



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 2025, 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, Alderman Franatovich (Absent), Alderman Moray, Alderman Galloway and Alderman 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 January 29, 2025, Council Meeting. Alderman Moray made a motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Phillips. Mayor Lee called for a roll call vote; Alderman Phillips, Yea; Alderman Moray, Yea; Alderman Galloway, Yea; Alderman Schultheis, Yea. **All in favor, So moved.**

SPECIAL GUEST -St Tammany Parish Library Board Representative – Library Millage Continuation. – Ms. Tanya DiMaggio gave a brief history and report of attendance of the library as well as the benefits of continuing the millage for the library. The millage is lower than in the previous year. On March 29 the voters will decide the future of the Pearl River Library. If the millage passes the library will be fully funded for the next 15 years. If the millage fails, the library will not receive any funding from the 2025 tax rolls

SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION – 65189 Hwy 41 – Car lot – Jack Lauer:
Alderman Schultheis made a motion to table; seconded by Alderman Moray. **All in favor, So moved.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS & REPORTS –Mayor Lee: Thanks to the Lions Club for a successful parade as well a great job from the Town's Street crew they wasted no time cleaning up the streets. Upcoming events: Brian Phillips will be heading up the Town Clean Up on March 22, 2025, beginning at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m., following the cleanup the Lions Club will be serving lunch in the park. The Town's Easter program will be held on March 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Easter program is being held earlier than usual to avoid conflict with little league. We

will have about 5000 eggs to stuff any and all help will be appreciated. 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: The Parade was wonderful thanks to the Police and Fire Dept. The street crew did an amazing job cleaning up.

Alderman Galloway: Looking forward to the Easter Program. I am working on getting help to stuff Easter Eggs.

Alderman Moray: Great parade thanks to the Lions Club as well as the Police Department. All the streets were covered.

Alderman Phillips: Alderman Phillips took home a trophy for his houseboat float in the parade. Miley Meds was the overall winner. It was a great parade.

POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS & REPORTS – Chief Sessions:

Jason Germann gave the Police Report for the month of January 2025.
See attached for complete report.

FIRE DISTRICT 11 – CHIEF DOCKERY: No Representative

RECREATION DISTRICT #5 –Skip Phillips: 5K run/walk on March 15, 2025, at 9:00 am will start at the museum. We also had ribbon cutting for the lights at the tract today. Thanks to Peter Finger and Sharon Hewitt for their assistance in getting this project completed.

PARISH COUNCIL DISTRICT #9 – David Cogle: The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals has dismissed the lawsuit against the Parish government in regard to the board. Two (2) new board members were introduced. On March 29 the voters will vote on the library millage continuance and a Re-dedication of funds. A meeting has been scheduled to discuss the restructuring of funds to allow permanent funding for the Justice Center; The HRC will be discussing the reduction in Council Members as well as voting on the spay/neuter ordinance. Councilman Cogle will be working with environmental services to better regulate garbage pickup. Alderman Phillips has requested assistance with obtaining additional funds for Rec District 5.

SCHOOL BOARD – Mike Peterson: No Representative

PLANNING & ZONING – Skip Phillips: No Comments

ADJOURNED

**CD's available to purchase.
MEETING ADJOURNED
AT 7:40 P.M.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THE 18th DAY OF MARCH 2025


Honorable Joe D. Lee


Maude Griffis, Town Clerk



PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jack Sessions, Chief of Police

The Month of January

Total Calls Handled: 1711

Open Investigations: 12

Notable Incidents

On January 6, Pearl River Officers responded to a Burglar Alarm at the Marathon gas station. The Officer arrived on the scene and observed the front door of the building had been shattered. The Pearl River Officer called for back up and with the assistance of the St. Tammany Sheriff Office, cleared the building. The Officer got in contact with the owner who arrived on the scene. The owner was able to show the Officer video footage from his surveillance cameras on his cell phone. The Officer observed two unknown suspects dressed all in black break into the gas station and steal the cash register till. The STPSO Crime lab was able to obtain fingerprints and blood from the scene.

Several nights later, Nightwatch Patrol Officers and Reserve Officers observed two subjects wearing the same style of clothing. The Officers attempted to stop and interview the subjects who then attempted to flee. The Officers were able to detain the subjects and identify them, which was forwarded to Detectives. The Detectives then secured DNA search warrants for three subjects, believing that they were involved with the Burglary. After their DNA was collected, it was submitted to the St. Tammany Corneers Office to compare to the blood that was found on the scene.

On January 21, Pearl River Officers, including the Reserve Officers prepared for the January snow storm. During the storm, the Officers patrolled the Town to ensure the Towns safety. No major incidents were reported during the storm. After the snowstorm, Officers patrolled the Town and closed off streets that were not safe to travel.

PEARL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Notable Arrest

On January 25, Pearl River Officers responded to an Aggravated Assault at the Pilot truck stop. The victim called advising that his friend, whom he is riding with in a Semi Truck, had pointed a handgun at him. The Officers arrived on the scene and located the victim and perpetrator. Both the victim and perpetrator refused to cooperate with the investigation. The Officers canvased the area and located a 9 mm Keltec and a spent casing. The Officers also located a witness who heard a loud pop that sounded like fireworks, right before the police were called. The victim then cooperated, stating that he and his friend got into an argument about where the next truck load was coming from and what state. Both subjects had admitted to drinking prior to the argument. The perpetrator was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault with a Firearm.

Arrests

Total Arrest: 34 Felony: 7 Misdemeanor: 27 Juvenile:4

DWI Arrest: 2 Arrest Warrants: 3 Search Warrants:1

Narcotic Arrest: 26 Narcotic seized: 143 grams of Marijuana, 1 Grams of Methamphetamine.

Weapons Seized: 9mm Keltec.

Currency Seized:

Total Citations: 427