

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 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, September 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Watson, followed with prayer by Mr. Girlinghouse. 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 August 11, 2025 council meeting minutes. With there being no comments or questions, a motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adopt said minutes.

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

Mr. Jason B. Harris, the Livingston Parish Clerk of Court, made what he refers to as his annual 'pilgrimage' to the City of Walker. He gave an overview of the Clerk of Court purpose and daily functions. The range of services provided other than certifying elections includes furnishing certified copies of birth and death certificates, issuing marriage licenses, handling the filing of civil lawsuits, criminal cases and documentation of real estate transactions.

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, gave a summary of the July 2025 finance report. Mr. Cotton reported that the net assets ending July 31, 2025 was \$1,731,180. It was reported that sales tax was down 10%; gas revenue decreased by 3.2%.

The new Parks and Recreations Director, James Thomas, was introduced to the council by Jamie Etheridge. Mr. Etheridge gave a summary of Mr. Thomas' impressive work credentials and experience as he welcomed him to the City of Walker.

Two introductions were made for ordinances with no discussion:

- **Scarlett Major** - *Introduction to ban the possession of Mitragya Speciosa Korth (Kratom)*
- **Tracy Girlinghouse** – *Introduction for 2025 Budget Amendment No. 3; Water Sector Money--\$3.7 million grant for Well No. 10*

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, presented before the council the following resolutions:

- 1) *Resolution Recognizing the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Planning Process and the Establish Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee:*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Ms. Major, the resolution to approve the participation of the City of Walker in the planning process designed to identify, assess and implement strategies associated with natural hazards. The City of Walker will be represented as GOHSEP (*Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness*) and SDMI (*Stephenson Disaster Management Institute*) coordinate efforts to reduce any risks that may affect the City of Walker.

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

2) Resolution Declaring City of Walker Equipment as Surplus

Upon a motion made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Cook, the council approved to deadline fifteen (15) items outlined in the resolution to be sold/destroyed in accordance with the Louisiana State Law.

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

3) Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Enter into Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the Livingston Parish School Board and the City of Walker

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the resolution was approved in accordance with the terms and conditional provisions outlined in the CEA for the property located at 13745 Milton Lane—South Walker Elementary.

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

A presentation was given by Water Service Director, Tim Oxley, on water well #4. A slideshow of the installation work underway for the filtration system provided a visual update of the progress of Phase 2 Water Sector Program (WSP-P2) after receiving a \$3.7 million grant award. Mr. Oxley is optimistic and confident that residents will begin to see clear water in the near future.

Chief David Addison presented for the council's consideration new hire candidate, Andrica Brown. He reported that Ms. Brown has successfully completed the application process and will come onboard as post-certified officer.

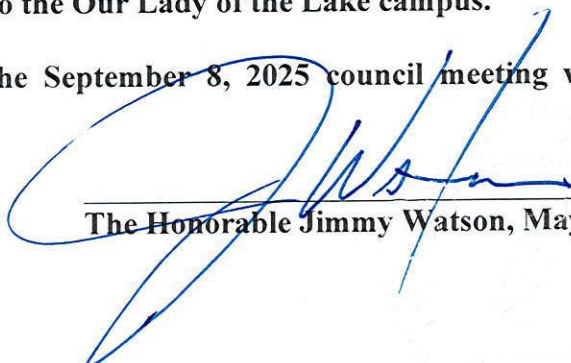
Upon a motion made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Clark, Andrica Brown was approved for hire at the Walker Police Department.

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

Additional Comments

- ❖ Mayor Watson announced that on Saturday, October 25, 2025, there will be a Walk Town Throw Down DiscGolf Tournament.
- ❖ There will also be an Inaugural Bluegrass Gospel Fest Concert over at the amphitheater at Sidney Hutchinson Park also scheduled October 25, 2025.
- ❖ Mayor Watson reported vandalism at Sidney Hutchinson Park. He urged the public to be aware. If you see something, please say something to help curtail the problem.
- ❖ Jamie Etheridge gave a brief update on the progress of the Phase 2 sewer project south of Interstate 12 which will be beneficial to the Our Lady of the Lake campus.

With no further business to discuss, the September 8, 2025 council meeting was adjourned.


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:

Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk