

CITY OF HARAHAH
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAH, LOUISIANA
MAYOR AND HARAHAH CITY COUNCIL
June 19, 2014

The Mayor and the Council met on the above date for their regular meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Mosca, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Chatelain, Councilman Huete, Councilman Landry, Councilman Murray, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, City Attorney David Courcelle, Police Chief Tim Walker, City Planner Steve Villavaso.

Absent: Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Kelly with Blue Flash gave a report on the smoke testing of the sewerage lines in the city. The engineers are reviewing the findings and will make recommendations.

Kirk Talbot, State Representative gave a report on the Legislative Session. Next year will be a Fiscal Session. He said that the TOPS program is now up to over \$300,000 a year and is unsustainable because there is no private money coming in for the program. **Jack Capella**, JW Colonial apologized for not showing up at the last meeting to answer questions about the project. They have had 25 separate meetings with foundations, elected officials and others about making the property a park – but no money is forthcoming. No announcement tonight.

Councilman Landry asked when do they consider the deadline year to start?

Mr. Capella said it should start from the signing of the Ordinance giving the zoning change to commercial, but Mr. Georges is willing to give more time if necessary. He reiterated that they are flexible to Harahan's needs.

Councilman Landry asked about the commercial development starting date.

Mr. Capella said that the development is "inching along". They may need more time for the development and the park.

Councilman Murray asked if Sterling Properties was still involved.

Mr. Capella said yes and they are still working on signing tenants.

Councilman Murray asked if there were signed letters of intent.

Mr. Capella said they have 2 letters that he is aware of, but he isn't sure about the rest.

Councilman Murray asked about a letter of intent from Sterling Properties as the buyer of the property.

Mr. Capella said there is a contract with Sterling Properties – not a letter of intent. They may not be the exclusive developer of the property. They are hoping they are the only developer. It is their intent that the developer will purchase that piece of commercial property, but they are open to other developers if they offer more than Sterling. Councilman Murray thanked him for keeping the grass cut and keeping the property nice. She asked about the trees hanging into the ditch at the front of the property. She is concerned that the ditch is being overgrown and will cause flooding.

Mr. Capella said they will look at that area, but the ditch should be the state's problem.

Councilman Baudier asked about the start date for everything.

Mr. Capella said that the commercial side will start first and then talk about the park will begin.

Councilman Huete thanked him for coming tonight and answering questions.

Mayor Mosca asked former Mayor Butera to say a few words at the new microphone system.

Ms. Butera said she felt responsible for the new sound system because she complained about the volume of the meetings on the TV.

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Jimmy Pretlove, disaster director for the city – reminded everyone that Hurricane Season has started. He advised everyone to make their plans now for food, pets and house. He said to leave early and avoid the contra flow traffic. He said the fire department and the police department are ready. Get yourself prepared now!!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Baudier and seconded by Councilman Murray to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the May 15, 2014 Council Meeting.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

A motion was made by Councilman Huete and seconded by Councilman Landry to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2014 Council Meeting.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS

The Board of Adjustment and Appeals did not meet in May.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

The Planning & Zoning Board did not meet in June.

RESOLUTIONS

None

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (PUBLIC HEARING)

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

The Municipal Clerk read it in its entirety.

1. An Ordinance adopting the Annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2014 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion:

Mayor Mosca asked Chief Walker about the effect of the budget cuts on the police department. Chief Walker said that even though the budget is a little less than last year, he foresees no problem of staying within it.

Councilman Murray said the budget shows no FEMA money coming in.

Mayor Mosca said that the city is appealing \$200,000 that they have refused to pay for Hurricane Isaac repairs.

Councilman Murray also asked about the court fines. She said they were very low last year.

Mayor Mosca said the transitions had slowed the fines, but they are up again.

Councilman Murray said she had not received the numbers for 2013 budget and asked if the audit was complete yet.

Mayor Mosca said that the audit was completed in May and suggested that Albert Courcelle compile those numbers.

Councilman Murray asked about the outstanding capital fund balance.

Mayor Mosca said that there is \$400,000 in the fund, but some is pre-allocated to street repairs. He will have the accountant give the unencumbered figure.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE APPROVED

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

The Municipal Clerk read it in its entirety.

- 2. An Ordinance to sell property owned by the City of Harahan, providing for the procedure to be utilized pursuant to the provisions of L.R.S. 33:4712, et seq. which provides for the sale, exchange or lease of property by a municipality.

City Attorney Courcelle said that an amendment to the ordinance was needed. He worded it for the council.

A motion was made by Councilman Landry and seconded by Councilman Baudier to amend the ordinance as worded by the city attorney.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Huete

MOTION APPROVED

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing.

No one spoke.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion: none

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE APPROVED

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

The following Ordinance was offered by Councilman Baudier

The Municipal Clerk read the ordinance by titled only.

- 1. An Ordinance setting the Cox Cable franchise fee to be paid by those entities providing cable or video service within the City's municipal limits under a state-granted franchise authority and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

The following Ordinance was offered by Councilman Murray

The Municipal Clerk read the ordinance by title only.

- 2. An ordinance setting the Bellsouth Telecommunications LLC. AT&T franchise fee to be paid by those entities providing video service within the City's municipal limits under a state-granted franchise authority and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Official Journal

Mayor Mosca announced that the New Orleans Advocate had the lowest bid by 10 cents per column inch.

A motion was made by Councilman Chatelain and seconded by Councilman Landry to accept the New Orleans Advocate as the Official Journal of the City of Harahan.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

Mr. Dan Shay, Chief Operating Officer of the New Orleans Advocate addressed the council.

- 2. Colonial Country Club update - accomplished earlier in the meeting.
- 3. High Content ABO application for Carreta's Grill located at 1821 Hickory Ave.

Chief Walker said everything was in order.

A motion was offered by Councilman Landry and seconded by Councilman Chatelain to grant the permit.

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

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Steve Vilavasso stated that the comments about the Colonial project will be put all together and after a meeting with Mr. Courcelle, the report will be provided at the next council meeting.

Councilman Murray said that the acreage is 89 acres and all is not accounted for in the report.

Mr. Vilavasso said he will check with Mr. Charlet, but the property has been subdivided and the legal description will be in the agreement. Former Mayor Ferrara talked about the closure of Hickory Ave. for the Pump to the River project. He said that because of rain the project won't be completed until the end of July. A new street - 11th St. on the North Side of the Lions Club will be paved and opened to traffic and 9th St. will be closed. 10th St. has been paved, but the city will not be paying for the \$13,000 cost of the paving. 11th St. will be used to come into the city and 10th St. will be used to exit the city.

Councilman Murray said the Corps has screwed up and she is mad about the inconvenience and cost for rerouting the streets.

Mr. Ferrara said that the Mayor and himself spoke up for the citizens and got the 2 streets done and are now working on the payment.

Councilman Johnston said an email from the Corps stated that River Road will be closed from July 7 through October, 2014, but the bike path will be closed until Dec. 2015.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for May, 2014

Revenues \$411,089.05

PAY BILLS

The Council paid the bills for May, 2014 in the amount of \$445,127.53.

REPORTS

Chief Walker gave the police report for the month of May.

Councilman Landry congratulated Congressman Scalise on his new position.

Councilman Chatelain asked that everyone support the local businesses.

Councilman Baudier said that kids are out of school and asked everyone to be careful.

Mayor Mosca wished everyone a Happy 4th of July and reminded everyone about the 2nd garbage pickup to clean up Harahan.

Councilman Murray said that the city was 4th in the Cleanest City Contest. She thanked Councilman Johnston for his cooperation as Jefferson Parish Councilman. She offered her thanks to the new Police Chief Tim Walker.

Councilman Huete - no report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN

A motion was offered by Councilman Landry and seconded by Councilman Huete to adjourn at 8:51 pm.

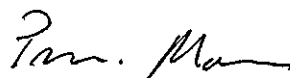
The Mayor called for a vote. The vote was:

YEAS: Baudier, Chatelain, Huete, Landry, Murray

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION APPROVED



Provino Mosca, Mayor



Nicole Lee, Municipal Clerk