

# CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2022

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on Monday, June 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Jimmy Watson called the meeting to order. Council member, Gary Griffin, led the meeting in prayer. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, followed with roll call.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major, and Richard Wales

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2022 council meeting.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Deputy Jason Harris of the Livingston Clerk of Court attended Monday night's council meeting. He provided a brief overview to the council members and those present the functions of the Clerk of Court office.

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, introduced Public Works Director, Joe McLin. Joe has been employed with the City of Walker since 2014. He quickly moved up the ranks in the Street Department because of his hard work, leadership abilities, and willingness to do what's necessary to complete projects. Joe was recently promoted as Public Works Director in April 2022.

Joe introduced the employees from Facility Maintenance, Drainage, and MS4 (Municipal Storm, Sewer, and Street). Joe had all positive comments about his team of employees. He was especially proud of the young men recently hired. He described them as eager to learn and respectful. He feels they possess great potential.

Mr. Chad Bacas of Forte and Tablada was introduced next. Chad is a civil engineer and Sr. Vice-President for South Louisiana Engineering. Chad was accompanied by a few members of his staff whom he introduced. The City of Walker has been a client of Forte and Tablada for approximately ten (10) years. The expertise of the engineers from Forte and Tablada has made a significant impact in our city-wide projects and improvements.

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, presented the April 2022 financial report. Mr. Cotton reported a net profit (loss) before transfers of \$1,871,259. There was a 3% decrease in gas revenue and 17% increase in sales taxes. Mr. Cotton informed the council that the 2021 audit is complete and that there will be a special meeting, Monday, June 27, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m. of the audit report from Hannis T. Bourgeois.

Ms. Scarlett Major introduced 2022 Budget Amendment No. 2/Bulldozer.

Jamie Etheridge presented before the members of the council four (4) resolutions;

- 1) RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SUBMITTAL OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS AND COMMITMENT OF LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS THROUGH THE CAPITAL REGION PLANNING COMMISSION BATON ROUGE URBANIZED SELECTION PROCESS

It was motioned by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve and adopt this resolution with the effective of June 13, 2022.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSENT: None

- 2) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL VISA CARD WITH FIRST GUARANTY BANK AND A SAM'S CLUB CREDIT CARD FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

It was motioned by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approve and adopt this resolution with the effective date of June 13, 2022.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

- 3) RESOLUTION TO ADOPT APPOINTING THE LIVINGSTON PARISH NEWS AS THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF RECORD FOR THE CITY OF WALKER

It was motioned by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve this resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

- 4) RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORT FROM THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS CONTAINED IN THE AUDIT REPORT

Ms. Wendy Montalbano provided a thorough review and reporting the findings of the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Audit which was completed May 10, 2022. After a lengthy discussion of concerns from council members and explanations provided by Ms. Montalbano and Mr. Etheridge, it was then motioned by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve and adopt this resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

City Clerk, Tammy Payton, presented before the council for approval the following resolution;  
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE MILLAGE RATE FOR 2022 OF 2.230

It was motioned by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve and adopt this resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**Additional Comments:**


- Kreston Brown of Forte and Tablada gave an update on the sewer main project which is south of I12 near Milton Road.
- The project on Pendarvis Lane is about 35% completed. The ride away maps are finished. There is not a projected time when the roads will be closed for repairs.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

  
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Mayor Jimmy Watson

Attest:   
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Tammy Payton – Municipal Clerk