

CITY OF WALKER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES

April 9, 2018

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on April 9, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Present were Mayor Jimmy Watson, Council Members David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major and Richard Wales.

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting as presented.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. David Clark made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2018 special meeting as presented.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Watson recognized the members from the Walker High Boys Basketball Team. Mayor Watson, congratulated the team for winning the Louisiana State Championship. After speaking of their hard work, sportsmanship and team work, Head Coach Anthony Schiro, called each player by name as Mayor Watson presented them with a key to the City.

Mr. Brian Bud and Dr. Wainwright with the Northshore Technical Community College gave a presentation on the new community college that will be build off of Burgess Avenue and connect to the existing Literacy Center. Mr. Bud indicated there was no budget shortfall, however there were some issues they would like addresses with the City. The Water and Sewer systems are not readily available to the site of the project. Thus, they would welcome any assistance the City could provide with this part of the project. More discussion would be needed before a decision would be made.

Mr. Joe McLin presented the DPW report indicating the sewer, water maintenance and new construction department consist of 4 dedicated men. Mr. McLin explained the function of each aspect of the mentioned departments. Mr. McLin also indicated not only do these individuals work hard within their department but also assist in other departments as needed.

Mr. Anson Blount was present to address his issues of blight, signage and 18 wheelers with the City Council. Mr. Blount explained that his residential area is located behind a commercial business and they have no privacy fence, don't cut their grass and their trash seems to blow all over the neighborhood. The other issue is that of Tractor Trailer/18 Wheelers entering the neighborhood on Fern Street and trying to turn onto Aster Street. There is not enough room to make the turn so they are ending up in his yard which is tearing the yard up. Following much discussion, it was determined that the City has already addressed the signs. Signs have been placed along Fern past the business indicating no tractor trailer/18 wheelers. The City has also addressed the grass cutting and the trash issues with the owner of the business. Due to the fact that the business owner does not own the property, the issue regarding the fence, the City will have to address this issue with the property owner.

Mrs. Nancy Kimble, Floodplain Administrator, presented the Council with copies of the Capital Region Area Floodplain Task-force (CRAFT) and Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information (PPI) Committee Meeting – Annual Review. Mrs. Kimble asked the Council to review it and if they had any questions please contact her and she would be more than happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Mr. Eric Cook introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to amend the UDC code changing the date and time of the City's Planning and Zoning Meetings.

The subdividing of property belonging to Thomas Watson was tabled for 30 days in the Planning and Zoning meeting therefore no action was taken on it.

Mr. Richard Wales introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting for the re-zoning of 33.42 acres of property belonging to DMB Holding LLC, located on Florida Blvd. from R-80 to Industrial (I).

Mr. Gary Griffin introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting for the re-zoning of 6 acres of property belonging to the Milton Family, located on Old Walker South Road from R-80 to Residential Commercial (RC).

Mr. Gary Griffin introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting for the re-zoning of property along Walker South Road below Interstate 12 from R-80 to Residential Commercial (RC).

Mr. Richard Wales introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to add Chapter 21, Stormwater Management: During Construction and Post-Construction for New Development and Redevelopment to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Walker.

Mr. Richard Wales introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to add Chapter 22, Stormwater Management: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Walker.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to amend employee pay schedule.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to amend and authorize the Mayor to adjust the salary for the Chief of Operations.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the May 14, 2018 meeting to amend and authorize the Mayor to adjust salaries for the Finance Director and the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mr. David Clark to enter into a public hearing.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Following a public hearing Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to approve the re-zoning of property at the corner of Hartman Lane and Old Walker South (Best Western) to RC-CAB-1 to allow the serving and selling of alcohol.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to close the public hearing.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Chief David Addison presented the police report indicating that 690 citations, 1148 calls for service and 107 arrests performed in February 2018.

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. David Clark to approve Chief Addison's request to hire Mr. Christopher Davis as a Reserve Officer for the City of Walker.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Mr. Eric Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to approve Chief Addison's request to hire Ms. Sheela Chutz as a Reserve Officer for the City of Walker.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Wales to approve Chief Addison's request to hire Mr. Dewitte Hall as a Reserve Officer for the City of Walker.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

During public comments, Mr. Eric Cook mentioned a comment that Mr. Blount had stated during the discussion on 18 Wheelers and GPS. Mr. Blount believes that Google Maps may be sending these 18 Wheelers through his neighborhood through their GPS systems. Mr. Cook suggested we might somehow get in touch with Google to make them aware of this problem.

Mr. Jamie Etheridge reported that a little over a month ago someone had broken into the water well on Pendarvis Lane and into a lift station behind Revival Temple and he wanted to thank the Police Department for apprehending the thief.

Mr. Eric Cook asked for an update on Travis Street Bridge. Mr. Etheridge informed the board that all information had been submitted to DOTD and we were just waiting on approval from them.

Mayor Jimmy Watson announced that City Clerk Mrs. Myra Streeter was elected as President to for the Louisiana Municipal Secretaries and Assistants (LAMSA) for a second time.

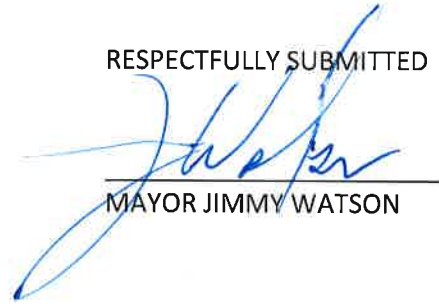
Mrs. Scarlett Major announced that Ms. Mary Gray was elected to serve as secretary for the Louisiana Animal Control Association (LACA).

Chief Addison mentioned that his secretary Ms. Cristina Leggett was hosting the Louisiana Association of Secretaries to Chiefs of Police (LASCP) conference here in Walker.

There being no additional comments and no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Richard Wales and seconded by Mr. Eric Cook to adjourn.

Yeas: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major and Wales  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



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MAYOR JIMMY WATSON

ATTEST



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Myra Streeter, Clerk  
MMC; CMA; CAA