Mayor called for a 5 minute recess.

The Mayor called the meeting back to order at 8:46 pm

Mayor Miceli asked how a default be perceived for the city.

Mr. Martin said you do not want to default – it would be a disaster. You should want to do what is necessary to keep the sewer system running. This is the 11th hour with this, and action needs to be taken tonight.

The only other alternative to provide enough money is a millage – but the earliest is spring of 2017 and passes money would not come in until January, 2018. Not drawing more money would also be a disaster if there was a break down – and the sewer system doesn't work and backups occur. Not a pleasant experience – and the potential of liability for damage would exceed the amount we are talking about. It is prudent to go forward.

Mayor Miceli thanked him for his input.

Calvin Hoppmeyer, Stuart Consultants, city engineers and Scott Petterson, Veolia.

Mayor said we evaluated the charges from surrounding areas – we are the lowest sewer rates and even with the raise – we are still the lowest or second lowest in the area.

Calvin Hoppmeyer, – special engineer for the city – In 2014 we started investigating the TVing the sewer lines - \$625,000 inspection – initial construction project + 6-7 repairs \$1.16 million that has been spent – it

does include design on future projects. 28 miles of pipe with 100 critical lines – cost \$5 million – 272 – priority - \$6 million. There's about \$11 million of repair work. The \$4 million will take a chunk out of that – the manholes that need to be fixed. Phase 1 – Pump areas 6, 7, & 8 – ready to go \$1.4 million; Pump 1, 2, 3, 4 – will take the bulk of the rest of the money. This is a significant part of the city – that will reduce the water infiltrating the sewer system. The plant's capacity of 1.5 million gallons a day has been exceeded 8 out of 12 months in 2015. This year 8 out of 8 months – exceeding the flow rates – more wear and tear on system – causes overflow of system. Working on those repairs –

Scott Patterson – day to day operator for Veolia – project manager. We have the possibility of violations when we exceed 1.5 million gallons a day and we are at capacity. There is potential for violations. If we tighten up the system – the run times are lower and the best way is to line the pipes. The only other option is a plant expansion.

Mayor Miceli asked what does “at capacity” mean.

Mr. Hoppmeyer said there is no room for further development because of lack of capacity. As we do the improvements – we reduce the flow into the system. That is what is making us over capacity.

Councilman Johnston asked what did the \$1.6 million cover.

Mr. Hoppmeyer - \$600,000 evaluation – started in 2014 and finished in December 2015 – listed all fees incurred. We need to know what to fix – which is critical and most important. The Bailey breakdown was to be rehabbed but before we got there it broke down.

Councilman Johnston said he just wanted to let everyone know it is no longer \$4 million because we have spent some of it.

Mr. Hoppmeyer said the repairs are just not pipes in the ground - the costs include everything.

Sarah Ham – Wood Materials –gave an update on their activities – she also wants to correct and clarify some things because acts really do matter. Corps of Engineers Pump to the River is almost finished. This will all be over soon. This huge project caused much of the complaints blamed on Wood Materials. Vegetation that used to keep the sand from blowing was removed to make way for the pipes and pile drivers. The new haul road that will be further toward the river and away from the neighborhood – we have been accused of delaying the project. We are taking forward steps but the Federal Government is not to be rushed. In Dec. neighbors said they wanted the road moved. In Jan. they brainstormed the concept because the road has been in place for 70 years. In Feb. – they contacted the Corps of Engineer to see if it was feasible and getting their permission and determine requirements for a permit. In March –they hired a surveyor to determine where the road would go. In April they hired an engineer for feasibility studies and process the permit application. In May they got the okay from Levee Board and they were optimistic that this might be enough but they still had to submit an application to the Corps of Engineers which was sent in June they sent a joint application to all required governmental agencies. In July the Corps said they did need an application for approval. In August they received the Dept. of Natural Resources permit and here there are in Sept. still waiting for the Corps of Engineers Permit. We requested an expedited review and approval, but their request was not successful. They are in a holding pattern waiting approval of the Corps of Engineers. In order to expedite, she suggested that the council approach the corps of engineers and invite them to next meeting and maybe they can explain why the process has been delayed. They are as anxious as the city is to have the road permitted and built – they have expended a lot of money so far – she suggested the city's involvement might make it move faster. We are being blamed for things that are misunderstood. At the last council meeting, George Ackel said that Wood Materials was responsible for all the sand collecting around his business to apologize. She said she drove to his business and found that his shop is located directly across from their competitor's sandpit which is ½ mile downriver from them. The rumor we heard was that we are moving our office trailers to Jefferson Parish to avoid paying taxes to the city of Harahan. Why would we want to

avoid paying taxes in Harahan – we want you all to get the taxes. We pay the same amount of taxes no matter where our trailer is, in Jefferson or Harahan we pay the same sales tax. Jefferson Parish made us move our trailer office because of the pump to the river project and it will be moved back when the corps is finished. Harahan will still get the same sales tax from us. The new road will line up with the office. Since 2011 – Wood Materials has paid approximately \$600,000 directly to fund Harahan city services in addition to the \$425,000 in sales taxes from the Harahan pit alone that supports Jefferson Parish Public Schools which includes those used by the families of Harahan. So that's about a million dollars in the last 5 years paid into Harahan. She said they are a pretty significant tax contributor to Harahan. More untrue allegations are that the airport project will continue around the clock for the next 7 months. They have been informed by the customer that work will be completed in less than half that time. Since the airport project began on March 25, 2016 – that's about 27 weeks - they have only conducted night time airport sales work at the Harahan facility for less than 12 of those weeks. They have diverted the airport project activities to other locations. They hope the city considers that when you consider your latest ordinance to arbitrarily single out Wood Materials by subjecting our property to hours of operation restrictions. We want to continue successfully operating our 70 year old sand pit business in Harahan in a good neighborly manner. We hope that with this information we can put all legal matters aside and work in a cooperative manner. Thank you

Chief Walker special presentation:

Chief Walker said that bullet proof vests last only 5 years. He needed 10 new vests and 8 have been donated. He presented certificates to the following: Wood Materials paid for last 2 vests –He thanked the donors of the other 8: Eric Chatelain, Robert Chung of The Kamp; Caroline – Wood Materials; St. Rita School; Double E Industries; Donald Fabacher; Chris Maronne Riverlands Ins. Co. They cost \$500 each so that's \$5,000 donated to the department. His No. 1 concern is the safety of his 19 officers and 28 reserve officers.

The Mayor announced 2 late additions to the agenda and asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add them under New Business.

A motion was made by Councilman and seconded by Councilman to amend the agenda to add the St. Rita Annual Procession request as No. 5 and an ABO request for Heads and Tails Seafood Restaurant as No. 6 under New Business.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Councilman Wheeler made a motion to amend the agenda seconded by Councilman Baudier to add the Jambalaya Cook Off and Car Show for the Harahan Athletic Association as No. 7 under new Business.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Mayor Miceli said that she is providing notice that prior to next council meeting – a special meeting at 5:30 pm on Oct. 20th Budget Hearings.

Mr. Buras confirmed that it meets the required notice.

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

The Public Hearing is open.

John Riehms, Renpass thanked Wood Materials for update but should not be allowed to operate all night long. They back the upcoming ordinance. All night noise on batture will disturb sleep and bring in more particulate matter. There has never been all night work before the airport project. Even though the pit was deep, the citizens could hear the loud noise.

These are the only sandpits next to a residential community. All night work – more sand; more noise; damage to river road and city streets; more sand in drains causing more flooding. Dump trucks using new haul road – will still be able to hear the noise.

Evelyn Riehms, Renpass – this is ongoing for 16 months – it is frustrating. Wood Materials has a permit for dredging and has been cited for being in violation. A new permit for 1.5 million cubic yards of sand – Aug. 20, 2016 – has been applied for. She listed a complete list of what they have done in those 16 months. Construction of new haul road has still not begun. Taxes are paid where the sand is delivered - \$200,000 from Wood Materials – has not enforced the ordinances of the city. Crushing of concrete and limestone – when is mayor going to enforce the laws. She presented a petition asking that the airport project be stopped.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Wheeler to allow 3 more minutes.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Ms. Riehms continued

Kay Mitchel, Oak – Wood Materials are horrible neighbors – they affect our quality of life, put our health at risk, damaging our homes and vehicles, nighttime actions are unbearable. How many people want to live in an industrial wasteland? The composting is horrible – it is your job to help us. Enforce the ordinances.

Darlene Schwartz – Sr. Center is having a sale on Oct. 14 from 9 am to 2 pm – crafts, collectibles, food, door prizes and silent auction – tables can be rented – all proceeds will go to their programs.

America's Heroes is a 100% non-profit organization with proceeds going to local veterans. They are having a golf tournament on Oct. 10th – americasheroesnola.com is run strictly by volunteers.

Night Out against Crime will be held Oct. 18 – 6 pm - 8 pm – at St. Rita's School with representatives from federal, state, & local law industries.

Oct. 27th is drug take back day. Sites include Rite-aid and the Harahan police department lobby.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and Councilman Baudier to give Ms. Schwartz 3 more minutes.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

She gave a Special thank you to Rhea Lana who donated thousands of clothing items, toys, books and kids' stuff which was sent to needy people which included flood and tornados victims with police help.

Julie Kenney, Franklin Ave. She presented 2 statements one from she and her husband and one from Kevin Smith, 913 Franklin – We are the people who are affected by the sewerage system; they live in an inhospitable environment. She urged the council to not vote down the increase. We do not want to go with Jefferson Parish sewerage – it will be the end of Harahan. The millage that lapsed brought in \$200,000 – needs to be advertised correctly and put on the ballot. She asked for volunteers to help clean up their homes, vehicles and streets and asked that the council vote as if their homes were being affected.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to give more time.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

She continued – the problems will only get worse, Harahan Lives Matters; There are 15 homes on Franklin – 13 are affected – one is raised and the other installed their own personal shut off valve. Toilets not flushing; toiled are bubbling- sewerage is coming up in the street and yards.

Buckets are being used – this has been a problem for over 30 years. The problem will spread to the entire city. Lower quality of life; problem to health; can't get a 2nd mortgage; we are asking that you step up and live up to prior agreement for the \$4 million loan – would you vote for the sewer increase if you were having this problem.

Gary Ott – Harahan Firefighters Association. The fire department is being ignored and they are tired of carrying the financial problems of the city on their backs. Moral is down – we deserve better. They have paid for our own uniforms; truck equipment and countless hours of training. Small equipment repairs have been paid for by the firemen. There are zero dollars in the line item budget for repairs – an oil change is expensive but cheaper than replacing the motor. This is where we want to be – their budget is being laughed at. We need proper funding for all departments – for years we have been grossly underfunded.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to give three more minutes.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

He continued – A dialog must be started to come up with short term and long term plans. They want to be more effective and efficient. The situation is starting to affect them physically – he asked that the council put away their political agenda and make the right choice to fund us.

Terry Valenti – speaking for someone else – Paul Johnston lavished gifts on the police dept. which was deserved – but the fire dept. needs help too. I support the fire department and I told the council to stop playing politics. **Boxers Brew & Bar-B-Cue** will be held at The Camp on Oct. 1 – Proceeds go for Boxer rescue. Adults are \$10 dollars - \$5 children under 12 – there will be a 50/50, door prizes, silent auction – boxer shorts contest for the dogs.

Paul Johnston - had no plans to appear – but Terry is incorrect – he just gave \$75,000 to the Fire Department – she doesn't know what she is talking about. I will continue to help Fire, Police, Recreation and Sr. Center. He heard what she said.

Eric Chatelain – Fire & Police & Sewer are real important – this loan was made in good faith – you must raise the rates – you have to provide the paper work to DEQ – if you don't pay back the loan you will lose – stuff in City Hall is secret – nothing was done wrong – but the public does not know what is going on. I can take you and show you \$2 million of sewer problems – and I'm an electrician. I'd be here every day if I had these problems. You need to pass the ordinance. The rates must be raised.

Remy Donnelly, attorney for Wood Materials – about the 1st reading of the ordinance about batture hours. – If you do pass it - it will be arbitrary and capricious and taken to court – and passing this ordinance will require another lawsuit.

Tommy Budde, Soniat – speeding problem on Riverside Dr. – 30 – 40 – 50 mph is not unheard of – speeding cameras were mentioned – what happened? Is there a possibility.

Robert Johnson, Riverside Dr. agrees that Riverside Dr. speeding is a problem. Don't understand why Sarah Ham said that they hope there will be no more legal issues – when their lawyer threatens to sue. He brought up the breeding season of a sturgeon – an endangered species – La. Dept. of Natural Resources – Aug. 27th says they have no plans to disturb the breeding grounds – violated their permit with dredging. Not 1 acre will be disturbed - it is 25 acres.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Benton to allow 3 more minutes.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

He continued – 25 acres are being disturbed in unincorporated Jefferson and the scale of fines is \$500 for less than 1 acre. \$5,000 for more than 5 acres. Put sand and fresh limestone – instead broken concrete, crushed limestone – 800 ft. from closest resident.

Christian Cancienne, Hickory Ave. said in 2007 he was cited for a public nuisance because construction started at 5 am – cited for public nuisance – changed business practices to 7 am. Now he has 2 ft. of water from rain in his driveway and yard because drains are packed with sand.

Nicole Lee, city clerk said the millage was not advertised wrongly in 2012. It was not advertised and was not put on the ballot.

The Public Hearing is closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was offered by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Special Hearing and the council meeting of August 29, 2016.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED

A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: NONE

MOTION PASSED

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Adjustments did not meet in August

The Planning & Zoning Board did not meet in September.

RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016-12

This Resolution is proposed by Councilman Johnston.

A Resolution accepting funds from Jefferson Parish in the amount of Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$4,200.00) for additional and updated lighting on the Harahan Gym site.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Benton to open the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The Public Hearing is now open.

Motion by Councilman Baudier, seconded by Councilman Benton to close the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion: None

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Motion by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Baudier to approve the Resolution.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The Mayor thanked Councilman Johnston for the monies for the playground.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016 – 13

This Resolution is proposed by Councilman Johnston.

A resolution to preserve the peace, tranquility, safety and health of the citizens of the City of Harahan.

Motion by Councilman Johnston , seconded by Councilman Wheeler to open the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The Public Hearing is now open.

John Riehms – Renpass – will this make the police, fire and regulatory to address the situation and not have the Mayor stand alone on this matter. Harahan needs to stand together for the community – if we stand together as a community, we can win this. The ordinances must be enforced.

Remy Donelly, attorney for Wood Materials asked for clarification – what does this resolution do?

Councilman Johnston answered that this is for the Mayor and Police Chief to work together to enforce this ordinance.

Evelyn Riehms – Renpass – Woods says if you don't let me have my way to work all night – I'll sue you. A driver can say I want to speed and if you give me a ticket – I'll sue you. They have 4 pits/yards – don't need the 1 in Harahan. Unfair to residents. Can't run all night – unfair. It's been 16 months - please stop them. The revenue does not come to Harahan – it goes to where the sand is delivered. It needs to stop.

Kay Mitchell, Oak Ave. thanked the Riehms and offered to put a Harahan Lives Matter on my door. What do you want your legacy to say – we did nothing or we helped the citizens.

Mr. Buras told the Council what has been done - June 17th Woods sued over hours of operation - ordinance proposed before the airport project. It was sent to the Planning & Zoning Bd. – brought back to council – no second – died for lack of a second. They sued – to have the composting use as a nonconforming use because they had done since 2010. The composting is an illegal lane use and there were no documents to prove they had been December, 2011 – so we sued. Woods' answer was due Aug. 15th – Edwards extended all legal deadlines to Sept. 9 – requesting all correspondence regarding the operation of the sand pits and composting – short staffing causing delay – 100's of pages – need to be provided. He asked all Councilmember to provide any correspondence to him. Something is being done – the Riehms lawsuit was removed to Federal Court. The Riehms are fighting to get it back to 24th Judicial Court. We will be filing for injunctive relief to get rid of the composting. He asked if the city has a calibrated decibel meter.

Chief Walker said yes.

Mr. Buras said it needs to be brought to the levee at night.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Wheeler to close the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The Mayor called for a 5 minute recess.

The meeting was called back to order.

Council Discussion:

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Benton

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to approve the Resolution.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION PASSES

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (Public Hearing)

The following Ordinance was introduced unanimously by the council.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO.: 2016-9 - Deferred from August.

The Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

An Ordinance to repeal and amend Ordinance No 1752, which amended Ordinance No. 1402, which amended Ordinance No. 53, Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan and Ordinance No. 26, Section 1, Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan and the Harahan Municipal Code, Chapter 22, Article II, Division 2, USER CHARGES, Section 22-46, "Schedule of changes", providing for a change of user charges for services rendered by the said Sewerage District.

Motion by Councilman Wheeler seconded by Councilman Benton to open the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The Public Hearing is now open.

Julie Kenney, Franklin Ave. said she left out several things earlier. The council knew that these problems existed and did nothing. If you are against the increase - what is your suggestion to fix the problem?

David Sprague, Franklin - have seen some improvement - but much improvement still needed. This will free up money for other use.

John Riehms, Renpass - does not live there - but he stands with the residents - he is also concerned with the drainage issues.

Evelyn Riehms - Renpass wondering about increase in water bill- how long will it take to resolve all problems.

Mayor Miceli said that a bid package for the second phase is ready to go - just waiting on approval of the ordinance and approval from DEQ for release of the funds.

Evelyn Riehms - Is the engineer the same engineer who applied for the loan. Is he more expensive than the old engineer?

Councilman Wheeler - addressed the breakdown about costs - she asked the Mayor did we reach out to other service providers to ask for a reduction. Just got the information on Tuesday.

Evelyn Riehms - it doesn't hurt to ask.

Eric Chatelain - Colonial Club - must pass - this money is strictly for sewerage - it won't correct drainage issues - this would help all our departments because it frees up money for repairs throughout the city.

Mayor Miceli said the chart is accurate we are still in deficit.

Eric Chatelain - you should have \$700,000 at the end of the year.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Benton to close the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion:

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston offered several amendments

Amendment 1 to have the title read "An Ordinance to amend and re-ordain Ordinance No. 53, Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan, and the Harahan Municipal Code, Chapter 90, Article II, Division 2, USER CHARGES, SECTION 90-58. - Schedule of charges, providing for a

change of user charges for services rendered by the said Sewerage District.”

Councilman Johnston then asked Mr. Buras if the ordinance would have to be readvertised.

Mr. Buras said no this is a technical change because the current title does not make proper reference to the correct section of the Harahan Municipal Code.

A motion was made by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to accept amendment 1 as ready by Councilman Johnston.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT PASSES

Councilman Johnston read Amendment No. 2.

The new section to read:

“SECTION 1. That Section 1 of Ordinance No. 53, Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan and the Harahan Municipal Code, Chapter 90, Article II, Division 2, USER CHARES, Section 90-58, Schedule of changes, be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:”

Mr. Buras said the language as presently drafted does not make proper reference to the correct section of the Harahan Municipal Code.

A motion was made by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to accept Amendment No. 2 as read by Councilman Johnston.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT PASSES

Councilman Johnston read Amendment No. 3.

That Section 4 be amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. In the event that there is adopted by the electors of the City of Harahan an ad valorem real property tax the avails of which are dedicated exclusively to the operation and maintenance of Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan, including debt service obligations undertaken by it or on its behalf, then, in such event, the Council of the City of Harahan shall, annually and in consideration of the previous fiscal year’s receipts of such ad valorem tax, adjust the schedule of user charges so that the user charges together with such ad valorem tax receipts are revenue neutral after satisfaction of the operation, maintenance and debt service obligations of Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan.”

A motion was made by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to accept the amendment as read by Councilman Johnston.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT PASSES

Councilman Johnston read amendment No. 4.

That Section 5 be amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 5. If any provisions of this ordinance is held to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable by the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance that may be given effect without the invalid provision; and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.”

A motion was made by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Baudier to approve the amendment.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT PASSES

Councilman Johnston read amendment No. 5.

That a new section to be designated Section 6 be added there to read as follow:

“SECTION 6. All Ordinances or parts of ordinances of the City of Harahan in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.”

A motion was made by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Benton to accept the Amendment as read by Councilman Johnston.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT PASSES

COUNCIL DISCUSSION;

Councilman Johnston said he still feels that he is not in favor of this – but DEQ said we won’t get more money if we don’t do this. We can put a millage up for vote in the spring.

Mayor Miceli thanked Councilman Johnston for the amendments. It is important to address the problems that affect many residents who are suffering. We hope the decision of the council is to go forward because the city can’t afford to not utilize this money.

This starts the rehab which will ultimately cost \$11 million – when we take money from general fund – we take it away from our first responders and our maintenance department.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to approve the Ordinance.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE PASSES

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-13

This Ordinance is proposed unanimously by the council.

The Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

An Ordinance adopting a Capital Projects Budget for the Sewerage Department of the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Baudier to open the Public Hearing.

Evelyn Riehms, Renpass – asked about another ordinance.

Motion by Councilman Wheeler seconded by Councilman Johnston to close the Public Hearing.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

COUNCIL DISCUSSION: NONE

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to approve the Ordinance.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE PASSES

Councilman Baudier apologized to residents of Franklin Ave. & to firemen for approving new taxes on citizens.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (First Reading)

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-14

This Ordinance was introduced by unanimously by the Council

The City Clerk read it by title only.

An Ordinance to sell and/or auction property owned by the municipality of the City of Harahan, providing for the procedure to be utilized pursuant to the provisions of L.R.S. 33:4712, which provides for the sale, exchange or lease of property by a municipality.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 15

This Ordinance is proposed by Councilman Johnston

The City Clerk read it by title only.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 1333, Section XV, relative to the zoning classification “NU Non-urban Batture District”, Harahan Municipal Code, 1990, Appendix A, by adding thereto a new subsection governing the hours of operation of commercial enterprises therein; and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

Mayor Miceli asked the council to send this to the Planning & Zoning Board for their consideration.

A motion to send the ordinance to the Planning & Zoning Board was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

The City Clerk said it would be heard at the November meeting.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 16

This Ordinance is proposed unanimously by the Council.

The City Clerk read it by title only.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1806 being the Annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2016, by decreasing appropriations to Capital Expenditures by the amount of \$1,000 and by increasing the appropriation to Budget Code 010-4-112-40320 relative to Police Department - Uniforms and Accessories for the specific purpose of the purchase of 2 Bulletproof Vests; and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 17

This Ordinance is proposed by Councilman Johnston

The City Clerk read it by title only.

An Ordinance to place “stop signs” on Oak Avenue at the corner of Columbus Street.

Mayor Miceli asked the city attorney if there were requirements necessary for placing a stop sign.

Mr. Buras said he couldn’t answer off top of head, but he would research it.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Knights of Columbus Women’s Auxiliary are requesting permission to sell beer and wine at the 5th Annual Fall Family Fest on Saturday, October 1st from 6 to 10 p.m. The event will be held in the St. Rita School parking lot. Wheeler/Johnston to amend to Saturday Council Discussion: None

A motion to grant the requests of the Knights of Columbus Women’s Auxiliary as read by the Clerk was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

REQUEST GRANTED

2. Stacey Lark, resident of 149 Ravan Ave., would like to request permission to block Bourg St. From Ravan Ave. to Elaine Ave. during the hours of operation of the St. Rita Pecan Festival, beginning Friday, November 11, 2016 through Sunday, November 13, 2016.

Chief Walker said that would present no problem.

Council Discussion: None

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to grant permission.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

3. Charlie Hudson, III, Owner and Operator of Chosen Cakes and Caterers, is requesting permission to hold "Chosen Cakes Relaunch", in the parking lot of the building, located at 6861 Jefferson Hwy., on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. The event will have music, food, beer and wine.

Mayor Miceli asked the city attorney if the city could grant permission to hold event on private property and if we do, do we incur liability.

Mr. Buras said yes the city could incur liability because of the wine and beer.

Chief Walker said Mr. Hudson has a detail assigned.

Council Discussion: None

Motion by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Johnston to grant permission.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

4. Patriot Nation Men's Club is requesting a special event permit for the River Bend BBQ Festival to be held on the night of Friday, January 27, 2017 and all day Saturday, January 28, 2017, at The Kamp, located at 2317 Hickory Ave.

Councilman Johnston questioned the time?

Eric Chatelain said they cook all night Friday and serve all day Saturday.

Council Discussion: None

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to grant permission.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

5. St. Rita's is requesting a Police escort and barricades for their Annual Feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Eucharistic Procession which is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016 after the 11:30 am Mass.

Council Discussion: None

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to grant the escort and use of barricades.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

6. A high content ABO application for Heads and Tails Restaurant, 1820 Hickory Ave., Ste. A.

Council Discussion:

Motion by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Johnston to grant the escort and use of barricades.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

7. The Harahan Athletic Association is asking permission to hold a Jambalaya Cook-off & Car Show for Oct. 29 from 12 – 6 pm at Harahan Playground.

Motion by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Benton to grant permission.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

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NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

PERMISSION GRANTED

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL- The public may now address the council.

Lee Brown, Firefighter Association said they need help with recurring expenses. We have 3 firemen on duty and we need more.

Eric Chatelain – Chief Walker made the comment that we have 2 officers on the street and the rumor is we have lost 4 officers in the last month. I keep my employees by paying them well.

Address the Council is closed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for August, 2016 – Total revenue \$362,364.66

REPORTS

Chief Walker gave his report for the month of August.

He needs 2 additional officers – he has 4 officers leaving.

Councilman Baudier – no report

Councilman Johnston – The sewerage ordinance was tough to vote for – it was too much of an increase and he didn't want to burden the citizens. He is not completely thrilled – but the city can continue drawing the money to repair sewer system.

Councilman Huete said an ordinance is being prepared for first reading for speeding cameras on Riverside Dr.

Councilman Wheeler – no report

Councilman Benton – no report

Mayor Miceli thanked everyone who spoke and Linda Lulue for the amount of hours and days she has worked on the sewer issue for the council. It was a very arduous task and she is proud of the work that everyone did.

PAY BILLS

Total Bills paid in August, 2016 are \$333,316.66

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN

Motion by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Johnston to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 P.M.

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

MOTION PASSES

A. The following matter involving pending litigation may be considered (Court, Case, Number, Parties):

- 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. Suzanne 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**
- 4. Wood Materials LLC, Wood Resources LLC v. City of Harahan, 24th JDC, Case 761-783, Div. "K"**

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: