

**CITY OF HARAHAAN  
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAAN, LOUISIANA  
MAYOR AND HARAHAAN CITY COUNCIL  
November 10, 2016**

The Mayor opened the Regular Council Meeting for November 10, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

The City 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, Financial Administrator Linda Lulue; IT Administrator Ed Krause;  
**Absent:** City Attorney Gilbert Buras

Councilman Huete asked why Mr. Buras and Ms. Lulue are not here tonight.

Mayor Miceli said that since the council decided to defer the vote on the budget to the December meeting there was no need for them to be here tonight.

Mayor Miceli asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Chief Walker to the Special Presentations.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to amend the agenda.

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

**YEAS:** Benton, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

Mayor Miceli asked Councilman Huete if she needed a motion to amend the agenda to add Redflex to the Special Presentations.

Motion by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Johnston to amend the agenda.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. Darlene Schwartz, Community Liaison gave her report. She said she was contacted by a volunteer who created bags for children in crisis. The person donated 12 bags – 6 for boys and 6 for girls. The bags will be in the Police Dept. to be given out as needed. The stuffed animals came from two local children - Julia Courcelle, 7 yrs. old & David Courcelle, 8 yrs. old. Both received plaques for their generosity. The Harahan Christmas Parade will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> – contact the police dept. to join in the fun. Katie Peppo was unable to attend so Ms. Schwartz gave the preliminary information on her project – The Harahan Youth Advisory Council. Ms. Peppo has put in a lot of hours setting this up – preliminary qualifications are: student must be Harahan resident between 9-12 grade – any school or home school; must attend monthly meetings; strong interest in civic participation and want to search for community solutions. Contact city hall and the information will be forwarded to Ms. Peppo. Flyers will be distributed and listed on the city website.
2. Sarah Ham, Wood Materials – Mayor Miceli said that she received an email stating that Ms. Ham would not be available tonight.
4. Chief Tim Walker, State of the Harahan Police Dept.  
Chief Walker gave his background as a Harahan citizen, councilman and chief of police. There is misinformation being given out that his

officers were not to write tickets. His officers' safety is paramount to him – his officers are told to enforce all laws on all citizens equally. His staff Capt. Adams; Capt. Gleber & Ms. Whittle, his secretary all work together on the dept.'s budget. – He is a team player. An assessment of the department was done in 2014 – the men were working 84 hours & being paid for 80 hrs. & there were 13 paid holidays in the city which they were not paid for prior to him. Basic salary of a new officer is \$34,616 – with salary deductions – it's about \$18,000. Officers are leaving because there is no opportunity for overtime. We are a training ground – we get them post certified – they spend 2 years here and then move on. We have put together a proposed budget – but Mayor has a problem with him doing this. The shifts are short of manpower due to officers leaving or getting hurt. Jefferson Parish backs our department up. The 2016 budget has \$60 - \$90,000 that we don't need and they want to take the money out of my budget – I am opposed to doing this. His department is paying allocations of overhead salary – 50% of HR; 35% of Mayor's salary; & 30% of 2 others. There will be a new auditor and they may change that option. I am opposed to paying these salaries. Speed cameras – I am not opposed to it. Councilman Huete, Councilman Baudier, himself and Mayor Miceli met with Redflex. He has 28 employees – 19 commissioned officers and 28 reserve officers. They have full time jobs – 14 reserves worked Halloween night with 4 full time officers on the street patrolling the city. In last 4 years – Councilman Johnston has had Jefferson Parish purchase 8 new cars for us and we purchased 3 new motorcycles and they have 3 old motorcycles, but 2 will be sold at auction. They do ride and they do write tickets. I purchased 55 new firearms – the previous chief bought 20 guns for the full time officers. I gave the reserve officers the new guns. All the guns are alike now. Since the last meeting – the dept. percentage is 35% of the budget – but that includes grants. He gets \$1,000 from Walmart for the Christmas run – it doesn't come from Harahan. He has been told that too many officers are coming to the meetings – one officer gets paid and the others get comp time. Off. Ladner and Schwartz are reserve officers. The HPD provided the metal detector for the court. The dept. rented the port-o-lets for Halloween as a service to the city. He said that Councilman Huete had asked about the annual costs to the city of a new policemen. He said the department participates in a pension system – and social security and with Medicare & insurance it costs about \$59,000 per officer for the city. He is 4-5 officers down but he is not asking for that – he only needs 2 officers to have 4 policemen on the street.

Councilman Huete – said you said you were embarrassed to say you only had 1 officer on the street. She has received emails about needing a good department – but with only 1 officer on the street – it's impossible to do this. She said the cameras was being creative and thinking of ways to create new revenue. How do you stop turnover? They get trained – they stay a years & they leave. The police dept. got a raise in 2010 but they need more money – how do we keep the citizens safe. I will not approve the removal of \$68,000 from the police dept. budget.

Chief Walker said a 7-1/2% raise was given by the Sheriff's office – and they are getting another one soon. I'm trying to be as transparent as possible – I put the arrest statistics on Facebook.

Councilman Huete said the police millage in 2014 – 5 mills for the dept. was turned down by the citizens. The mayor is trying to remove \$70,-\$90,000 from the police budget, but she is asking the council to join her in preventing that.

Mayor Miceli said she is developing a formal response to explain the need and she is full support of the first responders – both she and the chief were dealt a very bad hand – with a huge deficit.

5. Redflex – Mr. Charley Buckles lives in Lafayette. He said he was asked 6-8 months ago to prepare information for the city. Westwego, Gretna, Lafayette & Baker are using their cameras. Misinformation is being given out about the cameras. The camera takes the picture but

the police dept. decides if it is a violation. A post certified police officer looks at the monitor to decide if it is a real violation. In the first 4 years Lafayette said crashes were reduced by 65%. Parking a police car on the road without an officer is useless. 250 cities across the nation enjoyed a reduction in crashes. In the city of Baker – speed enforcement cameras reduced the speed related crashes. In Lafayette the chief was not sold on the program when it started. After implementation he said it was equal to having 6-8 officers on the street. The federal highway system said crashes cost an average of \$11,000. The ordinance makes it a civil violation – less onerous on the public. There has to be signage to let the people know where the cameras are – his company will provide the signs. In March – they provided the technology to do a no cost survey for 12 hours – in the 7600 block of Riverside. In total, 724 vehicles passed – 63 were exceeding the speed by 11 miles – 3 exceeded by 30 miles. On Jefferson Hwy. 7800 passed with 236 – speeding 10 miles over the limit; 19 over were going 30 miles over limit & 6 were going in excess of 76 mph over the limit. Outreach program must be done – with red light cameras there is a 75% drop-off in violations. How to put in place – buy equipment – engineer it – processing – his company does it all. They put together a program that allows cities to implement the system – the city can pay upfront or they are able to put in the system with no out of pocket costs. The violators will pay more – not the taxpayers. The officer does not have to stop every single vehicle. The real issue is the safety of the police department. Once the ordinance is passed – we can work together to get the system installed. He offered to answer questions.

Councilman Huete said if there is a robbery or other crime – they can run back the video and find the car.

Mr. Buckles said yes they could do that - their cameras were used in a kidnapping case and helped solve the case. It will never cost the city one single penny out of pocket. They will do all the work.

Councilman Benton asked if the cameras are leased to the city.

Mr. Buckles – said yes – the lease is a flat amount of money – their charge to the city would be \$40 or less.

Councilman Benton asked if the state makes the use of cameras illegal would the city be liable.

Mr. Buckles again said that the police dept. looks at the video and decides if it is a violation.

Mayor Miceli announced that the city is implementing an on-line tax payment option for the citizens' convenience. Tax bills are going out at end of November. The citizens will be alerted when it is active. She also said that City Attorney Buras won't be at this meeting in person, but will be available by conference call for any questions. She said that several members of the council, and Chiefs Walker and St. Cyr will be meeting with City Financial Administrator Linda Lulue to discuss the upcoming ordinances for amending the 2016 budget and the new 2017 budget this coming week. She noted that any changes to the 2016 budget will change the 2017 proposed budget. The projected 2017 deficit cannot be higher than the 2016 deficit at the end of the year. She said this is a delicate balancing act and she asked all to work together. She thanked the East Jefferson Levee District for supporting Harahan by watching the levee and issuing citations to the uncovered dump trucks and the trucks turning down Riverside Drive illegally.

Councilman Huete asked if Chief Walker was at the meeting.

Mayor Miceli said the meeting was held today. They have heard from residents at their board meeting that they were needed. She said Chief Walker was not being shunned.

She reminded the citizens that St. Rita's Pecan Festival is this weekend and invited everyone to attend.

#### **ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

Address the Council is now open.

Eric Chatelain, Colonial Club Dr. said he is confused about the special meetings – two meetings since then – it's odd that the Mayor and Council

have said that they don't want special meetings – but they keep having special meetings. He is favor of speed cameras – but not only on Riverside Dr. – Colonial Club Dr. is just as bad. The city is cutting budgets to get rid of the deficit – but nothing is being done to repair anything. Chris Yokum, Halsey, he is opposed to red light cameras and said he voted for the police millage. He is former police officer and will vote for it again. The money must come from somewhere. I don't like cameras – but I am willing to pay higher taxes to live in Harahan. One police officer on the street is in danger because there is no backup except Jefferson Parish.

John Riehms, Rencpass looking forward to Wood Materials presentation but they didn't show. Do they really care about the citizens of Harahan – why do they keep composting when they know it is against the ordinance – instead of stopping – they sued the city? The citizens don't want this health hazard in Harahan. The applicant (Wood) needs to obtain operating permits including from the city – which the city did not give them permission or permit. They have violated the city ordinance – they are requesting the city to contact the Army Corps of Engineers and the Levee District to stop the issuance of this permit. Reasonable measure to control dust and emissions from them should be enforced to provide a safe environment.

Mayor Miceli said the case is going to court on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court.

Evelyn Riehms, Rencpass – the haul road is still not being installed in November – 11 months does not take that long to get a permit. Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> – Sara Ham said they wanted to be good neighbors and the haul road would be constructed soon – it is now Nov. On Oct. 1, 2015 they received a permit, but it ends soon. She wants the city to request that the Levee Board not issue the permit because composting is not legal on the batture by Ord. 1333. Asking Mayor to user her power to stop the issuance of this permit. She urged the board to adopt the hours of operation ordinance.

Motion by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Huete to give her more time.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

She continued & thanked the Mayor for talking with the Levee Board but we have the say so about this permit. Please tell them you don't approve of this permit since composting is illegal in Harahan. The 2016 permit should be recalled because they never got permission from the city.

Tommy Budde, Stoneleigh is in support of the speeding cameras. They have 54 signatures in support of the cameras. There are 40 houses on his street in favor – 4 didn't sign – says it is 90% in support of the cameras – at no cost to Harahan and no additional policemen – there was a car doing 76 mph on Riverside Dr. – He said the ordinance may spread out to the rest of the city in the future but not tonight.

Motion by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Huete to grant him 2 more minutes.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

He continued and said with a limited area camera ordinance they could reduce speeding. He said the petition against the cameras has 8 or 9% who are not from Harahan. To the best of his knowledge none of the people against live on Riverside Dr.

Terry Valenti, Colonial Club Dr. there are a lot of New Orleans 70123 zip codes – these are Harahan people – with a couple from other states – but most of the signatures are from Harahan. The Mayor and Council can go down the list. The petition has 283 names against the cameras with 18 that may not be residents.

**Motion by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Baudier to give her 2 more minutes.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**She continued saying she asked for a freedom of information request and never got the information. She is requesting information on how many tickets have been issued on Riverside Dr. & how many crashes have happened on Riverside Dr. or injuries on Riverside Dr. They have seen the information on Redflex and that's all you need to know about the company. She thanked Councilman Johnston for stating he was against the cameras.**

**Rhonda Bagby, Generes said she is opposed to the cameras – she has heard about children being in jeopardy because they are playing in the street – that's neglect and should be reported. She suggested the councilmen pay for the cameras out of their own pocket.**

**Jason Bruzik, Stoneleigh presented a petition of people along Riverside Dr. – speeding is dangerous. He said the petition shows that 70123 is not all Harahan residents. He & his neighbors want the cameras. Everybody has a story of almost being hit. He talked to the people and they want it. He presented an insurance institute study that says speed cameras work – they affect driver's behavior over the long run. If it raises money for chief walker – great.**

**Motion by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Baudier to give him 2 more minutes.**

**He continued saying my kids aren't at risk but it was dangerous while I was walking – someone passed him doing about 60 mph. A bus also passed. Look only at the people directly affected. His kids play on the levee.**

**Robert Johnson, Riverside provided 20 mph speed limit signs to the council and let all people know the speed limit on Riverside Dr. A study from Jefferson Parish Traffic Dept. – 4 day test showed some cars were going 57.6 mph in the 20 mph speed limit. Put speed bumps, stop signs or whatever works. But he thinks cameras are the best solution – make our laws mean something – enforce our 20 mph speed limit.**

**Jim Cartier, Hickory said if citizens think they are being monitored by a policeman or a camera and they will slow down. 10 years ago – awakened by prowler – turned on all lights – went outside with his baseball bat and found a stranded prowler on drugs who had lost control of his car and got stranded on the curb.**

**Johnston/Huete – 2 more**

**He continued – the Jefferson Parish police backed up the Harahan police and that was when 2 policemen on the road – what would happen if there was only 1 policeman. It's a residential street – 20 mph is the speed limit. Unless you put a stop sign on Hickory they keep going too fast. He is favor of cameras – Wood is a bad neighbor – a dishonest neighbor – he hears the beeping all night long – at night they have 18 wheeler trucks going back there.**

**Remy Donnelly, council for Wood started to address the council and stopped.**

**Westley Turner, West Imperial – thanked everyone for being in support of the cameras – lived here only 7 years because this is the safest place – safety is a priority. We have the data that something is wrong – please fix it by supporting the cameras.**

**Mae Jean Cazenave, Oak Ave. she against the speed cameras. The police force should be writing tickets – there are enough officers to take care of the city. At one time the police were stationed on Bailey but now you never see them. She waved down the illegal trucks and I will continue to do this until the police stop them.**

**Motion by Councilman Johnston seconded by Councilman Huete to give her 2 more minutes**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

6

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**She continued asking can Harahan really afford this – please don't put the cameras in our city.**

**Address the Council is now closed.**

**The Mayor called a 2 minute recess.**

**The Mayor called the meeting back to order at 9:24 pm**

**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 October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to approve the minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**A motion was made by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman to approve the minutes of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.**

**The motion failed for lack of a second.**

**Councilman Wheeler said a section was left out concerning Ms. Whittle being insulted by the Mayor.**

**Ms. Johnson said Ms. Whittle was not on a mike at the time and the conversation could not be heard.**

**Mayor Miceli said she simply asked if Ms. Whittle had a background in accounting.**

**Chief Walker said that prior to the meeting his team works on the budget and are all knowledgeable about it and he resented the Mayor asking his employee such a question.**

**Mayor Miceli said he was out of order.**

**Councilman Wheeler offered a motion to have the minutes redone, seconded by Councilman Johnston.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**The Board of Adjustments did not meet in October.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Planning & Zoning Board meeting.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to accept the minutes of the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Planning & Zoning Board meeting.

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**RESOLUTIONS – None**

Mayor Miceli called the City Attorney Gilbert Buras by phone. Present at 9:31 pm.

**ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 15**

This Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The City Clerk read the ordinance by title only as well as the Planning & Zoning Board's recommendation of the ordinance.

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.

A motion was made by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Johnston to open the public hearing.

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

John Riehms, Renpass the residents of Harahan don't want the equipment mentioned in the ordinance to operate all night long. The engine noise and the beeping of the dump trucks violates the quality of life of the residents of Harahan. Wood chooses to aggravate the citizens of the city – in the lawsuit the court cited the residential nature of the area next to the batture – this activity should never have been allowed. Remy Donnelly, counsel for Wood Materials – urges the council not to pass the ordinance – this ordinance is arbitrary because it singles out Wood Materials – the value of the land is \$1 million and that does not cover the work lost if this is passed. This work has been going on for 15 years and it is grandfathered in. I understand your anger – but don't pass the ordinance.

Councilman Huete asked when will the night work stop.

Mr. Donnelly said he didn't know – he thought possibly then end of November or mid December.

Councilman Huete said the project is about to stop but you want to continue the work forever.

Mr. Donnelly said he has a list of the projects during the 15 years. He said there were 4 -6 projects done at varied times.

Mayor Miceli asked how long did they run and how many projects were there.

Mr. Donnelly said he was not sure.

Mayor Miceli said Wood has not had constant night work.

Councilman Baudier said he met with Mr. Wood in summer and they said they would move the haul road but it's still not moved. It's hard to understand – the Riehms' house is covered in sand – the noise is all night long. The particulates are a health risk. He told Mr. Donnelly to put yourself in their shoes. A year ago they asked for help and they are still asking.

Mayor Miceli said she was disappointed that the progress on the haul road was going so slowly.

Mr. Donnelly said they are still waiting for permit – should be forthcoming. Councilman Baudier suggested that Mr. Donnelly go to levee when you leave here – it's like fog – it's that bad. There are other contributing factors – pump to river; other sand pits – and on top of the sand there is the beeping all night long. He wants Wood Material to be good neighbors. Councilman Johnston said they came in April and now it's November and the nuisance is still happening – these people are trying to survive – you had opportunity to negotiate something but they haven't.

Mr. Donnelly – said they are asking for opportunity to work it out.

Councilman Huete asked what is the negotiation.

Mayor Miceli said there was no official response as to what Wood Materials will be putting on the table

Evelyn Riehms, Renpass in response to Donnelly – they want to come to the table and they want to work all night. She asked the council to vote in favor of the ordinance. How can any company sue the city to allow them to make noise all night long – don't let Wood Materials bully the city. They are breaking the law all night – they would not let this happen across the street from their homes – they don't want it either. They don't care about the citizens of Harahan.

Jason Bruzik, Stoneleigh 7201 – first question – since when can you grandfather out from under a judgment – it is still there. If it is still there – they are in contempt of court. Sand and noise is still there. He asked Mr. Donnelly what have you done for my community – have you washed my car – my son has asthma – he was in the ICU 18 months ago – threatening lawsuits does not scare me – I like doing the right thing. Do you know how incredibly large a class action law would be against Wood Materials.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to close the public hearing.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

#### **COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

Councilman Benton said she is abstaining because at one time she owned a part of a composting company.

Councilman Johnston said we have to do what is best for the community.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to approve the ordinance.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** BENTON

**ORDINANCE PASSES**

#### **PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 18**

This Ordinance was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler

The City Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

An Ordinance approving the resubdivision of 401 and 405 Oak Ave., Harahan, LA 70123 – Lots 1, 2, and 3, Square J, Harahan City Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Dading, Marques & Associates, LLC, dated September 19, 2012.

Mayor Miceli requested the City Clerk to read the section of the Planning & Zoning Board minutes pertinent to this ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to open the public hearing.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler



**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**Mr. Melvin Gregorius, representing Mr. Schnexnayder to the board that the family wants to separate the property so the two houses can be divided in the family.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to close the public hearing.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION: None**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to approve the ordinance.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ORDINANCE APPROVED**

**The following Ordinance is introduced by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Huete.**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-19**

**The City Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.**

**An Ordinance to amend the Harahan Municipal Code by adding to Chapter 2, Article 1, a new Section to be designated Section 2-6 establishing a convenience fee of 2.49% for payment of City charges by electronic means and a new Section to be designated Section 2-7 establishing a \$2.00 technical fee upon all permits, licenses in charges imposed by the City of Harahan authority for payment of City charges.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to open the public hearing.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**No one spoke.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to close the public hearing.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION: Councilman Johnston asked if it included credit card payments and said he is in favor of this ordinance.**

**Councilman Wheeler asked if taxes would be able to be paid on-line?**

**Mayor Miceli answered yes.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to approve the ordinance.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ORDINANCE APPROVED**

The following Ordinance is introduced by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 20**

The City Clerk read the ordinance in its entirety.

An ordinance as amended of the Harahan City Council amending Chapter 50, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, of the Harahan Municipal Code by adding Article IV Electronic Enforcement, Speed Limit Enforcement, Sections 50-100 through 50-106 to provide for the enforcement of certain traffic signal violations by automated means and provide for civil penalties for traffic signal violations enforced by automated means.

Mayor Miceli asked Mr. Ed Krause to address this matter. Mr. Krause is the city's CIO (Chief Information Officer) – he is a volunteer for the city. Mr. Krause said he is retired and is volunteering for the city as the Chief Information Officer – who oversees all technology problems. He has a degree in Business and Science and spent 24 yrs. as a consultant to a large IT firm. He has overseen hundreds of federal, state and utility projects. He is establishing a process that the city can all follow. Mayor Miceli said he won't endorse or be against any project – just give an opinion of the process.

Mr. Krause gave a chart of the necessary process. As he reads the ordinance there will be some change in the chief's staff – interface with digicom – not sure if it will be simple or not – but will probably have to upgrade the server the police dept. is using with \$30,000-\$40,000 as a guesstimate of cost. We currently have a system that is running into problems every day because it was not done correctly.

Mayor Miceli asked if the assessment had identified any problems.

Mr. Krause said he will send the report to everyone – he looked at every system; the maintenance contract – he is renegotiating the contract because it was outrageous. The assessment showed that the city is not in good shape at all. Incode is an outstanding system – but it has not been upgraded since its inception 8 years ago and they are charging 25% for maintenance. Budget reports can not be pulled up – it needs to be upgraded. We can upgrade and they won't charge us a dime because we have been paying all these years – but it will require training for all employees including the chief's staff. The web site is antiquated – a third party manages it – he wants to rewrite this website in early 2017 – the police dept. can put their own info up – the site sometimes goes down and there is no offsite backup of the city's records. If we lose the building – we lose every record in the city. It will cost about \$10,000 to back up in the "cloud" – we have to do it – document imaging is another major problem. We have none.

Mayor Miceli asked with our small work force – how much time is lost using our technology.

Mr. Krause said a tremendous amount of time is spent working with the current system. The audit would be so much easier – if the depts. could put in their own budget information.

Mayor Miceli said that by not making these investments, we are falling farther behind.

Mr. Krause said a document imaging application could scan, input and organize in file cabinets in the cloud and on computer. He said there are issues with the court system that will be affected. I will send the report to all – the health and wellness section is not good.

Councilman Huete said she appreciates his comments but she would try and put that \$10,000 fee on the company providing the software.

She asked why is the Mayor guiding him.

Mr. Krause said the mayor is not guiding me – he is glad to answer her questions, but the bottom line is this – we need to update and we can negotiate & that's what he would do.

Mayor Miceli asked if he had assessed the police dept.'s IT system.

Mr. Krause said he had discussed this with Tracy, the Chief and Sgt. Gleber. He had one other comment. If the council decides to install speed cameras, he wants to be involved – he asked that they get the IT group involved with him at early stages.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to open the public hearing.

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

Robert Johnson, Riverside Dr. – we have a system that has not been upgraded in 8 years and it should have been – this ordinance just authorizes an RFP for vendors of the cameras – the Mayor seems to be refusing the power the Council wants to give her – give the cameras due consideration – implement what we need.

John Riehms, Renpass – he witnesses speeders everyday – and people passing over yellow lines – dump trucks and 18 wheelers going down Riverside Dr. Cops have been shot stopping speeders – but cameras won't get shot. Something needs to be done. This ordinance gives the mayor the power to do something. If someone gets hurt – will we be sued? They ignore the signs – they fly down the street.

Jason Bruzik, pass this for the future – in case something changes. The Mayor needs the authority to do this. The RFP can be put out and the people answering have to follow our rules – put in ironclad indemnification of Harahan. Deal with large companies – they have huge budgets. Imagine how deep their pockets are – so look at the ordinance as a frame work – without it – your hands are tied.

Evelyn Riehms, Renpass – watches people passing over a double yellow line – cameras are needed. If a speeder swerves they would come right in our yard. We live in a dangerous time – this will help. Needs to be adopted.

Terri Valenti, Colonial Club Dr. – no one here does not want our children safe – children could be killed by a drunk driver doing 20 mph. Traffic stops often nab people who are wanted for crimes – drugs are involved – We want our police officers to be safe – and no police officer should be alone ever. Someone sitting in the office should be backing the patrol officer. People speed on all our streets in the city. Whatever we have to do to solve the police depts.' problems, but you are being pushed by Councilman Huete to do this.

Mr. Buckles said this is a civil violation & our system operates completely on the web on an apple based computer. There is very little equipment needed – they only need a web site.

Tommy Budde, Stoneleigh there is nothing I haven't said – it's a quick fix – won't cost the city any money – take the statistics from Jefferson Parish – generate \$100-\$200 per ticket- that's an income stream for the city. Ms. Valenti you are not walking in our shoes- you live 2-3 houses from the situation – pass this and give the Mayor the opportunity to negotiate – don't want to stop patrolling – criminals are caught through traffic stops. Make Riverside Dr. safer.

Mayor Miceli asked Chief Walker if he was in support of this ordinance.

Chief Walker said he was not opposed to it.

Mayor Miceli asked if this would take an officer off patrol to watch the monitor and would there be more overtime.

Chief Walker said they won't have to watch the camera and he does not know how much overtime would be needed. It could possibly go up.

Mayor Miceli asked if this was calculated in his 2017 budget.

Chief Walker answered no.

Councilman Johnston said there were 2 stories in the Advocate & TP. He is not in favor of cameras city wide – he is in favor only of Riverside. He got with city attorney about narrowing it down to one street, but Mr. Buras thought no one would bid on it. I want to do whatever I can – A millage would not take effect until next year to give the police more money. We could put stop signs on Riverside Dr. He won't amend it to one street.

Councilman Benton said she has lived for 25 years on Colonial Club in the middle – speeding is annoying and she can sympathize and only in last 2 years have I not had to tell visitors to not speed or they will get ticketed but not any more. I don't see how 1 officer down can make that much

difference in the revenue.

Councilman Huete said we have talked over the last 11-12 months. We talked 2 hours in your office with the Mayor present on how it works – we do know how it works. There should be no overtime in 2017. The Chief has participated in budget hearings and conversation. There have been letters – comments on Facebook – the Chief knows best what the situation of the police dept. is – not anybody else. Safety of the citizens is no. 1 – we talked 6 months ago and then went away – you asked me to reach out to Redflex – it's been resurrected – this is not my agenda – Mr. Chatelain said there are also problems on Colonial – there are problems on Oak – there's a problem – the chief is down officers – the Mayor is trying to take \$90,000 from the police department – I don't agree – I hope you support it.

Mayor Miceli asked Mr. Buras by phone about writing the ordinance.

Mr. Buras said this is modeled on the City of Gretna's ordinance – if it is limited to one street – no one will bid – civil or criminal matter is still being decided. Some sort of due process – a hearing officer or a police officer – strictly a civil matter – won't go on the driver's record – he may have to hire a new employee.

Mayor Miceli asked about Section 3 – article 4 (3a) “installed to work in conjunction with an electric light signal” – does that open the door to red light cameras?

Mr. Buras said he does not know – the technical aspect, the ordinance is based on speed cameras. The ordinance could allow both.

Mayor Miceli asked about the fines which should be collected and deposited in court management fund. It seems the company gets paid first, then Harahan gets paid second.

Mr. Buras – Gretna gets paid first – then pays the vendor.

Councilman Huete said we must pass the ordinance to give the Mayor the power to do this.

Mr. Buras said that's not true – this ordinance doesn't just give her the power to put out RFP it also sets fines. He said we have the cart and horse in the right order – RFP can be sent out.

Councilman Huete said this is the frame work, it gives the Mayor the ability to decide about millages, police officers needed and after we get bids we can tailor the ordinance to the specific contract – if no one responds – then you could go back – and you can tailor the contract to one contractor. This is the first step in the process – needs to occur to go forth.

Councilman Baudier says he's never been in favor of traffic cameras – but I'm not going to close the door – listen to the citizens. Craig & I have had discussions today – they will meet with the chief and try to come up with another solution. But I

Mayor Miceli said she received an unbelievable amount of email, phone calls and conversations about the cameras – those for it are very passionate – those who are against it are quite adamant and have very strong feelings as well. The feeling is overwhelmingly against the cameras among those that have contacted me about such an ordinance. She's looked at the petitions – some on-line don't belong but the majority do belong – there are 260-270 citizens against this ordinance. She commended everyone for responding.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to close the public hearing.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to approve the ordinance.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Huete, Wheeler

**NAYS:** Benton, Johnston

**ABSENT:** None

**ORDINANCE PASSES**

Mayor Miceli asked for a motion to defer voting on Proposed Ordinances No. 2016-21 & 2016-22 until the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Benton to defer the vote on these ordinances until Dec. 15, 2016.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ORDINANCES No. 21 & 22 DEFERRED**

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION – First Reading**

None

**OLD BUSINESS – NONE****NEW BUSINESS**

1. Police Chief Walker is requesting permission to hold the annual Harahan Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm. The parade route starts on Hord St. and continues westbound on Jefferson Hwy., disbanding at Folse St.

Motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to grant permission.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**PERMISSION GRANTED**

**ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.**

Capt. Adams thanked all the veterans for their service.

Robert Johnson, Riverside Dr. glad the framework was adopted – I haven't read the ordinance – I don't think the Mayor will take action. I asked how she would make Riverside safe. I think the police dept. could do more policing – it is her duty to make Riverside Dr. safe.

Evelyn Riehms, Repass – use the authority that we have to stop the issuance of the composting permit to Wood Materials.

John Riehms, Repass – Wood Materials – stop the issuance of the permit – limit the time of work. For 2 months they stopped running the nighttime operation – and they didn't go broke – sand is like a fog in the morning. They need to listen to the citizens of Harahan.

Tommy Budde, Stoneleigh Dr. – thank you for passing it – wants the Mayor to act on it in a reasonable time. The ball is in your court. It is your sole responsibility to do something – spend the money for police officers – they generate a lot of money – all little cities have speed traps – why don't we – the cameras are the best solution – if you have a better plan – I'd like to hear it. Let us know what you will do. Issues get dragged out for years.

Jason Bruzik, Stoneleigh 3204 – he's right – the ball is now in your court – I'm new to Harahan – he's shocked at this kind of politics – I've never seen the cops out there – but you can't put them out there 24 hours a day. Shocked you would vote against the framework – why don't you try it. 882 cars – 24 hours - \$1407 an hour. There's 30-40 camera companies out there – put out the RFD – he will draft the contract that Harahan would never have to worry about lawsuits. Give it a shot.

Terri Valenti – Colonial – on-line petition – fastest way to collect the names – even if you strike some names – 200- would be left – that's a large number of citizens against the cameras – the citizens would support a millage. I supported the fire millage and I would support a police millage – she has police in her family. If a speeder is willing to shoot a policemen they are up to more than speeding.

**REPORTS:**

Councilman Baudier said that the Facebook "Save Harahan" – seems to be destroying Harahan – they are jumping on the Chief now – the police

try to do their best – but Save Harahan should be stopped – try to be positive. He's had enough of it.

Councilman Wheeler – none

Councilman Benton – none

Councilman Huete – none

Mayor Miceli said that Capt. Adams served in the military – she thanked him for his service – she has admiration for all servicemen – thanked him for speaking from his heart –if there are international threats – our military steps in – she thanked all employees who were in the military – She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

She reminded everyone that deficits are painful for all everyone. It doesn't mean that everyone in this room doesn't love this city – they are doing their jobs with very little money to support them – everyone works harder in every department to make this city better.

Chief Walker gave his report for October – I am my own person and I owe no one – we work for the public.

**ADJOURN**

Motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Huete to adjourn at 11:27 pm.

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

**YEAS:** Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

**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.; 24<sup>th</sup> JDC, Case 744-961, Div. "I"
2. Suzanne K. Scalise vs. City of Harahan LA, Anne Gordon, Louise Slayden, Ronald Gordon, Gail Gordon; 24<sup>th</sup> 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, 24<sup>th</sup> 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:**