

CITY OF WALKER
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

September 8, 2014

6:00PM

The regular scheduled meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on September 8, 2014 at 6:00pm. Present were Mayor Rick Ramsey, Council members Jonathan Davis, Tracy Girlinghouse, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major and Paul Roberts.

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Mr. Gary Griffin.

Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Paul Roberts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jonathan Davis to adopt the minutes of the August 11, 2014 meeting as presented.

Yeas:	Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

Mayor Rick Ramsey presented Mr. Cliff Graham and Mr. Darren Blevins with a key to the City of Walker. Mr. Graham donated 5 air conditioners to local citizens who are in need of help. Mr. Graham thanked the Mayor but told him that he, along with others, have made this their mission to serve God by serving others. Mr. Darren Blevins has started a nonprofit organization, **Showing Mom's A Little Love (SMALL)**. It is designed to help single mothers with low or no income. Mr. Blevins used the air conditioners Mr. Graham donated to help improve the lives of these single mothers and their families by showing God's love.

Ms. Cassie Felder, candidate for Congressmen, District 6 was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Jeff Johnson, candidate for District Judge, Division A addressed the Council and requested their support.

Mr. Jeff Cashe, candidate for Family Court Judge, addressed the Council and requested their support.

Mrs. Andrea Hebert addressed the Council with concerns of speeding on Oak Street. Mrs. Hebert indicated that since the School Board purchased the property from the City on Stump Street, the school traffic has changed on Clara Street and Wildcat Drive going to the Walker Freshmen High which has created traffic issues for the residents of Oak Street. Mrs. Hebert was requesting that the Council consider barricades, speed bumps or one way streets to eliminate this problem.

Following discussion regarding the speed issue, Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse to lift the agenda to introduce ordinances for Oak Street, Mr. Marsh and Mr. Hill property purchase and the request of Best Western to be placed on the City Utility system as well as to be annexed into the City limits of Walker.

Yeas:	Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse introduced an ordinance to reduce Oak Street to one lane going South bound from Elm Street to Wildcat Drive be set for a public hearing at the regular meeting on October 13, 2014

Mr. Neil Patel, with Best Western Plus Hotels, was present to request utility service for the hotel from the City of Walker. The location for the hotel is southeast corner of Hartman Lane and Old Walker South Road, which is outside the City limits. Mr. Patel then requested that the area be annexed into the City limits of Walker.

Mrs. Scarlett Major made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gary Griffin to adopt a resolution giving approval to begin the annexation process. Once the annexation process is complete the installation of utilities will not be an issue

Yeas: Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the October 13, 2014 regular meeting on the sale of unimproved right of way on Moore Street to Darrell & Cindy Fabre Hill.

Mr. Paul Roberts introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the October 13, 2014 regular meeting on the sale of the unimproved right of way on Moore Street to Cliff Marsh.

Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse to return to the regular agenda.

Yeas: Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mr. Fred Raiford updated the Council on the water tower, walking trail and road improvements at the Industrial Park, Juban Crossing gas line, sidewalk project phase III, and improvements to the Animal Shelter.

Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Scarlett Major to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor with DOTD, accepting Burgess Avenue (Hwy 1027) as a City street from the State of Louisiana. This endeavor will reduce the cost owed by the City to DOTD for the utilities relocation back in 1999.

Yeas: Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays: None
Absent: None

Mr. Paul Roberts introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the regular meeting on October 13, 2014 for the purpose of amending section 10 of the Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse tabled the introduction for an ordinance on MoDads and Sewer Treatment Plants until the October meeting.

Mrs. Scarlett Major introduced an ordinance to be set for a public hearing at the regular meeting on October 13, 2014 for the purpose of amending the UDC – Section 11.7 Public Use in Service Areas.

Lieutenant Kenath Black presented the police report indicating 566 citations were issued, 1133 calls for service and 82 arrests were performed in July 2014.

Mayor Ramsey stated that the City had received their new bond rating from Standard & Poors indicating it had come up from the previous bond rating of A to A+.

There being no additional business to discuss or any additional comments, Mr. Gary Griffin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tracy Girlinghouse to adjourn.

Yeas: Davis, Girlinghouse, Griffin, Major and Roberts
Nays: None
Absent: None

REPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

ATTEST;



Myra Streeter, Clerk
CMC; CMA; CAA

