

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF THIBODAUX
CITY HALL
THIBODAUX, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Thibodaux assembled in regular session at its regular meeting place, City Hall, 310 West 2nd Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana, on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.

There were present: Councilmen Richard, Mire, Naquin and Councilwoman Johnson.

There were also present: Mayor Tommy Eschete and Beau Brooks.

Absent: Councilman Tabor.

The minutes of the August 18, 2020 City Council Meeting were approved as written.

The City received an engagement letter from Postlethwaite & Netterville to perform a review of the electronic submissions of financial information to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) as required by the Uniform Financial Reporting Standards for Public Housing Authorities (the UFRS Rule). The UFRS Rule pertains to all entities that receive HUD financial assistance.

The proposed engagement is for the year ending December 31, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00.

On motion of Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Mire, the Council voted on a resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign an Engagement Letter with Postlethwaite and Netterville for auditing services for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

RESOLUTION NO. 2292

***A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN
ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH POSTLETHWAITE & NETTERVILLE
FOR AUDITING SERVICES FOR THE SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE
VOUCHER PROGRAM***

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Thibodaux in regular session assembled, that:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Uniform Financial Reporting Standards for Public Housing Authorities (the UFRS Rule) the City must engage the services of a Certified Public Accountant to review the electronic submissions of financial information to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) for entities receiving HUD financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Postlethwaite & Netterville has agreed to perform these required services for the City for the year ending December 31, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to execute an engagement letter with the said firm to secure the audit services for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute an engagement letter with Postlethwaite & Netterville the City's auditing services as mentioned above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the engagement letter is attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and thereby made a part hereof.

The above resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

And the above resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of September 2020.

/s/ Jennifer Morvant
Jennifer Morvant, Council Adm.

/s/ Mike Naquin
Mike Naquin, President

The City wishes to enter into a Master Services Agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation in order for them to provide on-site wellness for City Employees at our annual Health Fair.

The agreement stipulates that Ochsner will provide a minimum of 35 wellness screens at a cost of \$50.00 per screen. This cost will be paid by our medical insurance provider, Blue Cross Blue Shield for all covered employees. If the minimum thirty-five screens are not met, the City will be charged for the service.

Jacob Giardina, 918 East 1st Street, Mark Hebert, 201 Melrose Drive, David Elias, 144 Acadia Woods Drive, Raja Talluri, 100 Nicholls Drive, Richard DeMoss, 309 Rue De Cypress, Greg Stock, 2249 St. Mary Highway, Hugh Caffery, 419 Hale Drive, Katie Richard, 103 Ashland Drive, all of Thibodaux, spoke against this item stating that Thibodaux Regional would like the opportunity to provide these services to the City as they did in the past.

Mayor Tommy Eschete explained that last year the City's Human Resource Director reached out to Thibodaux Regional and indicated that they would not be able to provide the services requested. The Human Resource Director reached out to the City's insurance agent and they stated that Ochsner Clinic Foundation would be able to provide the requested services for the City of Thibodaux.

Councilman Naquin stated that a condition in the contract would prevent the City from cancelling the contract at this time. The condition states that the one year term renews automatically for an additional one year term unless either party terminates the agreement thirty days prior to the renewal.

On motion of Councilman Mire, seconded by Councilman Richard, the Council voted on a resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a Master Services Agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation for Corporate Wellness. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

RESOLUTION NO. 2293

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A
MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH OCHSNER CLINIC
FOUNDATION FOR CORPORATE WELLNESS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Thibodaux in regular session assembled, that;

WHEREAS, the City wishes to enter a Master Services Agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation in order for them to provide on-site wellness screens for the City of Thibodaux's Employee Health Fair; and

WHEREAS, the rate of \$50.00 per screen will be paid through the City's medical insurance provider Blue Cross Blue Shield for all covered employees, and by the City if the minimum of thirty-five screenings is not met; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to execute a Master Services Agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation for the services to be rendered in conjunction with this agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute a Master Services Agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation for on-site wellness screens for the City of Thibodaux's Health Fair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the said agreement is attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and thereby made a part hereof.

The above resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

And the above resolution was declared adopted this 1st day of September 2020.

/s/ Jennifer Morvant
Jennifer Morvant, Council Adm.

/s/ Mike Naquin
Mike Naquin, President

Councilman Richard introduced an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Houma Police Department for the 2020 VOCAL Grant Task Force. The Public Hearing on this ordinance will be held at the Council meeting on September 15, 2020.

Councilman Mire introduced an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 3053 "Appropriation Ordinance for the Year 2020" – Supplemental Appropriation II. The Public Hearing on this ordinance will be held at the Council meeting on September 15, 2020.

Councilwoman Johnson introduced an ordinance to adopt the Ad Valorem Tax Millages for the Year 2020. The Public Hearing on this ordinance will be held at the Council meeting on September 15, 2020.

The City has partnered with the National Park Service for the maintenance of the Thibodaux Bayou Boardwalk since 2014. The City received a 30 day notice of termination of that agreement from NPS, and a new agreement is being proposed to replace it.

The agreement stipulates that the City will provide a liaison to work with NPS to maintain the trail that connects Jackson Street Bridge to Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve for a period of five (5) years.

On motion of Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Mire, the Council voted on an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the National Park Service, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve (Thibodaux Bayou Boardwalk Maintenance). Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Tabor

ORDINANCE NO. 3089

***AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO
SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE, JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK &
PRESERVE (THIBODAUX BAYOU BOARDWALK
MAINTENANCE)***

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Thibodaux in regular session assembled, that:

WHEREAS, the City wishes to partner with the US Department of the Interior and the National Park Service for the maintenance of the Thibodaux Bayou Boardwalk; and

WHEREAS, the City of Thibodaux is in agreement to provide a liaison to work with the National Park Service to maintain the area from the Jean Lafitte National park to Jackson Street for a period of five (5) years beginning on the date the last signature is affixed to this agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to sign a General Agreement with the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve as outlined above.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a copy of the agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and thereby made a part hereof.

The above resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Tabor

And the above resolution was declared adopted this the 1st day of September 2020.

/s/ Jennifer Morvant
Jennifer Morvant, Council Adm.

/s/ Mike Naquin
Mike Naquin, President

The City would like to partner with the Lafourche Parish School Board (LPSB) and the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee and Drainage District (NLCLDD) in order to construct drainage improvements necessary for the construction of the new Thibodaux Middle School on Cardinal Drive. The LPSB is responsible for the bidding and contracting of the project and the City will reimburse the LPSB the lesser of \$200,000.00 or 22.25% of the estimated \$900,000.00 construction cost.

The Mayor publically thanked the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee and Drainage District for partnering with the City and the School Board on this project.

On motion of Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Richard, the Council voted on an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Lafourche Parish School Board and the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee, and Drainage District for drainage improvements for the construction of the new Thibodaux Middle School. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

ORDINANCE NO. 3090

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE LAFOURCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD AND THE NORTH LAFOURCHE CONSERVATION, LEVEE, AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW THIBODAUX MIDDLE SCHOOL

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Thibodaux in regular session assembled, that:

WHEREAS, the City desires to cooperate with the Lafourche Parish School Board (LPSB) and the North Lafourche Conservation, Levee, and Drainage District (NLCLDD) in order to provide drainage improvements for the construction of the new Thibodaux Middle School located at 724 Cardinal Drive, and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the LPSB is responsible for the bidding and contracting of the project with the City reimbursing LPSB the lesser of \$200,000.00 or 22.25% of the estimated \$900,000.00 construction costs for the project, and in order to provide this funding, it is necessary to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement; and

WHEREAS, in order to execute the cooperative endeavor agreement with LPSB and NLCLDD it is necessary to authorize the Mayor to do so by the adoption of an appropriate ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Thibodaux that the City does hereby authorize the Mayor to execute a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Lafourche Parish School Board and North Lafourche Conservation, Levee and Drainage District for the drainage improvements necessary for the construction of the new Thibodaux Middle School on Cardinal Drive and surrounding areas.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a copy of the cooperative endeavor agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and thereby made a part hereof.

The above ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

And the above ordinance was declared adopted this 1st day of September

2020.

**/s/ Jennifer Morvant
Jennifer Morvant, Council Adm.**

**/s/ Mike Naquin
Mike Naquin, President**

The Building Inspector has inspected several structures and he has deemed them to be substandard and posing a threat to the safety and welfare of the residents living in the neighborhoods where these structures are located.

A condemnation hearing scheduled for property located at 1288 St. Charles Street, 1018 Lagarde Street and 1020 Lagarde Street was cancelled due to the fact that the properties have been demolished.

A condemnation hearing was held for property located at 1103 Canal Boulevard.

On motion of Councilman Mire, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson, The Council voted on a motion to begin the demolition project on December 1, 2020. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Richard, Johnson, Mire, Naquin

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Tabor

Johnny Smith, 1610 Cardinal Drive, addressed the Council regarding a sticker that the Police Department put on his vehicle. He stated that the car is not abandoned and he plans on fixing the car. The Mayor advised him to contact either his office or the Police Department and they would advise him on the best way to handle the situation.

The Mayor updated the Council on projects going on throughout the City.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Jennifer Morvant, Council Adm.

Mike Naquin, President