

City Hall
Westwego, Louisiana
Regular Session
Monday, May 08, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Westwego met in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 08, 2017, in the Council Room at City Hall, 1100 Fourth Street, Westwego, Louisiana.

There were present:

Mayor John I. Shaddinger, Jr.
District 1 Councilman Glenn Green, Sr.
District 2 Councilman Johnny S. Nobles, Jr.
District 3 Councilman Norman J. Fonseca
District 4 Councilman Garrison J. Toups, Sr.
District 5 Councilman Larry J. Warino, Sr.
City Clerk Maurice T. Bourgeois, Jr.
City Attorney Joel A. Levy
Police Chief Dwayne J. Munch, Sr.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shaddinger called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand for the invocation.

INVOCATION AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pastor Jay Adkins, of the First Baptist Church of Westwego led the assembly in prayer, followed by a moment of silence in honor of the deceased members of our community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ken Bouvier led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AMEND THE AGENDA

Mayor Shaddinger entertained a motion to Amend the Agenda to discuss Warren Deemer on the Zoning Board.

MOVED by Councilman Green, and seconded by Councilman Fonseca, to amend the agenda to discuss the Zoning Board.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Councilman Fonseca entertained a motion to Amend the Agenda to discuss Item 3 under Old Business at the end of the meeting.

MOVED by Councilman Fonseca, and seconded by Councilman Green, to amend the agenda to discuss Item 3 under Old Business at the end of the meeting.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL

RYAN DAUL - DAUL INSURANCE

Ryan Daul discussed the property insurance renewal and proposal.

MOVED by Councilman Green, and seconded by Councilman Fonseca, to approve the renewal and proposal of the property insurance.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Mayor Shaddinger thanked Ryan Daul and Daul Insurance for the service they have provided to the City of Westwego during his 12 years in office.

Councilman Warino acknowledged Daul Insurance for the work they have done.

KENT GREENE - ENTERGY

Kent Greene discussed the Nine Mile Reconductoring Project that will start in September. A community meeting will be held on May 9th at the Civic Center, 1220 Avenue H and doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the second meeting will be held May 11th at the American Legion, 4101 Patriot Street in Marrero and doors open at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the project in detail and answer any concerning questions that the community may have.

Councilman Fonseca offered the YMBC parking lot to Kent Greene with Entergy to park any equipment.

AMELIA WINGERTER – 1360 FOURTH STREET

Councilman Nobles spoke on behalf of Amelia Wingerter to approve and add to her Occupational License to operate a snowball stand on the side window of Little Kitchen located at 1360 Fourth Street.

MOVED by Councilman Nobles, and seconded by Councilman Warino, approve and add to her Occupational License to operate a snowball stand on the side window of Little Kitchen located at 1360 Fourth Street, subject to all state, parish, and city requirements for such.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

MATTHEW RIVERE

Councilman Warino spoke on behalf of Matthew Rivere regarding approval in getting an Alcohol Permit for the Cabbage Ball Tournament that will be held on June 3rd at the park.

MOVED by Councilman Fonseca, and seconded by Councilman Warino, approve an Alcohol Permit for the Cabbage Ball Tournament that will be held on June 3rd at the park.

KEN BOUVIER – 539 VICTORY DRIVE

Mr. Bouvier stated he is the owner of 539 and 543 Victory Drive and is asking for a building permit to put a shed and a carport in the yard of 543 Victory Drive. The shed will not have plumbing or electricity.

Chief Building Official Leslie Lombas stated the maximum is exactly 1200 square feet and that is the maximum allowed and saw no problem granting the building permit.

Councilman Nobles spoke in behalf of granting the building permit.

MOVED by Councilman Nobles, and seconded by Councilman Green, to grant the building permit located at 534 Victory Drive for a carport and shed.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

AMELIA WHITTED – 1120 Olde Oaks Drive

Mrs. Whitted thanked Keith Bouvier and his wife for the Crawfish Cook-off held at the Farmers Market.

PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mayor Shaddinger congratulated Joe Peoples as newly elected Mayor, Johnnie Lynn Thibodeaux, Matthew Rivere and Lisa Valence as newly elected Council Members. Mayor Shaddinger asked everyone to join him in working together with the new administration and for everyone to put aside the battles and join together in making this the best place to live and raise our families.

HEAR ALL REPORTS

Chief Building Official Leslie "Skip" Lombas, Jr. submitted his written report

Chief of Police Dwayne J. Munch, Sr. submitted his written report. Chief Munch announced Assistant Chief Still has completely retired and sent his condolences on the death of his wife. The Chief announced the new Assistant Chief will be Jason DiMarco from Gretna and spoke about his qualifications and accomplishments.

Fire Chief Ryan P. Guidroz submitted his written report.

EMS Director Joseph J. Aldor, Jr. submitted his written report.

City Superintendent Robert J. Utley nothing to report at this time.

Superintendent of Water & Waste Water Treatment Paul J. Bernard nothing to report at this time.

Senior Center Coordinator Brant Fonseca submitted his written report.

Westwego Farmers and Fisheries Market Coordinator Keith Bouvier discussed the Crawfish Cook-off that recently took place and about the upcoming events at the Market.

Mayor Shaddinger recognized Mechanical Inspector Tommy Baxter and thanked him.

APPROVE THE MINUTES

Regular Session of Monday, February 13, 2017.

MOVED by Councilman Warino, and seconded by Councilman Fonseca, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Session of Monday, February 13, 2017.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Regular Session of Monday, March 13, 2017.

MOVED by Councilman Warino, and seconded by Councilman Nobles, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Session of Monday, March 13, 2017.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Regular Session of Monday, April 10, 2017.

Tabled by Councilman Warino.

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

The City Clerk read aloud the following resolutions for adoption:

Offered by Councilman Nobles:

RESOLUTION 2017-05(A)

A resolution accepting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Louisiana Municipalities, as completed for the City of Westwego by the Mayor and his staff, as a required part of the audit for which the City has recently engaged a Certified Public Accountant.

MOVED by Councilman Nobles, and seconded by Councilman Green, to adopt Resolution 2017-05(A).

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Offered by Councilman Green:

RESOLUTION 2017-05(B)

A resolution authorizing the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Westwego, to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Parish of Jefferson for the HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program, the Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program.

MOVED by Councilman Fonseca, and seconded by Councilman Toups, to adopt Resolution 2017-05(B).

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

The City Clerk read aloud the following ordinance for introduction:

Offered by Councilman Warino:

An Ordinance amending Chapter 26 – Article VI – Electronic Enforcement – Division 3. Vehicle Speed – Sec. 26-223 Imposition of Civil Penalty for Violation Enforced By A Photographic Vehicle Speed Enforcement System – Subsection B and Sec. 26-228 Traffic Safety Fund.

ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

The City Clerk read aloud the following ordinance for adoption:

Offered by Councilman Fonseca

ORDINANCE 1536

An Ordinance of the Westwego City Council Amending Chapter 16 – Fire Prevention and Protection to Add Article V. Fire and Arson Investigation Sec.16-114– Authority Generally; Authority to Enter and Examine.

Mayor Shaddinger entertained a motion to open for public hearing for authorizing the City of Westwego to dispose of, in accordance with Louisiana law, certain property that is no longer needed for public use.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Councilmen, present to open a public hearing for this resolution.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Fire Chief Ryan P. Guidroz explained the ordinance.

Mayor Shaddinger entertained public comment.

No one spoke in favor of the ordinance; no spoke in opposition.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Councilmen, present to close the public hearing.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

MOVED by Councilman Toups, and seconded by Councilman Fonseca, to adopt Ordinance 1536.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

OLD BUSINESS

1. (JIS) Utility Bill Adjustments

MOVED by Councilman Warino, and seconded by Councilman Toups, to approve the Utility Billing Adjustments as recommended.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

2. (JIS) Theatre for the Performing Arts

Mayor Shaddinger stated the building has been in use and still working on punch list. We are still working on the water intrusion every time it rains. The contractors are aware of the leak.

Councilman Warino stated he spoke with Dennis Assaf and wanted to get the word out about the summer program for third graders up until eight graders and is in need of ten more kids.

Mayor Shaddinger stated we can reach out to the schools to get the word out.

3. (JIS) River Boat Landing

Mayor Shaddinger discussed the report he received from Burk Kleinpeter.

A discussion followed.

Councilman Nobles entertained a motion to use the seventy-five thousand dollars from the state to repair the River Boat Landing.

MOVED by Councilman Nobles, and seconded by Councilman Green, to use the seventy-five thousand dollars from the state to repair the River Boat Landing.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

4. (JIS) City Hall – Change Order

Mayor Shaddinger stated Boasso is requesting to finalize City Hall.

A discussion followed.

Mayor Shaddinger entertained a motion to finalize City Hall.

MOVED by Councilman Warino, and seconded by Councilman Toups, to finalize City Hall.

APPROVED: Yeas: Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino ABSTAINED: Green

5. (GG) Food Bank

Councilman Green stated the Food Bank has been closed for several months. The Food Bank serves an excessive one-hundred and ten families daily and over two thousand families a month. Councilman Green asked Mayor Shaddinger if we are hiring someone to run the Food Bank.

A discussion followed.

6. (JSN) WHARF Project

Deferred to the end of the meeting.

7. (LJW) Blackwater

Tabled by Councilman Warino.

8. (LJW) Water Plant

Tabled by Councilman Warino.

NEW BUSINESS

1. (JIS) LWCC Dividend

Mayor Shaddinger discussed we received a refund of \$105,103.00 from the LWCC Dividend.

A discussion followed.

2. (GG) Traffic Light – Avenue A & Fourth Street

Councilman Green stated the light on Avenue A and Fourth Street takes too long to change and people think the traffic lights are malfunctioning so they run the light. Councilman Green asked Mayor Shaddinger to contact someone from DOTD to do a survey on the traffic lights.

Mayor Shaddinger stated he will contact DOTD to report the traffic lights.

3. (LJW) Civil Service

Tabled by Councilman Warino.

4. (LJW) Farmers Market

Councilman Warino stated local businesses are using the Farmers Market parking lot for their employees to park and this could be additional revenue to charge the businesses to use the parking lot while no events are going on and will prepare a plan.

Mayor Shaddinger discussed the twenty-one thousand dollar change order request that has been done for the Performing Arts Theatre and asked for a tentative approval.

MOVED by Councilman Toups, and seconded by Councilman Fonseca, for a tentative approval of the twenty-one thousand dollar change order for the Performing Arts Theatre.

Councilman Warino stated for the record the change order consist of water proofing the front of the building and drainage.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

OLD BUSINESS

(JSN) WHARF Project

Councilman Nobles stated the South East Flood Protection Agency did some work about three or four weeks ago before the rain set in by removing the rocks at the front gate behind the levee. We met Vicki Duffour today with Council Elect Valence, Council Elect Rivere and Mayor Elect Peoples along with Chief Munch and Chad and walked the whole project to make sure what we can take out and what we cannot. Tomorrow the South East Flood Protection Agency will go and clear out the runway free of charge so we can use the \$50,000 that has to be used before June 30th.

Councilman Nobles entertain a motion to use the \$50,000 to build road.

Councilman Fonseca expressed his dismay and disappointment that he was not notified that funds had become available, and that he was excluded from the meetings with the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West regarding this important project in his district.

A discussion followed.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

Councilman Fonseca requested to remove Warren Deemer off the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

City Attorney Joel Levy stated a notice was sent to Mr. Deemer on April 7, 2017 to notify him of today's hearing. Mr. Deemer received and signed for the certified letter on April 12, 2017 therefore he is aware of the hearing today.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Councilmen, present to open a public hearing.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

Mayor Shaddinger entertained public comment.

No one spoke in favor of the ruling; no spoke in opposition.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Councilmen, present to close the public hearing.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

MOVED by Councilman Green, and seconded by Councilman Nobles, to remove Warren Deemer from the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

The City Attorney's recommendation is for the new Elected Council Member to appoint someone on the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

ADJOURN

MOVED, and seconded, by All Councilmen Present, to adjourn at 7:38 p.m., Monday, May 08, 2017.

APPROVED: Yeas: Green, Nobles, Fonseca, Toups, Warino

John I. Shaddinger, Jr., Mayor

Maurice T. Bourgeois, Jr., City Clerk

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Westwego will meet in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, June 12, 2017, in the Council Room at City Hall, 1100 Fourth Street, Westwego, Louisiana.
