 December 12, 2018

The following minutes were taken at the regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen on November 27, 2018 at the Town Hall in Pearl River.

Mayor McQueen called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Town Clerk gave the invocation; the pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor McQueen.

ROLL CALL:

Town Clerk called roll: Mayor McQueen, Alderman Bennett, Phillips, Cutrer, McGregor, Deputy Chief Hunter, and Attorney Matt Daigle, were all present. Alderman Walsh was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Alderman Bennett makes a motion to accept the October 17th, 2018 regular council meeting minutes as presented, Alderman Phillips seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

1. Alderman Bennett comes to the podium. She calls for recognition of two local residents who served in the armed forces of our country.

**ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION:**

Mayor McQueen introduces Ordinance #18-11-01 2019 Budget.

Public hearing for this will be at the next town meeting in December at 7:00pm.

**ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Mayor McQueen opens the public hearing on Ordinance #17-15-02A Amending Ordinance #17-15-02 Authorized Maximum Principle Amount of the Town’s Taxable Sales Tax Bond, Series 2017, and providing for other matters in connection therewith. Is there any discussion, questions or comments? None, so Mayor McQueen closes the public hearing. He asks for the council to act on this. Alderman Bennett makes a motion to accept. Alderman McGregor seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**
2. Mayor McQueen opens the public hearing on two annexation ordinances. Ordinance #18-10-01 Annexation 65179 Hwy 41 and Ordinance #18-10-02 Annexation 40015 Old Hwy 11 which were recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission to accept. Held up waiting on the property owner to provide surveys. Mayor McQueen asks if there are any more questions or comments. None, so he closes the public hearing on these two annexation ordinances, and asks for the council to act on them. Alderman Phillips makes a motion to accept Ordinance #18-10-01. Alderman Bennett seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.** Alderman Phillips makes a motion to accept Ordinance #18-10-02. Alderman Cutrer seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**
3. Mayor McQueen opens the public hearing on Ordinance to amend #174A S&W Rates Metering Start Date. Discussion about setting the date for Feb from the current Dec date which is the only portion that must be acted on tonight. Also discussed about commercial fees, meter malfunctions, and brown water issues. Mayor McQueen asks if there are any more discussions, questions or comments. None, so he closes the public hearing and asks for the council to act. Alderman Bennett makes a motion to accept the amended Ordinance #174A Amended Date for Metering to take effect to February 1, 2019. Alderman Phillips seconds the motion. All in favor, Alderman Bennett, Phillips, and McGregor. All opposed, Alderman Cutrer. **Motion Carried.**
4. Mayor McQueen opens the public hearing on Ordinance #18-10-03 Accept Municode Code of Ordinances. Mayor McQueen explains the company, Municode, has put all of our ordinances in one book and the company will add ordinances as we enact them. Question from the floor to put this link on our website; answer yes, a link will be available. Mayor McQueen asks if there are any more questions or comments. None, so he closes the public hearing and asks for the council to act on it. Alderman Cutrer makes a motion to accept the ordinance making the codified book legal. Alderman McGregor seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**
5. Mayor McQueen opens the public hearing on Ordinance to amend #17-12-12A 2018 Budget. He explains the revisions are to make the budget to actuals in line with the legal 5% margin. Attorney Daigle discusses more about the revisions; these actuals are from November 27, 2018 recorded activity. The most revisions are in the S&W Funds where bills are not enough to pay for the system; these revisions are in line with why there is a push to meter water usage. Discussion continues. Mayor McQueen asks if there are any more questions or comments. None, so he closes the public hearing and asks for the council to act on it. Alderman Cutrer makes a motion to accept the amendments to 2018 Budget Ordinance. Alderman Bennett seconds the motion. All in favor, Aye. **So Moved.**

**TABLED ITEMS**

Mayor McQueen asks the council to act on Ordinance #18-08-02, which was tabled last month. Alderman Phillips moves to take Ordinance #18-08-02 Reduced Water Rates for Elderly, Low Income, Handicapped et al off the table. Alderman Bennett seconds the motion to take it off the table. All in favor, Alderman Bennett, Phillips, McGregor. All opposed, Alderman Cutrer. **Motion Carried.** Discussion continues about what changes to make now or in 2019. Alderman Bennett makes a motion to accept Ordinance #18-08-02 Reduced Water Rates for Elderly, Low Income, Handicapped et al. Alderman McGregor seconds the motion. Alderman Phillips asks for clarification, and the discussion result: Alderman Bennett rescinds her original motion, and makes a motion to accept Ordinance #18-08-02 Reduced Water Rates with the effective date set for February 1st, 2019. Alderman Phillips seconds the motion. All in favor, Alderman Bennett, Phillips, McGregor. All opposed, Alderman Cutrer. **Motion Carried.**

**LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS:**

Alderman Bennett reports that the Trackside benefit was a huge success: fed 10 families Thanksgiving, and will carry over into providing for Christmas as well.

The Veterans’ Memorial traveling exhibit, “The Wall That Heals” was also very well attended.

December 1st at The Fish House will host an event to raise money for “Joanna’s House”, a house being built for Joanna Sance, a disabled child whose father works for the town. The property was donated by Mr. Sance; the labor and materials are being donated by The Lion’s Club and various community agencies/organizations. The home will remain available for future families like the Sance’s when they no longer live in it.

Alderman Phillips wants to thank everyone for participating in our Little League, there is an awards banquet for them at 6:30pm on November 30th at the PRHS cafetorium.

Alderman Cutrer reports about a toy give away by the VFW Ladies Auxiliary on December 15, 2018 beginning at 10:00am for 3yr to 10yr olds.

December 7th and 8th United Methodist Church Pearl River will host their annual living nativity.

December 16th First Baptist Church Pearl River will present a Christmas Community Choir at 6:00pm; then on December 18th FBC PR will have a hayride caroling down Oak Street beginning at 7:00pm.

New Jerusalem Church will have a play, “Twas the Nightshift Before Christmas” dates to be determined.

Saturday at PRHS, the Theater Club will be hosting a Princess Breakfast beginning at 8:00am.

Alderman McGregor announces on December 1st, the Tinkers Elves coming through beginning from the Harley shop at 10:00am. Collecting toys as they go; boxes for them are at Dollar Store.

He asks for donations of old bicycles which will be refurbished and given out next year for Christmas.

The restrooms for PRHS are on the way.

**CHIEF JENNINGS COMMENTS & REPORTS:**

Deputy Chief Hunter has no report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS:**

Mayor McQueen announces the town Christmas Program will be on Friday, December 7th beginning at 6:00pm. We will have a large, real tree this year.

Mayor McQueen asks to have Gene Bellisario give an update on the Highway 41 Spur bridge project status. Mr. Gene comes to the podium. He explains the acquisition of property is considered fast within a year. There are several property owners who have not responded to two certified letters offering to purchase the property necessary. One parcel is in succession. Process for expropriation will have to be initiated soon.

Gene makes a comment about S&W problems we have are common. He reports about the new fire hydrants on Military Road by Forest Hill Subdivision, which is a part of a new state law.

(let the record show, Attorney Mathison entered the meeting)

**RECREATION DISTRICT 5:**

No report.

**FIRE DISTRICT 11:**

Chief Jack Dockery gives a report for October.

The Fire District 11 millage is up for renewal on the December 8th ballot, please go vote.

**PARISH COUNCIL:**

Gene Bellisario gave his report earlier by request.

**PLANNING & ZONING:**

No Report.

**SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 8:**

No Report.

Mayor McQueen has a request regarding the fund raiser on December 1st for “Joanna’s House” for donations towards a raffle. Mr. Brian Phillips, St Tammany Residential Waste, offers free trash pickup to the house being built on Maple forever, as long as he owns this company.

MEETING ADJOURNED

AT 8:23 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 13TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2018

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Clarence David McQueen, Mayor Madeline B. Campbell, Town Clerk