CITY OF HARAHAN 6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAN, LOUISIANA MAYOR AND HARAHAN CITY COUNCIL July 21, 2016

The Mayor and the Council met on the above date for the regular council meeting at 7:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Mayor called the Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Miceli, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Benton, , Councilman Johnston, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Police Chief Tim Walker, Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr, City Attorney Gilbert Buras, Accountant Linda Lulue

Absent: Councilman Huete, Councilman Wheeler

Mayor Miceli called for a moment of silence for the policemen who have been killed across the nation and their families.

Chief Walker presented the officers of the Harahan Police Dept. and commended them on their work.

Mayor Miceli asked that anyone who had problems with the excessive rainfall to please call City Hall and leave a message with the address, phone no. and extent of damage. The engineering staff will evaluate and that information will be sent on the Jefferson Parish to ask for help. She read a letter from Stuart Consulting stating that 5 catch basins had been cleaned in one trouble spot Monday before the rain event. She said that 4.5" of rain fell in Harahan on Wednesday, 7/20 and another 2.5" on Thursday. Maintenance put out barricades to prevent cars from pushing water into homes and she asked that everyone please be conscious of that problem and drive very slowly during a flooding event. She said that the sewerage plant was able to keep up because we have 3 working effluent pumps for the first time in 22 years. She further stated that the Pump to the River Project is expected to be finished by the end of the year.

Chief St. Cyr warned of children playing in the flood waters and that a few manhole covers had popped up and were not visible because of the water. He said that if a child stepped into an open manhole they would not be able to rescue that child. He implored parents not to let their children play in flood waters.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. Hugh Martin, Foley & Judell – gave a presentation on the 2016 millage

Mr. Martin explained that this is a reappraisal year for Louisiana and all property will be reassessed by the Assessor. Once the property is reassessed, a calculation will be made to determine how much the millage will be decreased to bring in the same amount of money as last year. However, a 2nd calculation will be done that will determine how much would be brought in if the millage stays the same which would be a little more money for the city. The council will make that determination at a special meeting. The process takes two resolutions. They have to adopt

the lower millage first and another resolution to roll forward – which keeps the millage at its current rate. It takes a 2/3 vote of the council. He also explained that the city is mandated to adopt a method to pay back the \$4,000,000 sewerage loan from 2014. DEQ mandates that the method of repayment must include the operation and maintenance of the sewer plant also. If the city does not adopt a method of repayment, the state will appoint a judge and he will decide how it is to be paid back.

Mayor Miceli said the city is bound by the loan to repay it in 20 years.

Mr. Martin said that the contract is an enforceable agreement and that the state supervised all finances of local governments to make sure all debts are paid.

Mayor Miceli said that she understands that Ordinance 1752 was adopted in 2013, but the council had not reviewed it since then and changes must be made to bring in enough money to run the plant; make repairs to the sewerage system and to repay the loan. Mr. Martin concurred.

Mayor Miceli asked that the agenda be amended to take up Proposed Ordinance No. 9 right after Special Presentations so Mr. Martin could answer any questions.

A motion was made by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Baudier to amend the agenda and take up Proposed Ordinance No. 9 after Special Presentations.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

- 2. Kirk Talbot, State Representative was not able to attend the meeting.
- 3. Progressive Waste Barry Bordelon

Mr. Bordelon attended the meeting with his assistant and provided a refresher pamphlet to remind people what is acceptable and what is not for the collection of their garbage. He also noted that rainwater make garbage heavier and makes the trip stop more often to be emptied. He acknowledged a thank you note from a citizen living on Elaine Ave. – he said they mostly get complaints so a thank you was nice to hear.

Councilman Johnston questioned the large number of missed days this year. He said garbage was not being picked up until the next pick up date and asked why.

Mr. Bordelon said that labor was a major problem and becoming worse. He said summer is really their worst time. He also noted that in Harahan they have large items to pick up also. He asked everyone to call customer service to schedule large item pick up and to follow the rules for branches and tree debris.

Mayor Miceli asked for a motion to amend the agenda to take up Proposed Ordinance No. 9 while Mr. Martin is in attendance.

A motion to amend the agenda for this purpose was made by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 9

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

An Ordinance to repeal and amend Ordinance No. 152, which amended Ordinance No. 1402, which amended Ordinance No. 53, Sewerage District No. 1 of the City of Harahan and the Harahan Municipal Code, Chapter 22, Article II, Division 2, USER CHARGES, Section 22-46, "Schedule of Changes", providing for a change of user charges for services rendered by the said Sewerage District. Mayor Miceli asked Ms. Lulue for her comments.

Ms. Lulue said that a sewerage millage had lapsed in 2012 so that funding was lost. Plus the previous council had arranged the \$4,000,000 loan but had not made arrangements to pay it back. So in order to pay for the maintenance, operations and pay back the DEQ loan we need to raise the rates.

Mayor Miceli asked Mr. Buras for his comments.

Mr. Buras said that Mr. Martin said it all.

Motion by Councilman Benton and seconded by Councilman

Baudier to open the public hearing

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: Huete, Johnston

MOTION PASSES

The Public Hearing is open.

No one spoke.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to close the Public Hearing.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Johnston said there are 2 issues and he would like to defer because he only got the numbers on Tuesday and he thinks doubling the rate is a hard hit for the citizens. He can't vote for doubling the rates.

Councilman Baudier agreed with Councilman Johnston and would like 30 days to study the ordinance.

Councilman Benton asked what would the cost per house be.

Mayor Miceli asked Mr. Martin to reiterate his comments.

Mr. Martin said that the council is obligated to pay for the maintenance, operations of the plant plus paying back the loan.

He said the DEQ may give the city a reasonable time to come up with a plan but they should have a plan very soon.

Councilman Benton said it is mandated to do this.

A motion was made to defer until next council meeting by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Johnston

NAYS: Benton

ABSENT: Huete, Johnston

MOTION PASSES

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Dale Simoneaux, Macque said he had spoken to Mr. Bordelon of Progressive Waste and he wanted to let people know that recycling of oil, anti-freeze, batteries and electronic waste such as computers and light bulbs can be brought to the Jefferson Parish dumping site on David Drive is free for Harahan residents. Evelyn Riehms, Renpass showed a video of Woods Materials operations at night with the beeping of the trucks and said that the airport project still has 7 months to go and that when the sand pits are refilled when dredging starts up again, the sounds will be louder. She also asked that the city conduct air quality tests because Woods is conducting their own and it should not.

John Riehms, Renpass asked that the city contact all companies on the batture and apprise them of the city laws. He said no one is monitoring these businesses and when state and federal agencies come out, they notify the companies beforehand.

Maria Dufrene, employee of the police dept. She said her family has been in Harahan for 70 years and the insurance situation is a tragedy being imposed on the city employees who protect & serve. She said the employees must decide every month what bills they will pay. She accused the Mayor of changing the insurance plan in the middle of the year in 2015 so she could brag about saving money and was not thinking of the employees having to pay a second deductible. In 18 months, the employees have had to pay 3 deductibles of over \$1500 to \$3000. She said they cannot continue to absorb these increases. She said they haven't had a raise in 6 years. She also said that the Mayor had installed cameras with secret listening devices and bullet proof glass with only the Mayor and her associate with access to the building when everyone should have access to a public building.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to give her 3 more minutes.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Ms. Dufrene said she was reprimanded in an email that was send to everyone but me. I requested information from the Human Resource that I still have not received. I was also not copied on an email of which I was the subject. She continued saying that the city will lose employees to other jobs if this continues. She told the Mayor, you will be the cause of a mass exodus.

Brian Whittle, Gordon Ave. said he is a reserve officer said that the police officers' pay is not enough and if they don't correct the problem with insurance the city will lose full time officers of the police & fire departments because the insurance keeps going up. Michael Wright, president of the FOP Lodge for Harahan Police Dept. said that 68 officers have been killed in 2016 with 18 in the last 20 days. He said a police officer's base starting pay is \$34,000 and after a year they receive \$6,000 in state supplemental pay. He said a manager at McDonald's makes \$18,000 more than a starting policeman and with retirement & taxes they bring home only \$1,000 every two weeks.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to grant him 3 more minutes.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Mr. Wright continued saying that first responders do the job because it's a calling – they don't do it to get rich and when

benefits get eroded - it hurts.

Martha Hatch, Gordon said that river sand is all over the street and is clogging drains and causing flooding.

Denise Bernard, Elodie also said that sand is causing many problems such as sand all over the roads and when it rains it becomes mud which covers the cars. She said the mud is not being cleaned from the roads and ditches and it should be cleaned. She also said that school with be starting soon and children will have their sleep disturbed by the trucks running all night.

The Mayor closed Address the Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the council meeting of May 19, 2016.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the council meeting of June 16, 2016.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Adjustments did not meet in June.
The Planning & Zoning Board did not meet in July.

RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 5

A Resolution recognizing the dedication and hard work of the employees of the City of Harahan.

The City Clerk read the resolution in its entirety.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to open the public hearing.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES
No one spoke.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to close the public hearing.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Mayor Miceli explained that they reached out to Humana for an extension of the closing date for the Benefit Package for our employees and they granted us an extension to August 5th for employees to change their plan selection. This will allow the city to pay 100% of Plan A for the employees.

Council Discussion:

Chief St. Cyr said he had talked to all his employees and they were in favor and this resolution as it is a show of good faith that shows that the council is addressing the problem.

Chief Walker said it needs to be passed because his employees need the extra pay for their insurance.

Councilman Johnston said doesn't think this has to be done and he thinks the Council would have stepped up.

Councilman Baudier said he talked to the employees the day after the last meeting and he thinks they deserve it.

Councilman Benton said the council is in agreement and people have to remember that insurance rates have gone up for everyone.

Motion made unanimously by the Council to approve the resolution.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 6

The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

A Resolution accepting funds from Jefferson Parish in the amount of One Hundred Five Thousand One Hundred and Seventy-Nine Dollars (105,179.00) for the City of Harahan Police Department for three (3) police vehicles and ammunition.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to open the public hearing The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

No one spoke to the resolution

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to close the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion:

Councilman Baudier and Councilman Johnston thanked Jeff. Parish Councilman Paul Johnston for the donation for the police department.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 7

The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

A Resolution to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Newell Normand, in his capacity as Sheriff of Jefferson Parish and the Harahan Police Department through the City of Harahan for the purchase of two (2) surplus 2007 Harley Davidson Motorcycles.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to open the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

No one spoke to the resolution.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to close the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion:

Councilman Johnston thanked the sheriff for the motorcycles. Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to approve the resolution.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 8

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

A Resolution accepting funds from Jefferson Parish in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for Senior Center Transportation improvements for the Harahan Senior Center. Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to open the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Rhonda Bagby, Generes asked if the van would be used to deliver meals to the seniors.

It was explained that JCOA is in charge of delivering the meals.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to close the public hearing.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion:

Councilman Johnston said this was for the maintenance of the van donated by Jeff. Parish Councilman Johnston to the Senior Center and asked if the repairs were done.

Mayor Miceli said that Gresse's Automotive Repairs had done the work which included replacing the battery, and the struts, repairing the lift and other mechanical work on the engine.

Councilman Johnston thanked his father Jeff. Parish Councilman Johnston for the donation.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to approve the resolution.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016-9

The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

A Resolution accepting funds from Jefferson Parish in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for services for the elderly at the Harahan Senior Center.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Johnston to open the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

No one spoke.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton to close the public hearing

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

Council Discussion:

Councilman Johnston thanked Jeff. Parish Councilman Johnston for the donation.

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier to approve the resolution.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (Public Hearing)

Proposed Ordinance No. 9 was passed earlier in the meeting.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

The City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 10

This ordinance is introduced by Councilman Benton.

An Ordinance amending Ordinance 1806, the annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2016, for the City of Harahan, Louisiana. (General Fund Budget)

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 - 11

The City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only.
This ordinance is introduced by Councilman Benton.
An Ordinance amending Ordinance 1806, the annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2016, for the City of Harahan, Louisiana. (Capital Projects Budget)

A motion to amend the agenda to add Proposed Ordinance No. 2016-12 was made by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-12

The City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. This ordinance is introduced by Councilman Johnston. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 1806 – the Annual Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2016, by decreasing appropriations to Capital Expenditures by the amount of \$6,000 and by increasing the appropriation to Budget Code 010-4-112-40320 relative to Police Department – Uniforms and Accessories for the specific purpose of the purchase of ballistic helmets; and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Change date and time of August 18, 2016 regularly scheduled council meeting to August 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. OR call for special meeting.

The Mayor said that the August Regular Council Meeting is August 18, but due to advertising laws for millages, the city must hold a meeting on August 29th. Since Council Meetings are costly, she said the council can either combine the meetings or hold 2 meetings. She asked does the Council prefer 2 meetings or 1?

Council Discussion:

Councilman Johnston said he had no preference.

Councilman Baudier suggested moving it to the 29th.

Motion by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman

Benton to move the regular Council Meeting to Monday, August
29th at 6 pm.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Louise Chapman, Ravan suggested the date and time be placed on the marquee outside City Hall.

Evelyn Riehms, Renpass said she would email the video she showed earlier to the Mayor. She again said that Wood Materials is breaking the law by working all night long, 6 days a week and aksed what makes Wood Materials above the law.

John Riehms, Renpass said Wood Materials is unloading limestone again when it was only supposed to be temporary and the access road is open again. He said that the dust is a carcinogen. He said that the area is becoming a derelict community with homes being sold cheaply or becoming rentals. He asked the council to protect the citizens.

Rhonda Bagby, Generes thanked the council for supporting the police department and she urged that Harahan hold a vigil for our policemen.

Dale Simoneaux, Macque said that the city needs more businesses, but we need to use existing empty spaces and he urged citizens to patronize Harahan businesses – new and old because the city could use more money.

Mayor Miceli thanked him and agreed with him.

Kelly Daul, Daul Insurance, Hickory. Mr. Daul is the city's insurance broker and he explained that Humana had agreed to keep the enrollment open to allow employees to change plans until August 5th. He also explained that the deductible year runs from July to June and there is no new deductible starting in January. He also said that the bid process starts 120 days in advance of the starting date. He said the city's high loss ratio meant higher rates. He also said that Humana only accepts bids 70 days out and did the City's 66 days out from the starting date. He negotiated the 33% increase down to 20% and now the council needs to fund the difference.

Councilman Johnston asked why weren't the council involved in the process. Mayor Miceli said a letter was sent to the council.

Ms. Lulue said that figures always come in at the last minute and the \$22,372 increase is what the council must fund in order to pay employee insurance at 100% and their families at 33%.

Eric Chatelain said that the city should get the most for their money in insurance. He said the increase in insurance is decreasing the employees salary. He hopes the council fights to give the employees the best they can.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for June, 2016 - Total revenue \$670,873.84.

REPORTS

Chief Walker gave his report for the month of June. He urged everyone to lock their vehicles and homes and to call if anything does not seem right.

Chief St. Cyr gave his report for the month of June and he informed the public that Jefferson Parish has a form on-line for a registry for disabled citizens to sign up for evacuations during storms.

Councilman Baudier said the council has the responsibility to provide insurance to police and fire departments and they should have first preference.

Councilman Johnston assured everyone that the council will find funding for the insurance.

Councilman Benton asked if the city could try to get the starting date of the insurance year back in-line with a calendar year.

Mayor Miceli said that last year the budget for 2015 was not in place until June, 2015 and the budget for this year was adopted in May, 2016. She stated that the council was aware of the insurance renewal date especially after the insurance issues addressed in 2015. She also stated that since the budget was only recently adopted, and the council stated that they reviewed each line item and asked for contracts, that the renewal date should not come as a surprise. She stated that the council should be aware that the renewal process next year will begin 120 days before July 1, 2017 and to expect increases with notice to the council and city employees occurring about 2 weeks before changes go into effect on July 1, 2017. She further stated that this will happen this way yearly. She said insurance is expected to rise significantly in the future and should be expected yearly. These changes will affect the budget and require a budget amendment as it does now. She hopes that future businesses will increase our sales tax base and help with the additional insurance costs and providing city services.

PAY BILLS

Total Bills paid in June, 2016 are \$657,496.61.

ADJOURN

A Motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.

The Mayor called for the vote, it was as follows:

YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Johnston

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete, Wheeler

MOTION PASSES