



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 21, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Council Meeting was held at the Pearl River Town Hall and called to order by Mayor Lee at 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:**

The Invocation was given by Alderman Galloway.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Lee.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Alderman Phillips (Absent), Franatovich, Moray, Galloway and Schultheis, also present; Mayor Lee and Attorney Tim Mathison and Chief Sessions

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Lee called for the approval of the minutes for the April 16, 2024, Council Meeting. Alderman Moray, made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Franatovich. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

Mayor Lee called for the approval of minutes for the May 19, 2024, Special Council Meeting. Alderman Franatovich; made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Moray. Alderman Schultheis requested that the title of the Tree Ordinance be corrected to read Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

**Resolution Introductions –**

Resolution No. 24-05-01 – Taylor Pointe Subdivision Final Plat Revision

Resolution No. 24-05-02 – The Oaks at Taylor Farm Final Plat Revision

**There will be a Public Hearing on this Ordinance on June 18, 2024, at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.**

**Ordinance Introduction:** Ordinance No. 24-05-21 – Fiscal Year 204 Budget Amendment.

**There will be a Public Hearing on this Ordinance on June 18, 2024, at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.**

**Discussion Items:**

Angela Ruiz – Community Garden and Library Box: The purpose of the garden would be for community participation and a teaching tool for children. The residents would also be able to benefit from the produce in the garden. The Town would also be in favor of the library box being placed near the park. Alderman Galloway would like it to be a double tier box to include a “self-help” section for adults.

Blighted Property – 65025 Ann Street: This property has been condemned by the Town Inspector. The property has been adjudicated to the Parish for non-payment of taxes. All parties with an interest in the property will need to be notified. If the town assumes the responsible of demolishing we may be able to recoup the cost through the sale of the property. It is a lengthy process.

Blighted Property – 39460 (correct address 39444) Frierson Road: Notices have been sent to the property owner. Small improvements have been made, however it reverts to the same condition. The grandchildren of the property owner live in the blighted property. Another option would be to place a lien on the property. The inspector can only address the structure of the house not the entire property.

Alderman Moray has brought up the problem with dead trees around town that could be hazardous. Letters have been sent to property owners, notifying them of their responsibility if the dead tree causes damage.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS – Mayor Lee:** Thanks to Kristy for all the hard work in the fish pond. Updates: The water main estimate for Hwy 41 came in at \$105,000.00 from PEC; they are also working with center point on Calhoun Street to start that project. We also had the mural dedication today. Special thanks to the art dept as well as Ms. Waller and Skip for getting this project completed. John Finch Construction also gave an estimate in the amount of \$35,000.00 to replace the existing pavilion. We will address the splash pad in next year’s budget.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS – Alderman Schultheis;** Lesley Lane, Oak St and Ashwood also have drainage issues. Lesley Lane should have some help with drainage since the culvert was removed by the school board. They are also discussing a possible retention pond on school board property. We do not have a time frame on the other street.

Alderman Moray: Will flags be put out at the cemetery. Mayor and Maria Lee put the flags out in the cemetery and the Town crew puts out the remaining flags throughout the Town.

**POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS & REPORTS – Chief Sessions:**

Jayson German gave the April 2024 monthly report: See attached for complete report.

**FIRE DISTRICT 11 – CHIEF DOCKERY –** See attached for complete report.

**RECREATION DISTRICT #5 – TARA JIMENEZ –** Report by Skip Phillips: The light poles have been delivered. Project should be complete by the end of June.

**PARISH COUNCIL DISTRICT #9 – DAVID COUGLE:** Other cities are adopting vacancies policies. It would create a tax if the property is not maintained or if remains vacant. Also in the works is a mandate for private water companies to have electronic boil water advisory. In the next month or 2 new lines should be proposed for Rec 5 and Rec 7. The Library vote on May 2 appointed new members.

**SCHOOL BOARD – MIKE PETERSON: No Representative**

**PLANNING & ZONING – SKIP PHILLIPS:** Taylor Point S/D- The plat will not be approved until all the sidewalks are included. **Taylor Oaks-** They are asking for a revision on the size of 6 lots.

**CD's available to purchase.  
MEETING ADJOURNED  
AT 7:55 P.M.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THE 18th DAY OF JUNE 2024**

  
Honorable Joe D. Lee

  
Maude Griffis, Town Clerk



# PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Jack Sessions, Chief of Police*

## **The Month of April**

Total Calls Handled: 1821

Open Investigations: 5

## **Notable Incidents**

In the month of April, the Town of Pearl River was hit with a major storm. Pearl River Officers, including the Reserve Officer responded. The Officers assisted with road clearance and traffic control along with answering calls for service. The Pearl River Police Department also developed a suspect for the stolen Skid Steer that was taken from Last Chance gas station at the end of December of 2023. An arrest warrant has been issued.

## **Notable Arrests**

On two occasions in the Month of April, the Pearl River Police Department requested the public's assistance with identifying suspects wanted for shoplifting. And on both occasions with the public's assistance, the Police Department were able to identify the suspects and obtain arrest warrants. Also on both occasions the suspects identified were also wanted in connection with crimes that St. Tammany Sheriff Office was investigating. The St. Tammany Sheriff Office was able to clear at least two investigations, which lead to arrest warrants.

## **Update on current Investigation**

On May 12, several vehicles were burglarized at 64286 Hwy 41 Pearl River, La 70452 the business of Outlaw Diesel Performance. The Police Department was able to obtain surveillance video of the crime. Through the investigation and the public's help, the Police Department has been able to identify one suspect and has obtained an arrest warrant. It should be noted that on May 12, Jason Auto Repair on Hwy 11, had several car burglaries

# PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

also. Unfortunately, there was no surveillance video of the incident. On May 17, the Police Department learned that the suspect's vehicle was broke down on Hwy 21 head towards Bogalusa. The Detective located the vehicle and observed property that may have been taken during the burglaries at Jason Auto Repair. The Detective contacted the St. Tammany Detectives and advised them of the situation. The St. Tammany Detectives seized the vehicle and executed a search warrant on the vehicle. While searching the vehicle, the Detectives located several pieces of property that may have been taken during the burglary but also located a debit card that was taken during the burglary. The debit card links the Pearl River suspect to St. Tammany's investigation.

## Arrests

Total Arrest: 16      Felony: 2      Misdemeanor: 14      Juvenile:2

DWI Arrest: 0      Arrest Warrants: 3      Search Warrants:0

Narcotic Arrest: 5      Narcotic seized: 2 THC Vape Pens.

Weapons Seized:  
Currency Seized: 0.

Total Citations: 379 (308 of which were for speeding)



# ***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 11***

***Jack Dockery, Fire Chief***

P.O. Box 1210  
Pearl River, LA 70452  
Phone: 985.863.3132  
Fax: 985.863.1834  
[www.stfpd11.org](http://www.stfpd11.org)

May 21, 2024

## Chiefs Report

For April 2024

EMS	65
Structure Fire	2
Vehicle Fire	3
Grass/Trash Fire	5
MVA	10
Service / GI	15
Dispatched / Cancel	5
False Alarm	5
Police Matter	1
Total	113