 June 7, 2018

The following minutes were taken at a special council meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen on May 8, 2018 at the Town Hall in Pearl River.

Mayor McQueen called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Alderman Cutrer gave the invocation; the pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor McQueen.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor McQueen called roll and Alderman Walsh, Bennett, Cutrer, Chief Johnny Jennings, Attorney Tim Mathison, Attorney Matt Daigle, and Town Clerk, Madeline Campbell were all present.

Mayor McQueen asks for a motion from the Council to move Item #3 to the top. Alderman Bennett motions, Alderman Walsh seconds, All three Alderman in Favor Aye, **So Moved**.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Discussion of Item #3 is a Resolution for an additional $1,000,000 to include the specific project description for the additional fund request. Oscar Boudreaux Town Engineer describes the request for the Resolution from David Wolf. Mayor McQueen opens public hearing for Resolution #18-05-01 For Approval of $1,000,000 additional funds in application to Sales Tax Bond Commission to authorize the additional funds. Mayor McQueen asks for public comment. None made. Mayor McQueen closes the public hearing. Alderman Cutrer motions to accept the Resolution. Second by Alderman Bennett, All in Favor Aye, **So Moved.**

Oscar gives update on the WWTP; Ready for slab to be poured Friday.

1. 2017 and 2018 Budget discussion. Alderman Walsh moves to change the Public Hearing regarding the budgets on the Agenda to a Workshop to discuss the 2017 and 2018 Budgets. Alderman Bennett seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**

**WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:**

1. 2017 Budget. Attorney Matt Daigle points out the latest finals from CPA for the year ended December 31, 2017 were just received. Adjustments were made because of the Auditors’ review and subsequent suggested changes as of April 30, 2018. Specific questions about capital expenditures made in 2016 and realized in 2017, about repairs & maintenance on Police Dept vehicles, about Police Supplemental Pay, and about Police Dept overtime.
2. Discussion was made about changing the accounting year to a fiscal year ending June 30th. Attorney Mathison and Daigle to work on this procedure and the details involved.
3. 2018 Budget. Attorney Daigle discussed salary adjustments for Town Hall office personnel to align the salaries to reflect experience and years of service; salary adjustment procedures for all employees need to be established. Elements to consider: starting pay, comparable positions in other municipalities, merit.
4. Discussion was made about the BCBS renewal for health insurance; increase with the renewal was substantial, and we need to look into more employee contribution. Consider this as part of employee pay package. Our policy is considered a very good one.
5. Discussion regarding Street Department, currently eight employees. Need a supervisor and street commissioner position to keep up with the work orders and employee conduct.
6. Discussion regarding custodial cost versus getting community service workers. Steady worker assigned to cleaning tasks is much more efficient use of resources.
7. Discussions around Police Department capital expenditures, oil and gas expenditures, inventory of guns & ammunition.
8. Discussions around offset between employee insurance town paid and collected through payroll; offset of these expenses done correctly for CPA to process.
9. Discussions around the park and equipment; equipment getting destroyed and setting up cameras to deter destruction and follow through with responsibility assignment.

Discussion regarding the current split happening in 2018 from S&W Fund alone, into two funds: Sewer Fund and Water Fund.

Specifically noted that this is a “bare bones” budget as is; the decision to set S&W rates needs to take this into consideration.

Loan for WWTP required setting enough in Money Market Account, which came from the Property Resolution line item, “bucket”. Once loan approved, this money in the MMA can be moved by council vote back into the Property Resolution.

Budget discussions completed.

Introduction of new Resolution #18-05-02 Ordering and Calling an Election to provide a garbage collector. This is to put the choice into an election for the people to decide whether they want it.

This introduction allows the Resolution to be put into Public Hearing at the next council meeting on June 18th 2018 for action to be taken on it.

Attorney Mathison points out decision to include frequency per week, whether to include recycling; need details for companies to put into a bid request that can be submitted for voting and choosing. When ask for a vote, need to provide measureable and quantifiable details for bid and consideration.

Alderman Walsh motions to adjourn. Mayor McQueen seconds it.

Meeting Adjourned 7:54pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED

AT 7:54 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 7th DAY OF JUNE 2018

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Madeline B Campbell, Town Clerk Clarence D McQueen, Mayor