



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 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, Franatovich, Moray, Galloway and Schultheis, also present; Mayor Lee and Chief Sessions. Attorney Tim Mathison (Absent)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Lee called for the approval of the minutes for the September 17, 2024, Council Meeting. Alderman Phillips made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Moray. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

RESOLUTION INTRODUCTION:

Resolution No. 24-10-01 – A Resolution re-subdividing a parcel of land fronting Pine Street and Highway 41 as requested by David Champagne. **There will be a public hearing on this Resolution on November 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.**

Tabled Items –

Ordinance No. 24-08-20 (A) – An Ordinance increasing the lot sizes in R-1, Single Family Residential Zones.

Alderman Schultheis made a motion to take this off the table; seconded by Alderman Galloway. **All in favor, So Moved**

Alderman Phillips made a motion to discuss; seconded by Alderman Galloway.

Discussion: Recommendation from Planning and Zoning is to change the lots sizes to ½ acre. Lots of record containing two (2) or less acres effective the date of this ordinance shall be exempt from the provisions of this ordinance. **Alderman Franatovich** clarified the actual size of a half-acre. Planning and Zoning has recommended the lots sizes to be a half-acre. They also have offered an option for the lot sizes in the form of an amended ordinance. **Alderman Moray** would like to vote on the Amended version which outlines the lot sizes. Alderman Galloway and Schultheis agree.

Alderman Moray made a motion to adopt amendment; seconded by Alderman Galloway. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Nay; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **Amended Ordinance passes with a 4-1 vote. So moved.**

Public Hearing

Discussion – Jeff Breland – He is before the council as a developer and business owner. The council should be good stewards of good growth. Increasing the lot sizes will possibly price people out of the affordability range. Lot sizes of 90 x 120 are good sizes. Magnolia Ridge homes are approx. 2.2 lots per acre after the drainage and green spaces are in. You should be controlling new development in the annexation process. He believes that the Town needs growth to sustain the current businesses. **Alderman Phillips:** agrees that we may be pricing ourselves out of the affordable range. He prefers the lot sizes to remain 90 x 120. R1 and R1A should be the same. Most of the people who work at AGW and Rooms to Go have out of state license plates. We need to make it affordable for people to live and support a family in Pearl River. **Alderman Galloway:** Questioned whether the ordinance can be amended later. It could be amended. Every term is different, every term thinks different, and we have 2 years remaining on this term. **Mayor Lee:** This is to keep big developments from coming in. Our infrastructure is strained to the limit. The Town's millage rates are so low it will not support the cost of the infrastructure improvements and maintenance.

Alderman Moray made a motion to adopt as amended; seconded by Alderman Galloway. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Nay; Alderman Franatovich, Nay; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **Amended Ordinance passes with a 3-2 vote. So moved.**

Ordinance No. 24-08-20 (B) – An Ordinance increasing the lot sizes in R-1-A, Single Family Residential Zones.

Alderman Phillips made a motion to take this off the table; seconded by Alderman Schultheis. **All in favor, So Moved**

Alderman Galloway made a motion to adopt amendment; seconded by Alderman Schultheis. **All in favor, So Moved**

Alderman Galloway made a motion to adopt as amended; seconded by Alderman Schultheis. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Nay; Alderman Franatovich, Nay; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **Amended Ordinance passes with a 3-2 vote. So moved.**

Alderman Phillips called for question; Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote. Alderman Phillips, Nay; Alderman Franatovich, Nay; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **Amended Ordinance passes with a 3-2 vote. So moved.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS-

Ordinance No. 24-09-17 – An Ordinance relative to amending the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

Alderman Schultheis made a motion to accept. Seconded by Alderman Galloway.

Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS –Mayor Lee: Thanks to Maria, Sophie, Kristy, Ryan and Tim as well as a special thanks to Binderwald’s for donating their time and materials to repair the fishpond. The next event will be our Christmas Program on December 6, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Lee stated that Budget vs Actual Report were placed in the Alderman’s boxes – See attached for complete report.

LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS –

Alderman Schultheis: Reminder about the Trunk or Treat and Night Out Against Crime on October 26, 2024 from 5-8 p.m.

Alderman Galloway – No comments

Alderman Moray – Thanks to John Binderwald for repairing the fishpond. He donated time and materials and did a great job.

Alderman Franatovich- Thanks to all who helped with the fishpond.

Alderman Phillips – Report of coyotes near Craddock Lane. Small animals have been reported missing. Homecoming at the PRHS October 26, 2024.

POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS & REPORTS – Chief Sessions:

Jayson Germann gave the September 2024 monthly report: See attached for complete report.

Major Dean issued awards to Officers Courtney Badon and Kimberly Ginder. Kessler Federal Credit Union issued the Officer of the Year Award to Officer John Polk.

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

RECREATION DISTRICT #5 –Skip Phillips: Thanks to David Cogle for all he has done in his short term. The museum will have a 5K race on March 15, 2025.

PARISH COUNCIL DISTRICT #9 – David Cogle: The Pearl River Clean Up was a success. The Parish Budget was discussed. Has concerns about the Parish reducing the number of Council Members per district. He recommends that a resolution be signed opposing the reduction. The Home Rule Charter will be appointed next month. They will make recommendations to the Council. If the council is reduced it will affect the rural areas the most.

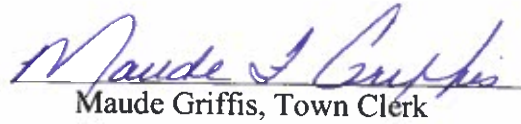
SCHOOL BOARD – MIKE PETERSON: No Representative

PLANNING & ZONING – Skip Phillips: The golf cart ordinance has been tabled. Major Dean has been invited to speak at the next Planning and Zoning meeting to discuss the golf cart ordinance.

**CD's available to purchase.
MEETING ADJOURNED
AT 8:00 P.M.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THE 19th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024


Honorable Joe D. Lee


Maude Griffis, Town Clerk



PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jack Sessions, Chief of Police

The Month of August

Total Calls Handled: 1417

Open Investigations: 12

Notable Incidents

In the month of September Officers of the Pearl River Police Department, to include the Reserve Officers successfully patrolled the Town of Pearl River during Hurricane Francine. No major incidents were reported due to the hard work of the men and women of the Pearl River Police Department.

On September 12, Pearl River Police Department received information from the School Administration regarding a possible threat targeting Riverside Elementary. Based on a social media post that started between 12 ten-year-old students, stated that Riverside was being targeted, the SRO started an investigation. After a lengthy investigation the SRO learned that the social media post had been taken out of context and located the original social media post that stated that a Riverside school in Georgia was being targeted for Federal Funding due to lack of personal.

Notable Arrest

On September 8, the Pearl River Police Department along with the Pearl River High School received information about a possible treat at the High School, based on an Instagram post. After investigating the possible threats, the Pearl River Police Department issued an arrest for a juvenile who was identified as sending the threats. Officers located the juvenile and executed a search warrant on the juvenile's residence and seized 9 mm Canik, .223 rifle with scope. The juvenile was arrested for Terrorizing and Threats. It should be noted that seven Officers (uniform and plain clothes) were posted at the High School to ensure the safety of the students and the staff members.

Arrests

Total Arrest: 13 Felony: 9 Misdemeanor: 4 Juvenile: 1

DWI Arrest: 3 Arrest Warrants: 4 Search Warrants: 3

Narcotic Arrest: 6 Narcotic seized: 46 grams of Marijuana, 4 Grams of Methamphetamine, one handgun, one rifle and one shotgun.

Weapons Seized: 9 mm Canik, .223 rifle with scope and a Remington 12 gauge shot gun.

PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Currency Seized: 0.

Total Citations: 286



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

October 15, 2024

Chiefs Report

For September 2024

EMS	63
Grass/Trash Fire	3
MVA	11
Service / GI	5
Fire Alarm	13
Total	95