

TOWN OF WALKER
MINUTES

November 9, 2009

7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and Board of Aldermen was held at the Walker Town Hall on November 9, 2009 at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Bobby Font, Aldermen Elton Burns, Scarlett Major, James Phillips, Jack Summerell and Richard Wales.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Chief Grimes.

Mayor Font led the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Mr. James Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major, to adopt the October 12, 2009 minutes as presented.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

A motion was made by Mrs. Scarlett Major, seconded by Mr. Elton Burns, to adopt the November 2, 2009 Finance Committee Minutes as presented.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

A motion was made by Mrs. Scarlett Major to adopt a Proclamation declaring November 9, 2009 as the Day of the Deployed. Mr. Jack Summerell seconded the motion.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. Elton Burns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jack Summerell, giving Mayor Font approval to commence the process of advertising the bid for the Greenwich Water Project.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance for a public hearing at the December 14, 2009 meeting for the purpose of amending the 2009 budget.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance for a public hearing at the December 14, 2009 meeting for the purpose of adopting the 2010 budget.

Mr. Jack Summerell introduced an ordinance for a public hearing at the December 14, 2009 meeting for the purpose of amending Section 5-17(7) of the Code of Ordinances.

Mayor Font requested that item 19 – Budgetary Matters be addressed out of order so that Finance Director, Cindy Breaux, could attend to family matters.

Mr. Richard Wales questioned if the Town of Walker had the funds for the pay raise requested by Chief Grimes for the Police Department. Mayor Font stated that the Town has the funds at this time however; this is a reoccurring cost and would need to be budgeted as such. Mayor Font went on to state that he felt that it is his responsibility to make it known that not only will we need to find funds for the \$35,000 for the pay raise but also an additional \$21,000 for a new computer system (cade system) as well as \$30,000 for striping and equipping 3 new police units that the Police Department received through a grant; making it an additional \$100,000 that would need to be budgeted for the Police Department's 2010 Budget. Mayor Font also noted the vehicle and computer expenses are not reoccurring.

Mr. Richard Wales made a motion, with a second by Mr. James Phillips, to approve the pay raise proposed by Chief Grimes for the police department to become effective January 2010.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mr. James Phillips made a motion with a second by Mr. Elton Burns, to approve the promotions of the following officers: Kenath Black to Corporal; Chris Dufour to Lieutenant; Bruce Higginbotham to Sergeant; Brett Hutchinson to Corporal; Laura Jenkins to Corporal and Rusty Jenkins to Corporal.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

The ordinance for annexation of Our Lady of the Lake Hospital was tabled until the December 12 meeting at which time a public hearing will be held.

Following a public hearing, Mr. Richard Wales made a motion, seconded by Mr. James Phillips, to adopt the ordinance on the condemnation proceeding on a structure belonging to Mitchell Hill, Deborah Hill, Warren Nealy, Debra Nealy and/or Citi Financial Inc.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

During a public hearing Rev. Adams Edward addressed the Board requesting the rezoning of property belonging to Gloryland Church of God In Christ, located at 13900 JR. Drive, from R-50 to RC. Several of the residents from the JR Drive area were present to oppose the rezoning. Once all discussion was heard it was determined that the request did not fall within the guidelines of the Town Ordinance for rezoning as requested, therefore

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. James Phillips, to reject the rezoning request and have it remain at the R-50 zoning code.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillip, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. Elton Burns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales, to approve an ordinance amending Section 17-4; Unlawful Deposits and Section 17-19; Interference With Drainage Systems, of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. Jack Summerell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elton Burns, to approve an ordinance amending Section 4-2, Livestock and Fowl and Section 4-3 Penalty for Violating Section 4-2 of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. Richard Wales made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major, to approve an ordinance amending Section 5-28; Privilege and Lien for Demolition or Maintenance Costs Incurred by the Town and to add Section 5-30; Alternative to Demolition; Repair by Municipality or Parish of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. James Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elton Burns, to approve an ordinance amending Section 12-1, Louisiana Highway Regulatory Act Adopted of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. James Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jack Summerell, to approve an ordinance to repeal Section 12-22; Fine Schedule and Section 1-8.1, Fine Schedule of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales
Nays: None
Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mr. James Phillips made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jack Summerell, to approve an ordinance amending Section 13-165, Theft of Animals and Section 13-251 Possession of Marijuana and to add Section 13-175, Theft of Timber; Section 13-180, Unauthorized Interception, Interference with or Retransmission of Service Offered Over a Cable Television System; Section 13-187, Child Desertion,

Section 13-188, Domestic Abuse Battery and Section 13-223, Drug Paraphernalia of the Town of Walker Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Burns, Major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Chief Grimes presented the Police Report stating that 528 citations were issued in the month of October 2009.

Mr. Darren Blevins presented the Public Works Report

Mayor Bobby Font comments were as follows:

- Mayor Font thanked the public for taking time out of their busy lives to attend the Town's Council Meeting and being involved with their government.
- The Town of Walker's Second Business Meet and Greet was a great success. Approximately 70-100 people were present. Our next event will be a Business Expo where business owners will be able to set up booths and advertise their business.
- The Town of Walker's Christmas Celebration will begin December 5th with the Annual Christmas Parade starting at 1:00 pm followed by choirs caroling in the lot next to Wal-Greens and Goodwill. The lighting of the Town's 1st 30 ft Christmas tree will be that evening at dusk / dark. Everyone is welcomed to come out and enjoy a good time.
- The Town of Walker will be closed Wednesday, November 11th in order to observe Veterans Day.

There being no further comments or business to discuss, Mr. Jack Summerell made a motion to adjourn with a second by Mr. Richard Wales.

Yeas: Burns, major, Phillips, Summerell and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



MAYOR BOBBY FONT

ATTEST:



Myra Streeter, Clerk
CMC; CMA; CAA