

MINUTES - REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018

APPROVED

MINUTES

TOWN OF MADISONVILLE

403 ST. FRANCIS STREET

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

7:00P.M.

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Call meeting to order Mayor Pelloat

Roll Call Wayne C. Morlier

Present: Councilmen Haddox, Bounds, Bouey, and Hitzman

Absent: Councilman Doran

Invocation – Councilman Bounds

Pledge – Councilman Bouey

Approval of February 14, 2018 Regular Town Council Minutes

Motion to approve by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Bouey, motion passed with all in favor

Approval of February 28, 2018 Public Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Councilman Bouey, seconded by Councilman Haddox, motion passed with all in favor

Approval of January 2018 Financial Statements

Motion to approve by Councilman Hitzman, seconded by Councilman Bouey, motion passed with all in favor

Public Comment Period: members of the audience will have three (3) minutes to make a statement or express a concern at the outset of the meeting. (Anyone having or

expressing a concern tonight may or may not get an answer due to the fact that the council is hearing the concern for the first time. All statements will be considered and everyone will receive an answer in the near future)

Ms. Carol Olson, 804 Pine Street, expressed disappointment that the 8th annual Dragon Boat Races were canceled due to lack of sponsorship. Ms. Olson requested that the Mayor and Council consider getting involved to ensure the Dragon Boat Races continued, if not later this year, certainly next calendar year. Mayor Pelloat agreed to meet with Ms. Olson at a later date.

Ms. Amy Murphree addressed the Mayor and Council regarding her candidacy for Ward 1 Justice of the Peace. She spoke of her qualifications and requested the support of the Mayor, Council and Town residents.

Mr. Wally Porter, candidate for Ward 1 Justice of the Peace, addressed the Mayor and Council. He spoke about his qualifications, endorsements and requested voter support.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Trilby Lenfant, St. Tammany Parish, Deputy CAO

Ms. Lenfant addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the upcoming Jail and Justice Center propositions. Ms. Lenfant explained why it was important to vote for the propositions and encouraged the Mayor and Council to support the propositions. The Mayor and Council thanked Ms. Lenfant for coming and providing information on the propositions.

Keep Madisonville Beautiful

Ms. Samantha Goodwin was unable to make the Council meeting; therefore, Councilman Bounds read a letter from Ms. Goodwin regarding the Leaders Against Litter March 23, 2018 event. Also included in the letter was a request to use the Town park on Pine Street for the May 5, 2018 Keep Madisonville Beautiful event.

Riverfront Commercial Ordinance

Revision of Chapter 10.14.1

(Permitted Uses: line #8 – limit to 4 within the district)

Motion made by Councilman Haddox to accept the changes to the Riverfront Commercial Ordinance. Councilman Bouey seconded the motion. Mr. Steve Benton asked what restaurant would be the fourth. Mayor Pelloat stated Abita Roasting Company. Motion passed with all in favor.

Entertainment Ordinance

Revision of Chapter 13, Section 13.1-13.5

Motion made by Councilman Hitzman to accept the changes to the Entertainment Ordinance. Councilman Haddox seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Opioid Lawsuit

Mayor Pelloat asked Town attorney, Mr. Bruce Danner to address the Council regarding this topic. Mr. Danner explained the class action lawsuit process and stated that there would be no cost to the Town to participate in the suit. After discussion, Mayor Pelloat asked if the attorney who approached Mr. Danner should present his case to the Council. Mr. Danner agreed and Councilman Haddox suggested Mr. Danner move forward. Councilman Bounds made a motion that Mr. Danner approach the attorney. Councilman Hitzman seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Planning and Zoning Actions

a) Kool Breeze request to construct fence

Mr. Jewell Chatellier, Building Official, and Mr. Louis Ogle, Owner, explained the nature of the request including approval by the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission. It was noted that the fence would provide safety to the Kool Breeze customers as the business is located on the corner of Hwy 22 and Pine Street. After a brief discussion, motion made by Councilman Bounds to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Haddox, motion passed with all in favor.

Monthly Department reports:

Engineer – Mr. Joe Harmon reported that a grant application was submitted for a pavilion on the Town Park with a 50/50 match and that the Recreational Trails grant (20% in-kind match) was resubmitted. Mr. Harmon also reported that PEC is working with the Town staff to locate in-town gas and water valves using GPS. Councilman Haddox requested searching for grants for sidewalks past the Town Park and library. Mr. Kyle Matthews stated that the grants can be applied for annually. Mr. Harmon stated the grants can be applied for in April and June 2018 with a 20% match.

Police Department – Chief Barney Tyrney reported on maintenance performed on police cars, issues at Madisonville Jr. High, realignment of patrolmen, traffic control (state issue), and criminal damage at end of Lake Road resulting in warrant for arrest. Chief Tyrney also stated he is playing catch-up and is working to move the agency forward including modernization. Mayor Pelloat asked Chief Tyrney to address status of uniforms. Chief Tyrney reported that all patrolmen will now be wearing the same style uniforms. He also stated he will schedule a meeting with the Safety Committee.

Maintenance – Public Works Director, Kyle Matthews, reported that both maintenance and office staff have new uniforms. He also reported 24 new gas customers, PEC assisting in identifying gas and water valves in town, the purchase of 100 electronic meters, electronic meter reading software to be installed in about 30 days, and sewer man hole damaged by a plumber. He then reported agreements with subdivision in Goodbee and on Perrilloux Road will result in 250 new gas customers. He then spoke about the status of the backflow preventor, painting shed at the Town Park, Pine Street parking lot failure, re-painting bulkhead resulting from criminal damage, working on Madison Ridge addition, new sidewalk on corner of Morgan and Third streets, receipt of Madisonville Jr. High donation check on Friday, March 16th, and participation in budget meetings. Councilman Hitzman stated that he provided the Mayor and Mr. Matthews contact information for Mr. George Strain who may be able to help with the Recreational Trails grant. He also commented that the Pine Street baseball parking and painting looks good.

Permits Department – Mr. Jewell Chatellier thanked the Council for approving the Kool Breeze fence. He reported that the project on the house next to the Post Office has restarted, 5 permits issued, and 11 inspections performed. He also stated that he met with Mr. Myron Bourg, P&Z commissioner, on searching for ordinances that address building sizes.

Town Attorney – Mr. Danner reported that among other items, he handled or was involved in the grant application, Madison Ridge extension, lawsuit against the Town, public records requests, attendance at Mayor Court, Municode contract to reorganize the Town ordinances, opioid lawsuit, finalizing ordinances, Town Committee meeting, and Friends of the Cemetery committee.

Comments by Council – Councilman Haddox provided a status of the Maritime Museum including \$102,000 proceeds from the 2017 Wooden Boat Festival, down from \$170,000 the prior year, Museum expenses exceeding income by \$7,000 per month, 2018 Wooden Boat Festival dates of October 13 and 14, need for sponsors,

and two new executive board members. He also stated that Museum admissions are down by \$50,000. Next, he reported that Ace Hardware is having a crawfish boil on Saturday, March 24th with \$5 donation proceeds going to Madisonville Cemetery and Restoration. Cooking provided by Sportsman Lawn Service. Mr. Brent Belsom commented that bad weather on Sunday of the Festival could account for the decrease in Festival collections. Next, Councilman Bounds expressed his concern that a massive tree located on private property on Johnson Street appears to be ready to fall and thereby may injure someone. Mr. Danner that the owner of the property and his insurer is responsible. Mayor Pelloat asked Jewell Chatellier to identify and notify the owner. No other Council comments.

Mayors' report to Council – Mayor Pelloat reported that budget meetings started and asked the Council to provide any recommended items to be included in the budget. Councilman Hitzman stated that he was involved in the budget meetings and that the budget reflects the direction for the Town. Councilman Bounds stated St. Anselm does not have a date in April to meet and that they were looking at May. Mayor Pelloat spoke to the studies on the bridge opening times; stating that a two hour close from 4:30pm to 6:30pm was approved, the hour opening times were rejected, appeal made by Parish Councilman Mike Lorino and himself, that very few boaters opposed and that many residents were in favor. Ms. Olsen asked about when there is a one-hour opening time. Mayor Pelloat stated that the present schedule is posted on the bridge.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Bounds, seconded by Councilman Bouey, motion passed with all in favor

/s/ _____

Wayne C. Morlier, Town Clerk