

City Hall
Westwego, Louisiana
Regular Session
Monday, January 9, 2023

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Westwego met in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2023, in the Council Room at City Hall, 1100 Fourth Street, Westwego, Louisiana.

There were present:

Mayor Robert E. Billiot Sr.
District 1 Council Member Maggie Campbell
District 2 Council Member Johnny S. Nobles Jr.
District 3 Council Member Lisa H. Valence
District 4 Council Member Robert J. Utley
District 5 Council Member Robert J. Bonvillian
Police Chief Dwayne J. Munch Sr.
City Clerk Lisa Tapia

The meeting was streamed live on Facebook Live.

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Billiot led the assembly in prayer followed by a moment of silence in memory of the deceased members of our community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief Munch led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(REB) RYAN DAUL – DAUL INSURANCE

Ryan Daul, of Daul Insurance Agency, addressed the City Council to present the renewals for the excess liability insurance, which includes general liability, law enforcement liability, auto liability, auto physical damage, workers' compensation, and the Westwego Volunteer Fire Department, all of which are coming up for renewal on January 31.

A discussion followed.

(LHV) MARDI GRAS GUMBO SALE

Council Member Valence announced the Westwego Beautification Commission annual Mardi Gras Gumbo Sale Party In The Park at A. J. "Catfish" Bourgeois Park and Playground on February 5, 2023.

(LHV) RUN ON THE BAYOU

Council Member Valence announced the 35th annual Run On The Bayou at Bayou Segnette State Park on March 4, 2023.

(REB) PARISH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Mayor Billiot discussed the Parish Green Infrastructure Plan, which is available on the Parish website at jeffparish.net/departments/planning/green-infrastructure-plan. He stated that he has identified areas within city limits that can be used for green infrastructure and submitted them to the Parish.

(REB) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Billiot discussed the Community Development Program.

Council Member Campbell announced that she has hired a Community Liaison to assist members of the community in applying for grants.

A discussion followed.

ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL

JESSICA WINGERTER

Jessica Wingerter addressed the City Council to discuss her collaboration with the Jefferson Performing Arts Society to operate a Café/Coffee Shop in the Theatre for the Performing Arts on Sala Avenue.

AMELIA WINGERTER

Amelia Wingerter addressed the City Council to request an Occupational License to reopen her restaurant, The Little Kitchen, at 104 Sala Avenue, which has a Sala Avenue address but faces Louisiana Street.

MOVED by Council Member Campbell, and seconded by Council Member Nobles, to grant an Occupational License to Amelia Wingerter to operate her restaurant, The Little Kitchen, at 104 Sala Avenue, which but faces Louisiana Street.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

BIDS

There were no bids.

HEAR ALL REPORTS

Chief of Police Dwayne J. Munch, Sr.
Fire Chief Charles M. Hudson
Chief Building Inspector Leslie P. Lombas, Jr.
Plumbing Inspector Chuck Poore
Electrical Inspector Roger Myers
Mechanical Inspector Jeremy Floyd
EMS Director Thomas J. Calamari, Jr.
Senior Center Coordinator Brant Fonseca
Code Enforcement Officer Chad M. Usea
Financial Report/Budget vs. Actual

Mayor Billiot stated that all reports were submitted.

Chief Hudson reported that he missed the last Council Meeting due to a medical procedure and that he is back at work now.

APPROVE THE MINUTES

MOVED by Council Member Valence, and seconded by Council Member Utley, to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of Monday, December 12, 2022.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

RESOLUTION 2023-01(A)

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in the City of Westwego, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 10, 2022, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to adopt Resolution 2023-01(A) providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the special election held in the City of Westwego, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 10, 2022, to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

RESOLUTION 2023-01(B)

A resolution recognizing Monday, January 16, 2023, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the City of Westwego.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to adopt Resolution 2023-01(B) recognizing Monday, January 16, 2023, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the City of Westwego.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

RESOLUTION 2023-01(C)

A resolution recognizing February 2023 as Black History Month in the City of Westwego.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to adopt Resolution 2023-01(C) recognizing February 2023 as Black History Month in the City of Westwego.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

An ordinance in accordance with La. Revised Statutes 33:404.1, amending and reenacting Chapter 2 Administration, Article III. Officers and Employees, Section 2-51, and Section 2-52, fixing the compensation of the Mayor, Council Members, Clerk, Chief of Police, and other Municipal Officers.

ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

Offered by Council Member Bonvillian:

ORDINANCE 1614

An ordinance approving the plan of survey and resubdivision of a certain piece or portion of ground situated in the City of Westwego, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, in that part thereof known as Lots 1-A and 4-A, Square 34, Whitehouse Subdivision, and is more fully shown on a plan by Dufrene Surveying & Engineering, Inc., dated October 25, 2021.

Approved by the Zoning Planning Advisory Board on December 28, 2022 – to re-subdivide 302 Seventh Street/Estate of Calvin W Shewmake.

MOVED by Council Member Bonvillian, and seconded by Council Member Utley, to open a public hearing for this ordinance.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

Mayor Billiot entertained public comment; there was none.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to close the public hearing.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

MOVED by Council Member Bonvillian, and seconded by Council Member Utley, to adopt Ordinance 1614 approving the plan of survey and resubdivision of a certain piece or portion of ground situated in the City of Westwego, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, in that part thereof known as Lots 1-A and 4-A, Square 34, Whitehouse Subdivision, and is more fully shown on a plan by Dufrene Surveying & Engineering, Inc., dated October 25, 2021.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

Offered by Council Member Valence:

ORDINANCE 1615

An ordinance approving the plan of survey and resubdivision of a certain piece or portion of ground situated in the City of Westwego, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, in that part thereof known as Lots 21, 22, 23, and 24, Square 17, Westwego Heights, and is more fully shown on a plan by Dufrene Surveying & Engineering, Inc., dated November 15, 2022.

Approved by the Zoning Planning Advisory Board on December 28, 2022 – to resubdivide 1174 Central Avenue / Philip and Cynthia Sprunk

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to open a public hearing for this ordinance.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

Mayor Billiot entertained public comment; there was none.

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to close the public hearing.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

MOVED by Council Member Valence, and seconded by Council Member Bonvillian, to adopt Ordinance 1615 approving the plan of survey and resubdivision of a certain piece or portion of ground situated in the City of Westwego, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, in that part thereof known as Lots 21, 22, 23, and 24, Square 17, Westwego Heights, and is more fully shown on a plan by Dufrene Surveying & Engineering, Inc., dated November 15, 2022.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

OLD BUSINESS

1. (REB) Utility Bill Adjustments

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to approve the Utility Bill Adjustments as recommended.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian

2. (REB) WHARF Project Phase III Elevated Restrooms

Mayor Billiot discussed the WHARF Project Phase III Elevated Restrooms.

Project Engineers Gerard J. Gillen, III, PE, of Aptim, addressed the City Council to discuss the WHARF Project Phase III. He stated that the plans and specifications should be ready by March or April.

A discussion followed.

Mayor Billiot stated that a ramp over the levee will be needed so people on foot do not have to use the road and instructed Mr. Gillen to look into the matter.

NEW BUSINESS

1. (RJU) 363 Louisiana Street

Council Member Utley requested that a letter be sent to the owners of 363 Louisiana Street asking them to come before the City Council to discuss their intentions for the property.

2. (RJB) 914 Avenue E

Council Member Bonvillian requested that a letter be sent to the owners of 914 Avenue E asking them to come before the City Council to discuss their intentions for the property.

3. (RJB) 100-104 Fourth Street – Stevie Ray’s

Council Member Bonvillian requested that a letter be sent to the owners of 100-104 Fourth Street asking them to come before the City Council to discuss their intentions for the property.

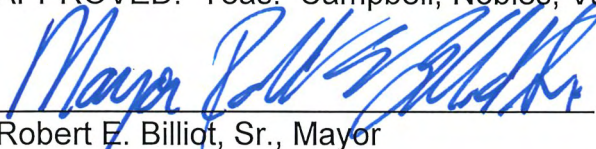
Mayor Billiot stated that the attorney for the owner of 100-104 Fourth Street contacted him today to discuss possible plans for the property.

A discussion followed.

ADJOURN

MOVED, and seconded, by All Council Members, to adjourn at 6:31 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2023.

APPROVED. Yeas: Campbell, Nobles, Valence, Utley, Bonvillian


Robert E. Billiot, Sr., Mayor


Lisa Tapia, City Clerk

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Westwego will meet in Regular Session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, February 13, 2023, in the Council Room at City Hall, 1100 Fourth Street, Westwego, Louisiana.
