

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2025

6:00 PM

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall—13600 Aydell Lane on Monday, October 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Watson, followed with prayer by Mr. Griffin. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, conducted the roll call of the council members.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Tracy Girlinghouse, Gary Griffin and Scarlett Milton-Major.

Mayor Watson asked for a motion to approve the September 8, 2025 council meeting minutes. With there being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Girlinghouse, to adopt said minutes.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Major, Griffin
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, gave a summary of the August 2025 finance report. Mr. Cotton reported that the net assets ending August 31, 2025 was \$2,163,545. It was reported that sales tax revenue increased by 9.7%; gas revenue increased by .05%.

Ms. Kristin Zatta of Entergy Louisiana provided an informative report on the work Entergy is doing in our area. The initiative is called the Grid Resilience Program, which is a \$418.3 million investment designed to strengthen the power grid in the Capital Region over the next five years. Crews are presently working in our local area upgrading power lines and changing out old, damaged transmission poles that can withstand winds up to 150 mph. Entergy is confident that these essential upgrades will have long-term, positive impacts for our industry, businesses and residents.

Introductions were made for two ordinances without discussion:

- **Gary Griffin** - *Introduction to Amend Article II, Sec. 9-21; Defining "Nuisance" for code enforcement purposes.*
- **Eric Cook** – *Introduction for 2025 Annual Budget Amendment No. 4; Maintenance Building and Grounds for the Walker Police Department.*

A motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Clark, to enter into a public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The following ordinances were presented before the council:

- ❖ *Ordinance 10-2025-02 Amend Chapter 10, Section 10-3 Banning the Possession of Kratom (Mitragyna Speciosa Korth)*

Ms. Major recommended before the council the proposed ordinance that would ban the 'possession' of Kratom within the City of Walker. City Attorney, Bobby King, provided additional information which clarified the justification to amend *Ordinance 02-2025-01; Ban the Sale of Mitragyna Speciosa Korth (Kratom)* that was approved February 10, 2025.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, Ordinance 10-2025-02, was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

❖ Ordinance 10-2025-01; 2025 Annual Budget Amendment No. 3

Mr. Girlinghouse recommended before the council the proposed budget adjustment to increase the capital outlay in the water department by \$3,710,721 for improvements to Well No. 6. The federal grant award from Water Sector Program, Phase II, is due to the efforts of Senator Valerie Hodges and Representative Shane Mack. Treston Brown of Forte and Tablada made comments that expounded on the use of these funds.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Cook, Ordinance 10-2025-01 was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

A motion was made by Mr. Girlinghouse and seconded by Ms. Major to close the public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The following resolution was presented before the council for approval:

Resolution Declaring City of Walker Equipment as Surplus

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge requested that a Lenovo ThinkPad Laptop be declared deadline to be sold in accordance with Louisiana State Law.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the resolution was approved as requested.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Captain Chris Dufour presented before the council new hire candidate, Hayden McKenzie. Candidate McKenzie has completed the application process and has successfully passed all the required tests to qualify for the position of police officer.

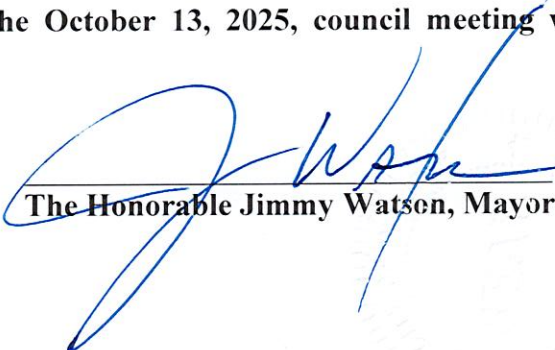
Upon a motion made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Cook, Hayden McKenzie was approved for hire at the Walker Police Department.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Additional Comments

- ❖ Mayor Watson announced that the WalkTown ThrowDown DiscGolf Tournament will be on Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 8:00 AM -12:00 PM.
- ❖ There will also be an Inaugural Bluegrass Gospel Fest Concert at the Amphitheater at Sidney Hutchinson Park scheduled Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 1:00– 7:00 PM.
- ❖ Halloween Day will be observed on Friday, October 31, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Club Outreach will have Trunk or Treat from 6:00-8:00 PM at their facility.
- ❖ The City of Walker will present “Living History Time Line” at Sidney Hutchinson Park on Saturday, November 1st from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- ❖ The Veterans’ Day parade will be November 8, 2025, starting @ 10:00 a.m. It will be followed with lunch at the Walker Community Center.
- ❖ Mayor Watson commented on the large American Flag flying proudly at Complete Diesel and Automotive.
- ❖ Mr. Girlinghouse announced the passing of Mr. Christopher Moody formerly of the Livingston Parish Council.

With no further business to discuss, the October 13, 2025, council meeting was adjourned.


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:

Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk