Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes

Town of Madisonville

403 St. Francis St.

Wednesday April 10, 2019

7:00 pm

Call To Order- Mayor Pelloat

Roll Call- Alicia Watts- all present

Invocation- Councilman Bouey

Pledge- Councilman Hitzman

* March 13, 2019 Town Council Meeting Minutes Approved
* March 27, 2019 Public Committee Meeting Minutes
* February 2019 Financial Statements Approved
* Public Comment Period:

1. Louis Ogle stands to explain the Master Plan Steering Committee's focus and organizational chart. The committees are broken into five different parts: Riverfront & Lake, Trailhead & Trails, Town Character, Protected Areas, and these four will be governed by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will be responsible for getting estimates and plans for each project, and finding possible funding for them. Mr. Ogle asks that the Plan be considered before approving any variances or zoning changes and for it to be explained if the change opposes the Plan. Mr. Ogle states that the ideal group would have 4 members, some with experience in that area. Only the Steering Committee would be residents only and would report to the Council every month

2. Casey Revere announces the 44th annual Gar Rodeo, August 2-4, 2019, to be held at T- Rivers Bar and Grill. Mr. Revere reports that the Rodeo raised over $5000.00 that was donated to the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center last year. Mayor Pelloat states that if it had been held on public property, it would have to benefit a local 501c3, but that it didn't apply since it would be at T- Rivers. Councilmen Doran and Haddox both commend Mr. Revere for the event.

Old Business:

* Nuisance (Rooster/ Noise)- Ordinance Amending Chapter 12 In Its Entirety

Mayor Pelloat states that the Ordinance, having been added to since the Public Committee Meeting, had to be re-introduced by Council. Councilman   
Bouey made a motion to introduce, Councilman Haddox seconded, all approved.

* Fence Variance- 119 Mabel, Leslie Burton requested a variance for a 6' fence in front. Ms. Burton stated that the previous building official did not tell her contractor a fence permit was needed. The existing fence was erected in July of 2018, with the front panels being installed in January 2019. Councilman Doran thinks the ordinance should be changed, not variances given. Councilman Hitzman agrees that it needs to be addressed. Councilman Bounds expresses his concern over the size and demeanor of the dog that requires the high fence. Ms. Burton tells that the dog is formally trained for one year and that it will be wearing a shock collar with an invisible fence. Councilman Doran makes a motion to approve variance, Councilman Bouey seconded, motion passed with all in favor.

New Business:

* Millage- Resolution Keeping Same Millage (8.55)- Motion to approve made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Bouey, passed with all in favor.
* Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Resolution- Mike Curtis, Curtis Environmental, explains that a yearly audit is required, showing the score on different aspects of the sewer system. The resolution is required to approve and accept the work of the Town, being in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Councilman Bouey makes a motion to approve resolution, Councilman Haddox seconded, motion passed with all in favor.
* Resolution- Friends- Mr. Danner states the need for a resolution to be on record for conditional uses granted for Friends and the Blind Tiger. Motion made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Hitzman, motion passed with all in favor.
* Resolution- Blind Tiger- Motion made to approve Resolution by Councilman Hitzman, seconded by Councilman Haddox, motion passed with all in favor.
* State Bond Commission Resolution- Gas System Upgrade- Steve Nosacka from Trinity Capital Resources explained the needs for the gas system upgrade. The tap, regulator, and meter need to be upgraded to handle the high pressure transmission line. The lead time for a new meter is 12+ weeks, so it needs to go forward soon to be available for winter. The present net revenue is almost three times what the debt service will be, and the resolution allows Foley and Judell to go to the State Bond Commission with the Town's application. Councilman Doran asked if we owned the property the gas line is on and the answer was no, Gulf South does. Councilman Doran then asked if the increased capacity was known. Bianca from PEC answered that the current capacity is 4000mcf and the new amount would be 7500 mcf with the ability to go to 10,600 mcf. Motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Bouey, seconded by Councilman Haddox, motion passed with all in favor.
* Resolution to Maintain Tax collection on a Local Level- Mayor Pelloat stated that he had received a letter from the Sherriff's office asking for opposition to the proposed legislation allowing the state to collect taxes for municipalities. Motion to approve resolution made by Councilman Doran, seconded by Councilman Bouey, motion passed with all in favor.
* Monthly Department Reports-

Engineering- Mr. Joe Harmon states the contractor for the Hwy 190 gas main extension is done. Mr. Harmon asks for approval of payment and that certificate of substantial completion be issued. Motion to approve is made by Councilman Bouey, seconded by Councilman Bounds, motion passed with all in favor. The sewer lift rehabilitation bid opening is May 15, 2019. The Sanitary Sewer Study application is under review and the Town Park improvements grant is waiting on agreement from NPS, but it has been approved.

Police- Chief Tyrney attended the Louisiana Chiefs of Police Conference in Lake Charles, La. He also attended a one day class in Baton Rouge about school safety that was hosted by the US Secret Service. The class concentrated on identifying possible threats. Chief Tyrney stated he has been here one year as of March. When he started in March 2018 there were 167 citations, in March 2019 there were 222. He said there was a police unit painted and he introduced the three newest recruits: John Dupuy, Leonard Holloway and Chris Bertucci.

Maintenance/ Utility- Kyle Matthews reported some of the things he has been working on: 22 new gas customers, that they were complete changing out meters up to Hwy 22, the Hwy 190 gas main was complete, there was a field trip with Madisonville Jr High to plant a butterfly garden and some trees in and around the Park, replaced a water main, and that the police station was 90% complete.

Permits- Mr. Courouleau reported 2 new permits issued, five residential inspections and three commercial inspections performed and four plan reviews.

Cultural arts- nothing to report

Town Attorney- Mr. Danner lists some of the things he has been working on:

the animal ordinance, cemetery matters, the Council meeting, the CPEX town meeting, a gas meter relocation issue, cell tower inquiries, Mayor's Court, Municode, a sidewalk servitude and many resolutions.

* Council Comments- no one has comments except for Councilman Doran who says that the Park looks nice and that he saw some of the walking path is cracking.
* Mayor's Comments- Mayor Pelloat lists upcoming events, mentions the new website and asks the Council to go over the Municode proof that was provided and offer suggestions of changes/ additions by the next Council meeting.
* Adjourn- motion made by Councilman Hitzman, seconded by Councilman Haddox, motion passed with all in favor.