

**CITY OF HARAHAH  
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAH, LOUISIANA  
MAYOR AND HARAHAH CITY COUNCIL  
October 20, 2016 Minutes**

The Mayor opened the Special Budget Meeting for October 20, 2016. At 5:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present: Mayor Miceli, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Benton, Councilman Huete, Councilman Johnston, Councilman Wheeler, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Police Chief Tim Walker, Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr, City Attorney Gilbert Buras, Financial Administrator Linda Lulue; Bond Attorney Hugh Martin**

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

**Ms. Lulue gave a presentation to the council on the budgets for 2015 & 2016.**

**First of all I'd like to start by saying thank you to all of the hard working employees of the City of Harahan. I've been here for 10 months and I've gotten to know many of our first responders in both the fire and police departments, all of the department heads, and the employees who work in City Hall itself. It is apparent that all of the City's employees love what they do and love their City. Likewise I wanted to thank everyone for working closely with me, including the City's other outside contractors, as we worked together to bring the City's general ledger bookkeeping and budgetary processes to a better place.**

**And we truly ARE in a better place than when I first arrived. I inherited a white board the size of one wall all of my office, covered with tasks that needed to be tackled. I promptly put up another white board on a second wall which I filled with tasks I identified that needed to be handled. These tasks include things such as reviewing and refining policies, examining contracts and renegotiating or putting out requests for proposals, implementing better filing systems, adhering to budget law requirements, and increasing the transparency of the City. I am proud to say that we all have worked hard and have accomplished many of these tasks, but of course additional tasks come to light as time is progressing. The City's biggest challenge was trying to function beneath the all-encompassing shadow of the deficit inherited. The inherited deficit from 2014 was \$1,256,703. The Mayor has stated her platform is "to run a tight ship and eradicate the deficit." I am proud to be able to report, according to the audited 2015 financials, there was a 76% decrease in the City's deficit, leaving a remaining deficit of \$298,107. The Original 2016 budget, adopted in May of this year projected this deficit to be decreased by another \$63k. Leaving a deficit of approximately \$236k. Since then however, the City has seen a vastly improved financial outlook. This allowed the City to refinance its 2006 bonds at a much lower interest rate, saving approximately \$30k of interest in 2016, with even more savings over the remaining life of the loan. Additionally, the City was able to pay off its 2007 bond a year early, saving the City approximately \$6k of interest. These 2 actions allowed the City to close the related Sinking and Reserve Funds and transfer those monies into the General Fund, further helping the City's bottom line.**

**As I have repeatedly stated, a budget is a tool. It is a tool that is used to monitor the City's receipts and expenses. And this tool has been constantly monitored during the year. We are at the point in time where this tool has now been honed to reflect current expectations for the 2016 outcome. And these expectations are even better than what we had originally hoped. We are now projecting eradicating the budget in its entirety! Actual ending balance is projected to be a positive \$517. Will we hit this ending balance of \$517? No, because no line item actually matches to the penny what is projected, but we do believe that the deficit at year end will be close to the ZERO mark, leaving the City with an excellent position to build 2017 and future years on. Before further discussing the details of 2016, I would like to give a glimpse at our 2017**

projection. The Mayor has told me that she wants to stay the course and keep this ship running tight. She wants to build up the City's reserves so that not only day-to-day operations can be met, but any bumps in the ocean can be weathered. She is willing to spend, but to continue to spend wisely. The Mayor has been promising 4 things about the City: One, to protect the safety and welfare of the citizens and the infrastructure and services of the City, which is what the residents deserve. Two, that the deficit would be eradicated. Three, that the first responders could have additional man-power. And four, that pay raises would be given as the number of years since employees have had one has been too long. If these proposed 2016 amendments are passed, then the 2017 budget, already provided to the Council for review, includes 1 additional employee for both the police and the fire departments. This leaves the City with a modest positive fund balance of approximately \$124k. Unfortunately, this is not enough to cover employee raises in 2017, but we will continue to monitor and re-evaluate this during next year, and we remain hopeful for the 2018 year.

Now to return to the proposed amendments to 2016. The methodology used is consistent across all departments. We looked at what was spent or received through September, and what the anticipated revenues and expenditures will be for the last quarter of this year. This is not the final budget for 2016. We expect to bring a final budget amendment to you at year end closing, and another prior to the audit closure. This will keep any department from being negatively impacted with unexpected costs at year end or audit related entries. Looking at the budget before you, there are 3 columns. The first one labeled "budget" is the original budget passed + any budget amendments that had occurred thus far through ordinances. The second column labeled "proposed budget" is what we now believe the year end numbers will be. The third column "proposed amendment" is the difference between the original and proposed columns. I have a brief synopsis prepared for each fund. Let's get the little funds out of the way.

#### Sales Tax Fund – pg 18

Since the City paid off the 2007 bond and the refunding of the 2006 bond, the City no longer has an obligation to have a percentage of the sales tax revenues diverted to the sinking fund. The changes here reflect these monies being included in the sales tax receipts. And on pgs 21 & 22, the Bond Sinking and Bond Reserve Funds, the changes reflect the expenses associated with refunding and paying off the bonds, and closing these accounts.

#### Sewer Fund – pg 19

The proposed budget figures are the exact same ones included on Exhibit 11 provided to the Council and the DEQ which have been examined extensively during that process. Related, are the 3 DEQ Funds, Sinking/Reserve & Contingencies on pages 23-25. Of note on these 3, there was no original budget for 2016 as I was not aware of these funds' existence. They should have been opened upon signing the DEQ loan in December 2013, but were not opened until mid 2015, and not included on any audit reports by P&N. These funds were not properly funded until I did so several months ago, during the review by the DEQ. The proposed figures were approved by the DEQ and the Council last month.

#### Capital Projects Fund – pg 20

The decreases all relate to projects that are being moved to 2017 as the grant income and those projects by department will not begin until next year. It was risky to move forward with these projects in 2016 as there was a very real possibility of the City defaulting on the DEQ loan, which would have necessitated utilizing all available funds, including the capital account.

You will notice that there is a new CITY IT DEPARTMENT listed here. This will predominately come into play during 2017, but this is a synopsis. The City is vastly behind with regards to technology. Smaller entities have IT departments to oversee all areas of technology. In 2016, we are moving \$52k from the General Government Admin line 21 to IT Hardware line 43. This is to be used for document imaging hardware and other hardware upgrades. In 2017, we have received a grant from LGAP for

document imaging costs. Mr. Ed Krause, the City's volunteer Chief Information Officer, can explain his vision to bring the City into compliance with normal IT and security procedures.

**General Fund**

Page 3 shows the General Fund as an overall snapshot. Line 32 projects total revenues to be less than original budget by \$250k. This is offset by an increase of \$311k of transferred monies in, line 70, the bulk of which is due to the closing of the sinking and reserve funds since the City paid off and refinanced the 2007 & 2006 bonds, respectively.

Total expenditures, line 53 projects a decrease in expenses of \$173k, which is slightly offset by \$6k transfers out, line 79.

The net result is on line 81, Original net income was projected to be \$71,065 and the projected net income is now \$298,624. This results in our new projected ending fund balance of positive \$517, as of this afternoon. Please keep in mind, this is a budget, which is subject to change and is dependent upon all of these proposed amendments being adopted. Not fully reflected in this budget are total collections regarding yesterday's property tax sale or projected auction proceeds of \$15k.

Now for the details:

**Pg5 Decreased General Fund revenues:** Line 3, Real Estate taxes, we overestimated by \$50k the growth of additional RE taxes this year. The bulk of the remaining revenue decrease is due to line 32 Misc Revenues having been over estimated by \$160k. I had just walked into this position and was facing a late budget on accounts which needed to be investigated and analyzed. I had taken 2015's misc revenue, subtracted the BP monies and kept the difference as projected 2016 earnings. This is a reasonable approach and should have worked, however, since then I have discovered that the 2015, 2014, 2013 and even earlier years, the misc revenue was overstated as there were deposits coded here rather than to the specific line items where they belonged. The result is an overestimate of 2016 misc. revenue. With each day that passes, the actual numbers are better accounted for, which ultimately allows for better budgeting.

**Non-Departmental**

Line 45 Insurance Exp. – this expense changed for every dept. Original budget was based upon P&N's methodology of allocating the expense based upon each department's total expenses. During the 2015 audit, I allocated the expense based upon the actual insurance policies. The proposed figures in this amendment reflect the actual policies, not an estimate. I will not discuss the insurance differences on each department as the reason behind the change is the same. Some departments expense increased while others decreased.

Line 54 Accounting Services – Increased by \$47k. This is the line item for my services. The amount of time spent working this year has been phenomenal and unforeseen. This is an estimate of time spent on these unforeseen situations. To begin with, 95 hours was spent preparing the original 2016 budget. This budget was prepared by both Robert Hienz and then Don Wheat, and had been paid for by the City in 2015, when the budget should have been passed. Excluding normal audit work, the external auditors caused 250 hours to be spent by my firm as they required items that had never previously balanced under prior audits, but now had to be tracked down and reconciled all the way back to 2012. This doesn't even recognize the extra hours spent unnecessarily by City employees and officials who helped track items down, and check the auditors' work, which was continually riddled with errors. Another 70 hours was spent understanding, preparing exhibits for, and multiple meetings which surrounded the DEQ loan covenants and requirements, all of which should have been addressed and met in 2014 and not needed now. (\$44k)

My position as financial advisor to the City is what is called a Controller in the corporate world. Almost every transaction passes through my desk and I know that every CPA which held this position before me has said this original budget of \$48k was too low. I am charging the City at a vastly discounted rate, and I do some services for free, including most recently preparing a RFP for audit services, which took 40 hrs.

**Administrative – p 6**

Line 95 Computer supplies – increase 16k. Original budget was too low. I had used the 2015 figure of \$3k as a starting point not realizing that in 2015 there was a \$16k LGAP grant which paid for the City's computer equipment. Actual costs for 2013 & 2014 were \$24k and \$42k respectively.

**Court pg 8**

Lines 2 & 3 – decreasing these revenue lines since the number of tickets written have declined.

Line 17 – training – Our original proposed budget was for \$4,600 to reflect the 36 month signed contract with Thomson Reuters. This contract expires in 2018. This line item was decreased by the Council in May to a figure below the signed contract. Hence the difference.

Line 41 Salaries – Our original proposed budget was for \$58,750 but was decreased by the Council in May to a figure below the current salaries of the 2 persons in the Court.

**Fire pg 9**

Revenue line items changed amongst themselves with some coming in higher and some lower than originally estimated. The net result is a negligible \$275.

**Highway Street Maintenance pg 10**

Line 38 vehicle repairs is decreased by \$3,800 as not as much expense is needed this year as originally anticipated.

Lines 45 & 46 pretty much net together as street repairs needs \$5k less and drainage repairs needs \$4k more.

**Police pg 11**

The major changes relate to grants. Anticipate \$19k more to be received in various grant revenues and the corresponding grant expenses are also increased.

Line 21 donations- increased \$3k to reflect the generous monies received for the purchase of ballistic vests.

Line 45 OSHA, & DPP tests increased \$2,300 as there were more than the usual number of tests run this year.

Line 46 Dues – decreased \$2,600 as this line item is now expected to be below budget.

Line 51 Lawsuits – increased \$24k based upon current projections of payouts on a current lawsuit.

Line 72 Vehicle Repairs – decreased \$3k as not as much expense is needed this year as originally anticipated.

Line 74 Gas – decreased \$8,500 as gas prices weren't as high as originally feared. Please note that there is still cushion built into this figure.

Line 93 – Overtime – original pay spreadsheet prepared by prior CPA included a cushion in the overtime account. However, based upon current projections, and a better understanding of historical figures, \$13k will not be needed.

Line 94 – Annual Leave – decreased \$42k. No other department has a budget for this. We are bringing this dept. into line with the others, if an annual leave payout is needed, it will be included in the next budget amendment. Tomorrow's payroll run does include an annual leave payout, therefore \$11,260 needs to be added to the proposed column. This leaves a net decrease of \$30,740. Both Chief Walker and Chief St. Cyr had questions concerning the Annual Leave. Mayor Miceli said they would be speaking with the auditors about it. The Mayor said this will not be the final amendment – they foresee two more amendments before the 2016 budget is closed out. The final one will be after the audit.

Chief Walker asked how can you decrease my salaries & related taxes when I don't know how much I will need through the holidays. If you budget money and then take it out before year end – then I'll be over budget again.

**Recreation pg 13**

Lines 40 & 42 Building & Field Maintenance lines decreased \$1k and \$3,700 respectively. Costs were not as expensive as anticipated.

**Regulatory pg 14**

Lines 2, 3, 8 & 9 total revenues are decreasing by \$37k as the total number of licenses and permits and inspection fees collected are projected at being lower than originally budgeted.

Line 7 building permits is increasing by \$10k as revenues here are higher than anticipated.

Line 23 legal fees needs \$4k more due to increased legal matters in the regulatory department.

**Wages & Benefits Section, line 51**

Salaries and related payroll taxes are decreasing and Other Inspectors are increasing to reflect the fact that the CBO is now a contractor rather than a City employee.

Electrical Inspector is decreasing by \$3k since this line item is not being used this year.

The net change is an overall decrease of \$18,800.

Councilman Wheeler questioned the changes in the regulatory dept.

Councilman Huete said this is a waste of time trying to make cuts before the end of the year when we don't know what's going to happen.

Mayor Miceli said this is standard practice for budgeting. She said an auditing issue caused a problem and she and the chief were working on it.

Councilman Johnston said he agreed that we should do this several times a year to keep an eye on the budget.

Councilman Wheeler said we amended the budget earlier and now we are amending again.

**Senior Center pg. 16**

Line 32 Vehicle Repairs increased \$1,200. When the budget was originally prepared, the City did not have the van donated by Councilman Paul Johnston.

Line 34 Bldg. repairs – decreased by \$6,950 – reflects that the AC which we were afraid might need replacing made it through the summer.

The 2017 budget was much easier to develop since we have worked through so many issues last year. As such the 2017 figures should be considered even more reliable as there is a better level of predictability than in 2016, our first year together.

I haven't received any questions from the Council regarding either the 2016 amendments or the 2017 proposal. Please email me directly regarding anything having to do with the budget figures. Like last year, if I have your questions I can ensure complete answers, so the Council can pass the 2017 budget in November as prescribed by Harahan ordinance and by the end of the year as required by the Local Government Budget Act.

Insurance – 2014 – auditor gave the departments a percentage of the insurance expense by department. For 2015 – Linda used the auditor's figures but they were wrong and she expensed it by department.

Councilman Johnston said that the Police Chief should be the one to adjust his budget.

Mayor Miceli asked Ms. Lulue to explain about the insurance expense and how the auditor handled it.

Ms. Lulue said that the auditor decided that overhead expenses should be allocated across all department and started with the insurance expenses. They did not tell the department heads they were doing this and thus all departments were over budget. She changed the method of expensing it by using the policies themselves to determine which department would bear the expense. She prepared an amendment to take care of it – but the amendment was not passed by the council.

Chief Walker argued that no money was allocated to cover the insurance expense.

Mayor Miceli said the amendment was not passed thus his department was over budget by a larger amount than necessary.

Police Chief Walker provided a handout to the council and proceeded to explain it. He stated that he is responsible for the police dept. budget. His officers' safety is paramount – his no. 1 priority because Harahan is a safe city and he intends to keep it that way. He said when he came in there were 4-5 more officers than now. He is short 2 officers and only has 1 in the academy. They worked hard to provide a balanced budget. \$55,000 over in 2015 – freedom of information act – but can't get the information from Postlewaite's audit. In Dec. of '15 he was \$200,000 under budget in Feb of '16 he was \$55,000 under but when audit comes out for '15 he is over budget by \$70,000. They met for 2016 budget – was told money would not be taken out of budget but it was. I need 2 more officers. Councilman Benton asked how many officers does the department have. The Chief answered 19 commissioned including him. But they don't all go out on the street. His policemen put their lives on the line every day. He thanked Councilman Johnston for the used cars. He has 14 officers for 7 days a week. Councilman Huete said she won't let any money be taken from his budget. The Chief claims he is paying pro-rata salaries for other people in the city. His main concern is the officers' safety. My budget keeps going up – but I don't get any additional funds. He said there isn't much they don't do. He has two motorcycles ready to go out – but the officer in charge was recently injured. He needs 2 more officers to put on the street. Traffic and speeding is the main problem – 70% of the people stopped are wanted for attachments and are arrested.

Councilman Huete said that the traffic study that Redflex did showed that 25% of the cars are speeding.

Chief Walker said 1 officer could be dedicated to do traffic per shift. I get billed when I talk to Ms. Lulue or Mr. Buras. He said that some of our laws are very outdated. The alcohol and animal control laws need updating. He said he does not have time to answer all the questions from the council – but the officer's safety is his no.1 priority.

Councilman Benton asked about Harahan's crime statistics because they don't match the FBI's report. She asked if all were commissioned police officers and the chief replied yes. She then asked about the reserve officers – are they all used? Chief Walker said yes and we

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provide uniforms & guns but they are used for extra duties (Night Out Against Crime – St. Rita's – Halloween – Court). No one in city got raises – we are losing them to other departments that pay more.

Ms. Lulue said she did not say that money would not be moved – overhead allocations were instituted in 2016 to spread the cost of city departments being used by all departments, i.e. accounting & HR. She thanked all departments that have worked to saved money.

Having no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Johnston to adjourn the hearing at 7:00 pm.

**CITY OF HARAHAH  
6437 JEFFERSON HIGHWAY, HARAHAH, LOUISIANA  
MAYOR AND HARAHAH CITY COUNCIL  
October 20, 2016 Minutes**

The Mayor opened the Regular Council Meeting for October 20, 2016. At 7:30 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present: Mayor Miceli, Councilman Baudier, Councilman Benton, Councilman Huete, Councilman Johnston, Councilman Wheeler, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Police Chief Tim Walker, Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr, City Attorney Gilbert Buras, Financial Administrator Linda Lulue; Bond Attorney Hugh Martin**

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and I would like to remind Harahan's ladies to get their mammograms to protect themselves.

Congratulations to Darlene Schwartz & all the volunteers for another successful Night Out Against Crime. Darlene will give us a full report under Special Presentations.

I would like to remind everyone that the November 8<sup>th</sup> election is fast approaching and I encourage everyone to vote.

I am calling a Special Meeting for Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 5:30 pm only for the first reading of the Proposed Budget Amendments for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016 and for the Mayor's Proposed Budget for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

Since Ms. Lulue is not available for the regular Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, I'm calling a Special Meeting for November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in order for Ms. Lulue & Mr. Buras to be there to answer the council's questions about the budget and vote on the budget.

Mayor Miceli asked Mr. Buras if he agreed that this is sufficient notice to the council. He agreed. She then instructed the City Clerk to advertise the Special Meeting dates and have them displayed on the marquee for the public.

Mr. Buras further said that the November regular meeting can be changed at the Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to coincide with the November 10<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Darlene Schwartz – Community Outreach – Night Out Against Crime – she also made the following announcements:**

**Saturday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> is Prescription Take Back Day to be held at the Rite Aid Pharmacy – 10 am – 2 pm or lobby of Police Dept. Also the Fifth Annual Jambalaya Cookoff will be held at Soniat Playground on Sat., Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 6 pm. \$10 tickets will benefit the Playground. She also said that the \$100 entry fee is per cooking team & includes 4 chefs.**

**Christmas Parade will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> on the traditional route starting at Noon.**

**Halloween Block Party in Imperial Woods Subdivision on Halloween Night – music, food & portolets will be available.**

2. **Army Corp of Engineers – David Arnoult - & Durand Elzey gave an Overview of the Mississippi River system which is 517 miles including the Atchafalaya. Levees have been under construction since 1700 - mostly built by farmers in the beginning. Corps maintains traffic – In 1927 – big flood – flood control act of 1928. 3700 miles of levees and floodwalls. They stated that the Pump to the River project is scheduled to be finished in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017. The majority of the work raising the levee 2 ft. is done and inspections are on-going. They commented that some seepage is normal – but is checked when reported. When asked about the new haul road on the batture they responded that permits go through a rigorous process. Vegetation free zones have been instituted – 15' from toe of levee on either side. Environmental analysis – and the surrounding community is taken in consideration.**

#### **ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

**The Public Hearing is open.**

**John Riehms asked about the new haul road – permit request – million dollar project – US Corps issued a statement – current permit is illegal because composting is not allowed on the batture – asked that the city ask Wood Materials to be shut down. We need Harahan to stand up and help get the contract voided.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Wheeler to extend his time.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Mr. Riehms continued - All agencies should meet together to discuss this permit – Harahan is getting trashed with the sand, the noise, and the odors. They should be cited for this.**

**Email – speeding cameras – 2 kids 2 & 4 yrs. old. – 50 mph – not okay with the speeding. Sue answered email afraid of lawsuits. Stop the speeding. Every day they speed by – the police can't be there 24-7. No reason to be afraid of lawsuits. He is upset – one response only – not acceptable.**

**Tommy Budde, Stoneleigh – speeding – backs up to Riverside Dr. – applauds the efforts of the police dept. and thanked Councilman Huete for leadership role with cameras. Quality of life is a concern – safety is no. 1 concern. He backs out on Riverside Dr. and is afraid of being hit. It will generate revenue – look at the ordinance and support it. Relatively simple fix – follow the model – this team of professionals here can do it. Evelyn Riehms, Renpass said she haven't missed a meeting in almost a year. She said they went to the Levee Board meeting today. On Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> the police were called – Wood does not have a permit to operate all night. Residents need the noise to stop now.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Huete to extend her time.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**



**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

Mrs. Riehms continued ... Monitoring was done but not during the night hours. DNR issued a stop dredging order & it stopped for 2 months. No permit has been approved for the haul road. The noise is loud tonight. We will call police every night.

Jim Perrier, River Road – thanked Councilman Huete for bringing up the cameras – the police are doing radar on River Road. When they relax – the people speed again. It's important to the city. The work on the batture – I cannot believe we are letting them work all night.

Lynne Roberts, Ferrara Dr., she opposes cameras – traffic is a police matter – 2009 this came up – many phone calls made – big backlash – legal concerns about this and the possibility of a lawsuit – give the public a vote – the majority don't want electronic monitoring.

Lauren Dominguez – concerns about the cameras – license plate does not identify the speeder – the offender is supposed to get the citation – if the speeder is not the owner of the car – the owner of the car gets the ticket – that's the issue – needs to be thoroughly researched.

Rhonda Bagby, Generes – is opposed to the cameras – it's a stupid idea – a previous mayor and council said they did not want them – if we need a petition to sign against the cameras – we will get one. Over the weekend there was a horrible sewer smell in the neighborhood.

Mike Bowler, Clifford spoke on the resignation of Mr. Yenni – he urged everyone to sign the recall petition.

Dwayne Mara, Colonial Club Dr. – they are aware of the ordinance for limiting the hours – he asked what's going on with Woods. Referred to Planning & Zoning in Sept. but we did not get anything about this yet. When will the residents get relief – what are we doing to stop this problem.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnston, seconded by Councilman Wheeler to extend his time.

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Mara continued... What are we doing to stop Wood from breaking the law. Restructure the tax law – to get more money.

Mayor Miceli said she will meet with the board before the meeting.

Dale Simoneaux, Macque – St. Rita is inviting everyone to the Pecan Festival – Nov. 11, 12 & 13<sup>th</sup>.

Adam (no last name) said the Wood Family are a good family – hardworking good people. I think Harahan benefits from Wood because the truck drivers buy lunch & gas in Harahan. A lot of the materails for the levee project came from Wood.

Robert Johnson, Riverside Dr. the results of traffic survey – May 16 – 20 – by Jefferson Parish – 1,941 cars per day – this illustrates the problem with speeders. Most of the cars are speeding. Stopping distance for a car going 40 mph is 199 ft. Have the company release and indemnify the city. There is no exposure to lawsuit – failing to take action is worse – you must pass the ordinance.

The Public Hearing is closed.

#### **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 September 22, 2016.

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Councilman Johnston

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and seconded by Councilman Benton.

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**The Board of Adjustments did not meet in August**

**A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Planning & Zoning Board Meeting of October 5 & October 10, 2016.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

**A motion was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler to accept the minutes of the Planning & Zoning Board Meeting of October 5 & October 10, 2016.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

**The Mayor called a 5 minute recess.**

**The meeting was called back to order.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**The following Resolution was proposed unanimously by the Council.**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016-15**

**Local Government Assistance Program Grant application for the purchase of computer application, computer equipment and plotter equipment suitable for storing 600 GB of data. \$29,500**

**A motion to open the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**No one spoke at the public hearing**

**A motion to close the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**A motion to approve the resolution was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2016-16**

**The following Resolution was offered unanimously by the Council.**

**Formal request that Jefferson Parish Michael S. Yenni resign his elected position as Jefferson Parish President.**

**A motion to open the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**No one spoke at the public hearing**

**A motion to close the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**A motion to approve the resolution was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSED**

**ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL (Public Hearing)**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-14**

**This Ordinance was introduced by unanimously by the Council  
The City Clerk read it in its entirety.**

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

**A motion to open the public hearing was offered by Councilman  
Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**No one spoke at the public hearing.**

**A motion to close the public hearing was offered by Councilman  
Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**Council Discussion: Councilman Wheeler asked where does the money  
from the auction go?**

**Ms. Lulue said the funds are put into the general fund.**

**A motion to approve the Ordinance was offered by Councilman Benton  
and seconded by Councilman Johnston. The vote was as follows:**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ORDINANCE APPROVED**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 15**

**This Ordinance is proposed by Councilman Johnston and seconded by  
Councilman Huete.**

**The City Clerk read it in its entirety.**

**An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 1333, Section XV, relative to the  
zoning classification “NU Non-urban Batture District”, Harahan  
Municipal Code, 1990, Appendix A, by adding thereto a new  
subsection governing the hours of operation of commercial  
enterprises therein; and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.**

**Mayor Micelie asked the council to send this to the Planning & Zoning  
Board for their consideration.**

**A motion to send the ordinance to the Planning & Zoning Board was  
offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

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

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**MOTION PASSES**

**The City Clerk said it would be heard at the November Planning & Zoning  
Board meeting.**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 16**

**This Ordinance is proposed by Councilman Johnston and seconded by  
Councilman Huete.**

**The City Clerk read it in its entirety.**

**An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1806 being the Annual Budget of  
Revenue and Expenditures for Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2016,  
by decreasing appropriations to Capital Expenditures by the amount of  
\$1,000 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 2 Bulletproof Vests; and to  
otherwise provide with respect thereto.**

**A motion to open the public hearing was offered by Councilman  
Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**No one spoke at the public hearing.**

**A motion to close the public hearing was offered by Councilman  
Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**Council Discussion: None**

**A motion to approve the Ordinance was offered by Councilman Wheeler  
and seconded by Councilman Johnston. The vote was as follows:**

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**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ORDINANCE APPROVED**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 17**

**This Ordinance is proposed by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier.**

**The City Clerk read it by title only.**

**An Ordinance to place “stop signs” on Oak Avenue at the corner of Columbus Street.**

**A motion to open the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Wheeler.**

**No one spoke at the public hearing.**

**A motion to close the public hearing was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Benton.**

**Council Discussion: Councilman Johnston said the people on Oak Ave. had signed a petition to install the stop sign to help with the speeding problem.**

**A motion to approve the Ordinance was offered by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Baudier. The vote was as follows:**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**ORDINANCE APPROVED**

**Mayor Miceli asked the city attorney if there were requirements necessary for placing a stop sign.**

**Mr. Buras said he couldn’t answer off top of head, but he would research it.**

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (First Reading)**

**The following Ordinance was introduced unanimously by the Council.**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 - 18**

**An Ordinance approving the resubdivision of 401 and 405 Oak Ave., Harahan, LA 70123 – Lots 1, 2, and 3, Square J, Harahan City Subdivision, City of Harahan, Parish of Jefferson, State of Louisiana, made by Dading, Marques & Associates, LLC, dated September 19, 2012.**

**Mayor Miceli informed the council that the Planning & Zoning Board did recommend approval of this resubdivision.**

**The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Baudier**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-19**

**An Ordinance to amend the Harahan Municipal Code by adding to Chapter 2, Article 1, a new Section to be designated Section 2-6 establishing a convenience fee of 2.49% for payment of City charges by electronic means and a new Section to be designated Section 2-7 establishing a \$2.00 technical fee upon all permits, licenses in charges imposed by the City of Harahan authority for payment of City charges.**

**The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilman Huete.**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 20**

**An ordinance as amended of the Harahan City Council amending Chapter 50, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, of the Harahan Municipal Code by adding Article IV Electronic Enforcement, Speed Limit Enforcement, Sections 50-100 through 50-106 to provide for the enforcement of certain traffic signal violations by automated means and provide for civil penalties for traffic signal violations enforced by automated means.**

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ADDRESS THE COUNCIL-** The public may now address the council.

**Laurie Dominguez, Oak Ave. said she is against the cameras and would prefer speed bumps.**

**Jason Bruzik is in favor and suggested that the camera company be forced to pay for any lawsuit and to prevent lawsuits to be sure to use a system that get the face of the driver.**

**Tommy Budde, Stoneleigh said there are too many stop signs and thanked the council for their service.**

**Robert Johnson, Riverside Dr. said that the citizens would be put on notice about the cameras which would eliminate legal action.**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Secretary's report for September, 2016 – Total revenue \$345,299.98**

**REPORTS**

**Chief Walker gave his report for the month of September.**

**He thanked everyone for participation in Night Out Against Crime. He announced the lane change on Jefferson Hwy. for Friday night, and said his department is providing Port-O-Potties for Halloween.**

**Councilman Huete – Happy Halloween – fully supporting cameras to keep city safe & earmark money for first responders.**

**Councilman Johnston – St. Rita Nov. 11, 12 & 13 – KC spaghetti dinner on Sunday from 10:30 am. Don't think we have jurisdiction over River Road. If I vote for this – it is for a specific area not for the whole city.**

**Councilman Baudier – on council when cameras came up last time – most did not want them. A car sped by him on River Road and he called the Mayor about it. If I am for it – it would be specific for River Road. Don't like them and don't want them all over the city. He is pro-business – but more about being a good neighbor. Trying to help the Riehms and doesn't want to get on their bad side. It's a bureaucratic nightmare.**

**Councilman Wheeler - Happy Halloween.**

**Councilman Benton – lived here for 25 yrs. & Colonial has a speeding problem too. She is concerned about the children and residents – but also concerned about litigation – Gretna is facing a class action suit against them. Not thrilled about cameras – but we do have a problem.**

**Mayor Miceli thanked everyone for attending – October is Breast Cancer Month – affects men & women – get your exams – Happy Halloween.**

**She said she hopes the council will pass a budget before Dec. deadline.**

**PAY BILLS**

**Total Bills paid in September, 2016 are \$417,148.68**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****ADJOURN**

**Motion by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Johnston to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 P.M.**

**YEAS: Baudier, Benton, Huete, Johnston, Wheeler**

**NAYS: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**MOTION PASSES**

**A. The following matter involving pending litigation may be considered (Court, Case, Number, Parties):**

1. **Phillip Canella vs. Arch Ins. Co., City of Harahan, Todd A. St. Cyr, and Allstate Ins. Co.; 24<sup>th</sup> JDC, Case 744-961, Div. "I"**
2. **Suzanne K. Scalise vs. City of Harahan LA, Anne Gordon, Louise Slayden, Ronald Gordon, Gail Gordon; 24<sup>th</sup> JDC, Case 744-986, Div. "O"**
3. **City of Harahan, et al, v. BP Exploration & Production, Inc., et al. U.S.D.C., Eastern District of Louisiana, No. 2:13-cv-01397**
4. **Wood Materials LLC, Wood Resources LLC v. City of Harahan, 24<sup>th</sup> JDC, Case 761-783, Div. "K"**

**B. The following matter involving prospective litigation for which formal written demand has been made may be considered.**

**C. The following matters involving discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of:**

**Name:**