



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 29, 2025, at 10:30 A.M.

***This meeting was postponed from January 21 due to the snowstorm.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting was held at the Pearl River Town Hall and called to order by Mayor Lee at 10:30 a.m.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Parish Councilman David Cogle.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Lee.

ROLL CALL:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Lee called for the approval of the minutes for the December 10, 2024, Special Council Meeting. Alderman Moray made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Phillips. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

Mayor Lee called for the approval of the minutes for the December 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, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION – 65189 Hwy 41 – Car lot – Jack Lauer
There will be a Public Hearing on this Application on February 4, 2025, at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS-
RESOLUTIONS –**

Resolution No. 25-01-01 – A Resolution accepting the bid by Warner Construction, Inc. for the Calhoun Street Drainage Improvements project.

Alderman Moray made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Schultheis. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

Resolution No. 25-01-02 – A Resolution to support preparation and submittal of an application for funding through the Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP).

Alderman Schultheis made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Moray. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

Resolution No. 25-01-03 – A Resolution to support preparation and submittal of an application for funding through the Division of Administration Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF). Alderman Schultheis made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Moray. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Franatovich, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS –Mayor Lee: Thanked Public Works and Street Dept for all the hard work throughout the snowstorm as well as Alderman Moray for his assistance. Reminder of the upcoming Lions Club coming parade on Sunday 02/16/2025 and the Town Clean Up on Saturday 03/22/2025. 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: Thanks to the Town Hall Crew as well as PRPD and Fire Dept for their hard work during the snowstorm.

Alderman Galloway – Absent

Alderman Moray – No Comments

Alderman Franatovich- Thanks to all that assisted in preparing for the snowstorm.

Alderman Phillips- Great job to all during the snowstorm. The High School Basketball program is doing well. (5K race) March 15, 2025

POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS & REPORTS – Chief Sessions:

Jayson Germann gave the Police Report for the month of December 2024.

See attached for complete report. Chief Sessions also added that almost all reserve officers were on duty as well as having a fund raiser for Sergeant Herrmann. Over \$3000.00 was raised.

FIRE DISTRICT 11 – CHIEF DOCKERY – No Representative

RECREATION DISTRICT #5 –Skip Phillips: No Representative

PARISH COUNCIL DISTRICT #9 – David Cogle: The potholes on Hwy 11 and 41 have been repaired. The spay and neuter ordinance will be reviewed again. The ordinance is very broad. The Home Rule Charter will meet for the 1st time in reference to opposing the reduction in Parish Council members. The library board has a vacancy.

SCHOOL BOARD – Mike Peterson: No Representative

PLANNING & ZONING – Skip Phillips: No Representative

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Michael Alquist, et al v. Town of Pearl River, et al., No C-756906
“26”, 19th Judicial District Court, Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.**

ADJOURNED

**CD's available to purchase.
MEETING ADJOURNED
AT 11:15 A.M.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THE 18th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025


Honorable Joe D. Lee


Maude Griffis, Town Clerk



PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jack Sessions, Chief of Police

The Month of December

Total Calls Handled: 1953

Open Investigations: 12

Notable Arrest

On December 15 at approximately 10:00 p.m. Pearl River Police Departments Proactive Officer conducted a traffic stop at Pump Slough and I-59 south Exit 5A on ramp. The Officer initiated the traffic stop after observing the vehicle turn on to Pump Slough Road without utilizing a turn signal. During the course of the traffic stop, the Officer learned that the passenger identified as Malik Conerly B/M DOB: 8-12-1998 had an outstanding warrant issued from Franklinton Police Department. The warrant was for Illegal Discharge of a weapon and Solicitation for Murder. The Officer verified the warrant and placed Mr. Conerly under arrest. The Officer conducted a search of the vehicle and located a 9 mm Smith and Wesson handgun. Based on the nature of the charges for the warrant, the Officer elected to seize the weapon for safe keeping. The Officer notified Lt. Germann of the arrest and the weapon. Lt. Germann then contacted a Detective (not the Detective handling the case) with the Franklinton Police Department, who informed Lt. Germann that the weapon used in the crime was a 9mm handgun and that they never recovered it. Based on the Officer's due diligence, the Officer may have recovered the weapon used in the crime.

On December 20, Pearl River Police Officers was notified of a stolen vehicle by the Flock Safety camera system (license plate reader). The Officers obtained a description of the vehicle and located it in the parking lot of the Dollar General. Moments later, the Officers observed two people enter the vehicle and drive off. The Officers then conducted a felon stop on the vehicle in the parking lot of Jubilee. Both the driver and the passenger were detained pending the investigation. While waiting for the confirmation on the stolen vehicle, the Officers located a 10 mm FN handgun on the passenger side floorboard. The Officers seized the gun and discovered that it too had been reported stolen. The Officers received confirmation that both the vehicle and the gun were stolen. The Officers also learned that the passenger was a convicted felon. The driver was charged with Illegal Possession of Stolen Firearm, Illegal Possession of Stolen Property and Unauthorized Use of a Movable. The passenger was charged with Illegal Possession of Stolen Property, Illegal Possession of Stolen Firearm, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon and Possession of Marijuana.

On December 21, Pearl River Police Officers were dispatch to a reckless driver on the I-59 interstate. The Officers located the vehicle and observed it driving 30 MPH in a 70 MPH zone and swerving in out of the lanes. Based on that, the Officers elected to conduct a traffic stop. During the course of the traffic stop investigation, the Officers located a small amount of Marijuana in the vehicle. The Officers searched the passenger and discovered the passenger to be in possession of 2.5 grams of Methamphetamine and 8 Xana pills. The Officers also located a loaded 44 Magnum pistol, a Remington 12-gauge shotgun and \$3,927 in U.S. currency. The Officers then learned that the passenger was a convicted felon. He was charged with Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Xana pills, Possession of a Firearm while in Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

Arrests

PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Total Arrest: Felony: Misdemeanor: Juvenile:2

DWI Arrest: 5 Arrest Warrants: 2 Search Warrants:1

Narcotic Arrest: 17 Narcotic seized: 8 grams of Marijuana, 2.5 Grams of Methamphetamine, 8 Xanax.

Weapons Seized: 9mm Smith and Wesson, 10 mm FN, 44 Magnum pistol, and a 12-gauge Remington shotgun.

Currency Seized: \$3,927.00

Total Citations: 795