



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING
November 21, 2017 6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting was held at the Pearl River Town Hall and so called to the order by Mayor Pro Tempore Kathryn Walsh at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Aldermen Walsh, Bennett, Phillips, Cutrer along with Chief Jennings and Attorney Daigle.
Absent: Mayor McQueen, Alderman McGregor, and Attorney Mathison

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Alderman Cutrer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Phillips.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Alderman Walsh called for approval of minutes from the council meeting held on October 17, 2017. Alderman Cutrer made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Phillips. All in favor. So moved.

SPECIAL COMMENTS:

Alderman Bennett recognized and gave thanks to local veterans. Alderman Bennett recognized Travis Longman, Corporal Bill Gauley, Ed Singletary, Mark Bunch, and Joshua Barnhill.

Alderman Cutrer recognized an Outstanding Citizen Maggie Mae Bennett, who was awarded Excellence from the National Academy of Future Physician and Medical Scientist.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Attorney Daigle introduced the 2017 Budget to the aldermen, and will discuss at the special meeting on December 12, 2017.

Alderman Walsh informed the audience that there will be a Special Meeting and Public Hearing on December 12, 2017 at 7:00pm to adopt the amended Budget for 2017 and the introduction of the 2018 Budget. Alderman Walsh also informed the audience that an Event Ordinance No. 17-11-21 is being introduced tonight and will be discussed and voted on at the December 19, 2017 Meeting.

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Joey Wrenn, a member of the Lions Club, stated that at last month's Council Meeting he felt that the Lions Club was being attacked. The Lions Club has been around since 1952, helping citizens in Pearl River. Mr. Wrenn feels that the Lions Club is in the middle of Alderman Bennett and Chief Jennings differences. Mr. Wrenn spoke about the scholarship that was given to Makenzie Bennett, Alderman Bennett's Daughter, who he felt was the best candidate. He also informed the council and the audience that Makenzie Bennett's scholarship award was the Lions Club "Hollis Davis Memorial Scholarship Award" not the "Run to The River Scholarship Award." Alderman Bennett took this time to inform the audience that all the members from the Lions Club work hard for the citizens in our community; they put on the festival, the 5K run and also help get children jackets for the winter. Alderman Walsh also thanked the Lions Club for all that they do.

LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Alderman Walsh reminded the aldermen and the audience that the Annual Christmas Program will be December 8, 2017 at 6:00pm.

Alderman Bennett announce that the town had another successful movie night, Friday November 17, 2017, with nearly 100 people in attendance. Alderman Bennett also stated that the Trunk-or-Treat was spectacular. She thanked the Lions Club, Mr. Marty, Rotolo's and a few citizens that came and helped with the festivities and also bought candy for this event. Alderman Bennett thanked the Sheriff's office for their service at this event. Alderman Bennett informed the aldermen and audience that they are working hard on the music line up for the festival and hope to have that by January. Alderman Bennett took this time to speak about some of the differences that her and Chief Jennings are having, along with E-mails that were exchanged between her and Chief Jennings.

Alderman Phillips stated that he supports the Lions Club along with anything that is beneficial to the Town. Alderman Phillips spoke about a pre-bid meeting that took place this morning, held by engineer Oscar Boudreaux. He also stated that if any residence around Pearl River High School seen brownish colored water, it is due to the construction company using the fire hydrant at the High School.

Alderman Bennett also wanted to thank owners of the old Po-boys for allowing the public to use the parking lot for Halloween night. She also thanked Jimmy Wallace for giving hay rides.

Alderman Cutrer thanked Alderman Phillips and Mrs. Cheryl Phillips for the display they have set up by the red light on Hwy 3081.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Chief Jennings reported a total of 299 citations, 84 - written to violators with Pearl River addresses, 37 - written on the Interstate, 47 - Speeding in School Zone, 52 - use of device in School Zone. Total of 48 arrest, one being the Waffle House incident where two men was stealing peoples card information, one guy terrorizing a family from Texas, 2 - DWI, 3 - Fugitive arrest, 3- Drug arrest.

Chief Jennings took this time to reply to Joe Wrenn's comment, stating that he never had anything negative to say about him or the Lions Club. Chief Jennings informed Mr. Wrenn that he feels that they need to sit down and work this issue out. He believes that the Lions Club is needed and is helpful. Joe Wrenn responded to Chief Jennings about a comment Chief Jennings said at last month's Council Meeting. Candy Lizana from the audience, stated that Chief Jennings stated that he would not work for something if the Bennett family benefited from it. Mrs. Lizana informed Chief Jennings that he did not

work for the "Hollis Davis Scholarship" he worked for the "5 k Run scholarship". Chief Jennings responded that the money came from the Lions Club, if the Lions Club had the money in their account for ten years, it does not matter what race the Police Department worked, she got the Police Department to work for free. Crystal Bennett interrupted Chief Jennings stating "he'll never get it" Chief Jennings responded "you'll never get it, your breaking the law." "Then arrest me." Crystal Bennett stated. Alderman Bennett replied "Oh he'd be glad to." Chief Jennings stated "yes I would." Alderman Bennett asked "Is that a threat?"
(For more detail please request C.D.)

PARISH COUNCIL:

None to report

RECREATION DISTRICT #5:

No Attendance

FIRE DISTRICT #11:

No Attendance

PLANNING AND ZONING:

None to report

SCHOOL BOARD:

Alderman Walsh spoke on behalf of Peggy Seeley stated that the remodel of the high school is going as scheduled.

CD available in Records room, per-request.

MEETING ADJOURNED

AT 7:50 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 21TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017.

Clarence D. McQueen
Honorable Clarence D. McQueen, Mayor