

# CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2025

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall—13600 Aydell Lane Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Jimmy Watson called the meeting to order. Mr. Griffin opened the council meeting with prayer. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, followed with the roll call of the council.

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

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt/approve the minutes from the March 10, 2025 meeting. Mayor Watson asked for comments or questions. With there being none, a motion was made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Cook to approve said minutes.

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

Finance director, Mike Cotton, presented the February 2025 finance report. It was reported that the net profit ending February 28, 2025 was \$1,181,301. Our sales tax increased by 1%; gas revenue increased by 14.3%.

Luke Yoes, of Hannis T. Bourgeois, reviewed the audit planning letter before the council for the impending audit scheduled to start on April 21, 2025.

Mr. Clark made the introduction of the ordinance to adopt the rate adjustment based on the Louisiana Rural Water Association Rate Analysis.

Mayor Watson called for a motion to enter into a public hearing. The motion was made by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Cook.

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

Ordinance #04-2025-01, 2025 Annual Budget Amendment No. 1, was brought before the council by Mr. Griffin. The purpose of the ordinance is to increase the street maintenance expenditures for the purchase of flood monitoring devices. The expenditure will be funded with a transfer from the special revenue fund to the general fund.

Pictured exhibits of the Nexsens X3 Data Loggers were shown. Jamie Etheridge explained how the five(5) data loggers will track the water levels. Livingston Parish Gravity Drainage District #5 will monitor these devices.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Girlinghouse, Ordinance #04-2025-01 was approved.

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

Mayor Watson called for a motion to close the public hearing. A motion was made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Ms. Major.

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

The pending matter of the revocation of the occupational license for Cali Smoke Shop after a 30-day suspension was brought before the council by Jamie Etheridge. No one was present from Cali Smoke Shop to contest the decision to proceed with the revocation.

With no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve to revoke the occupational license for Cali Smoke Shop.

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

Water Services Director, Tim Oxley, gave the 2024 DEQ La. Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Audit Report for water services and environmental compliance.

Jamie Etheridge brought before the council the following resolutions:

*\*Resolution Authorizing the Approval of the Final Acceptance for the Aydell Lane 447 to Park St. Project, Livingston Parish; State and Federal Aid Project No. H.014359*

A motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook to approve the resolution as presented.

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

*\*Resolution to Acknowledging Receipt of the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report from the La. Department of Environmental Quality and Authorizing Certain Actions to Address the Problems Contained in the Audit Report*

A motion was made by Mr. Girlinghouse, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approve the resolution as presented.

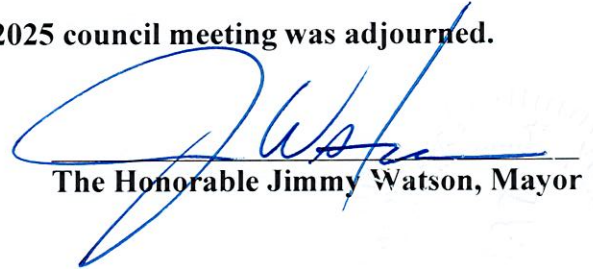
YEAS: Clark, Cook, Girlinghouse, Major, Griffin  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

**Additional Comments:**

- ❖ Mayor Watson announced the upcoming Miles for Smiles 5K Run & 1 Mile Fun/Walk at Sidney Hutchinson Park on Saturday, April 26, 2025. The event is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Walker.
- ❖ It was a beautiful day Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Sidney Hutchinson Park. There was a great turnout with lots of fun and activities. The Beta Clubs of Walker High and Denham Springs High Schools were the sponsors.
- ❖ The fundraising banquet for the Walker High School Mentor Program was held on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Walker Community Center.

- ❖ Mr. Griffin requested a brief update on the road work on Brian Park Drive.
- ❖ Ms. Major made a public appeal to anyone who may have pictures of two past mayors for the periods of 1914 – 1918 and 1952. Also, she asked for any information that may explain why the Village of Walker was ‘seemingly’ inactive between the years 1926 – 1944.

With no further business to discuss, the April 14, 2025 council meeting was adjourned.



The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk