

CITY OF HARAHAH
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAH, LOUISIANA
MAYOR AND HARAHAH CITY COUNCIL
December 18, 2014

The Mayor and the Council met on the above date for their regular meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Mosca, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Chatelain, Councilman Landry, Councilman Murray, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, City Attorney David Courcelle, Police Chief Tim Walker.

Absent: Councilman Huete, City Planner Steve Villavaso, Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Mosca presented a plaque to Councilman Chatelain. He extolled Mr. Chatelain's virtues.

Councilman Chatelain responded that he would help anyone who needs help and it was an honor to serve as Councilman.

Mayor Mosca said he was blessed to be Mayor and Councilman for 22 years. He thanked many city employees for their service and dedication to the city. He also thanked Councilman Johnston for his help and support. He considers the annexations of new properties as his greatest accomplishment. His biggest problem has been the combination of the safe.

Councilman Baudier presented a plaque to Mayor Mosca.

Edwin Lauricella several employees also presented a plaque to Mayor Mosca.

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mayor Elect Tina Miceli thanked the Mayor and Council for their service. She's looking forward to her first meeting and the challenge the city represents.

Mae Jean Cazenave, Oak Ave. is against the proposed raises being passed because of the financial difficulty the city is facing. She asked why the car allowance for the Mayor was set to be eliminated.

Rhonda Bagby directed her comments to Eric Chatelain - needs to stop being a sore loser. She said she is not afraid of him.

Barbara Butera - audit report \$1.3 million deficit, she is against the ordinance to raise the pay. Car allowance - not opposed - but eliminate all expense allowances for Council too.

Terri Valenti, Colonial Club Dr. thanked Councilman Murray for her service. Mr. Chatelain's proposal for raises and eliminating car allowance - it is obvious why but the people spoke and are tired of politics.

Judy Johnson, Oak Ave. maintained that getting "better people" with more money is just baloney - dedicated people work for the good of the city not for the money.

Councilman Chatelain, Colonial Club Dr. said he never tried to scare anyone - for someone to stand here and say they aren't afraid of him is nuts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by **Councilman Landry** and seconded by **Councilman Murray** to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the November 20, 2014 Council Meeting.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by **Councilman Baudier** and seconded by **Councilman Chatelain** to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2014 Council Meeting.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS

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

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

The Planning & Zoning Board did not meet in December.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

The Municipal Clerk read the Resolution in its entirety.

1. A Resolution authorizing Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the City of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson, which provides for the donation of one (1) used freight liner, one (1) used Ford F350 truck and one (1) used utility trailer by the Parish of Jefferson.

Discussion:

The Municipal Clerk explained the resolutions to the Council. She stated that Councilman Johnston wanted this for his records. Councilman Murray said this was being done after the fact and asked the city attorney for an opinion.

City Attorney Courcelle said it would be proper if the donations had not been received.

Councilman Johnston said he requested these resolutions be passed. This is only for his records.

Councilman Murray asked if it should be noted that the equipment and money has been received. She asked that the wording be added to the resolutions. She thanked Councilman Johnston for all the help he has given Harahan.

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

The Municipal Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

2. A Resolution authorizing Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the City of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson to provide the City of Harahan funds to be used for repairs of equipment that was donated by Jefferson Parish.

Discussion:

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

3. A Resolution authorizing Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the City of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson, to provide the Harahan Senior Center funds to be used for special activities for the seniors, and for the purchase of small equipment.

Discussion:

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

4. A Resolution authorizing Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the City of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson, to provide the Harahan Senior Center funds to be used for a new bingo machine and accessories.

Discussion:

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

5. A Resolution authorizing Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the City of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson, to provide the Harahan Maintenance Department funds to be used for an air compressor and related equipment.

Discussion:

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

The following Resolution was introduced unanimously by the Council.

6. A Resolution authorized Mayor Mosca, on behalf of the city of Harahan, to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Parish of Jefferson, to provide the city of Harahan funds to be used for street repairs.

Discussion:

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

Yeas: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

Nays: None

Absent: Huete

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (PUBLIC HEARING)

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

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

1. An Ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 30 and 31, Square V, Harahan City Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Mandle-Edwards Surveying, Inc., dated May 21, 2014.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

None

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE APPROVED

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

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

2. An Ordinance approving the re-subdivision of Lots 28 and 29, Square V, Harahan City Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Mandle-Edwards Surveying, Inc., dated May 21, 2014.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Councilman Murray asked Councilman Chatelain if he knew what he would be building.

Councilman Chatelain said he did not know at this point.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Chatelain – he owns the property.

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE APPROVED

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Landry.

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

3. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1771, the annual budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Chief Walker asked if this was a line item budget.

Councilman Murray said these were not her figures and she does not know who changed them.

Mayor Mosca said Mr. Courcelle spoke with her about this.

Councilman Murray said she had not spoken to Mr. Courcelle. She said the ordinance was changed and it did not meet with the Legislative Auditor's criteria.

Councilman Landry said he felt it should be deferred.

A motion was offered by Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Landry to defer.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE DEFERRED

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

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

4. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1770, the annual Sales Tax Budget for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the city of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

Chief Walker said that he had received new bills for the dept. and a new holiday had been added. He questioned the amounts – he had requested \$104,000 but is being given \$205,000 and asked why.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Councilman Landry said the police dept. budget was not reflecting an increase. He further stated that the agenda keeps changing. \$1,622,350 was the original budget – he is not sure if the \$205,000 is in addition to the original budget.

The Mayor called a 10 minute recess.

The Mayor called the meeting back to order.

Councilman Murray said there are many problems with the ordinance and asked Councilman Baudier to defer the remaining ordinances because the figures are wrong until a special meeting could be called with the Financial Director in attendance.

A motion was offered by Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Baudier to call a special meeting on Monday, Dec. 22 at 5:30 pm. to address all three deferred ordinances.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

Councilman Landry said with a line item budget money can only be moved by a council vote.

Councilman Murray said the rest of the ordinances need to be deferred too.

It was agreed to read all the ordinances and then defer them.

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

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

5. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1767, the annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for the Sewerage Department, for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the city of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

A motion to defer was offered by Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE DEFERRED

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Landry and seconded by Councilman Murray

The City Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

- 6. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1771, the annual Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana (Police Department).**

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

A motion to defer was offered by Councilman Murray and Councilman Baudier.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE DEFERRED

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

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

- 7. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1771, the annual Budget of Revenues and Expenditures, for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana (Capital Projects)**

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Councilman Murray said that to use Capital Projects is a two-step process and the first step has not been done. The money has to be released first, then amended into the operating budget.

Councilman Murray said it is not legal to do it this way. She asked why the money from Capital Projects is being moved to the operating budget.

Mayor Mosca asked if she was for or against moving the money.

Councilman Murray said she was against it.

Mayor Mosca said to vote against it.

A motion to defer was offered by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Murray.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE DEFERRED

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Landry and seconded by Councilman Chatelain.

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

- 8. An Ordinance providing that the Harahan Municipal Code be supplemented to fix the amount of compensation of the elected public officials of the City of Harahan as required by L.R.S. 33:404.1 (City Council).**

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Councilman Murray is against this ordinance - too much debt and have horrific financial problems.

Councilman Baudier - no discussion.

Councilman Chatelain said it would be difficult to vote for my own raise but a lot of us are leaving and the city will have this savior to come in and find more money.

Councilman Landry – won't vote for this – it's not the right time. It's not a part time job but it's not the time to do this. His salary goes to all the causes that ask for donations. **The Mayor** called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Chatelain

NAYS: Landry, Murray

ABSENT: Huete

ABSTAIN: Baudier – no reason

ORDINANCE FAILED

The following Ordinance was introduced by **Councilman Chatelain** and seconded by **Councilman Baudier**.

The Municipal Clerk read the Ordinance in its entirety.

9. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1367, to terminate the car allowance for the Mayor of the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

A motion was offered by **Councilman Chatelain** and seconded by **Councilman Baudier** to withdraw this ordinance because it is against the law.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

ORDINANCE WITHDRAWN

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Planning and Zoning Board appointment.

Councilman Baudier nominated Anthony Sequeira for the Planning & Zoning board.

A motion was offered to confirm the appointment by **Councilman Baudier** and second by **Councilman** _____.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry

NAYS: Murray

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

Mr. Sequeira thanked the council for the appointment.

2. The 500 block of Gordon Ave. is requesting permission for their annual New Year's Eve block Party. The street will need to be blocked off from Sixth St. To Wilson Ave. from 8:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.

A motion to allow was offered by **Councilman Murray** and seconded by **Councilman Baudier**.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

3. 2015 Holiday calendar.

A motion was offered by **unanimously** by the council to approve the calendar.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for November, 2014

Revenues \$275,914.5

PAY BILLS

The Council paid the bills for November, 2014 in the amount of \$155,033.47.

REPORTS

Councilman Landry thanked his family and wife for their patience during his 8 years. He voted with his heart for Harahan. It was an honor and I will stay involved.

Councilman Chatelain said he enjoyed serving his 30 months. He learned a lot. He plans to stay involved also. He enjoyed his term and it was an honor to serve.

Councilman Baudier said he is looking forward to the next four years. He will try to be more open minded.

Councilman Murray said she has thoroughly enjoyed her 8 years as Councilman with Councilman Landry. She said their biggest accomplishment was Ordinance 1333 – the new zoning Ordinance. She urged everyone to get involved with the city.

Mayor Mosca thanked the council for their service for the last 4 years. Councilman Huete was ill and unable to come this evening. He said he is in favor of the Fire Department millage that will be coming up in March. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Chief Walker gave the monthly report for the month of November, 2014. He thanked everyone who participated in the annual Christmas Parade. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN

A motion was offered by **Councilman Murray** and seconded by **Councilman Landry** to adjourn at 9:20 pm.

The Mayor called for a vote. The vote was:

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

Tina Miceli, Mayor

Nicole Lee, Municipal Clerk