

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 9, 2023

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall on Monday, October 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jimmy Watson, followed with prayer led by Councilman Richard Wales. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, followed with the roll call of the council.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major and Richard Wales.

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt the minutes for the council meetings held on September 11, 2023.

With no comments or objections, a motion was made by Mr. Cook and seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve/adopt the minutes for the September 11, 2023 council meeting.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Financial Director, Mike Cotton, presented the August 2023 financial report before the Mayor and Council. Total net assets for the period ending August 31, 2023 was \$1,599,355. Gas revenue increased 1.1% and sales tax increased 5%.

Mayor Watson welcomed Shane Mack to the podium to briefly comment on his campaign. Mr. Mack is a candidate for the House of Representatives District 95.

Mr. Griffin introduced an ordinance for Bike Paths along DOTD Highways to Complete Streets.

Mr. Clark introduced an ordinance for Roadway Requirements, Markings and Reflectors. Both ordinances will be discussed at the council meeting on November 13, 2023.

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, presented before the Mayor and Council the **Resolution Declaring City of Walker Equipment (Bleachers) as Surplus and Authorizing Mayor to Enter into Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Livingston Parish Fair Association (LPFA) to Remove/Dispose the Equipment (Bleachers).**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, the resolution was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENTS: None

Jamie Etheridge presented before the Mayor and Council the **Resolution to Approve Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Authorizing Mayor to Enter into Agreement with Livingston Parish School Board to Grant Use of Gymnasiums and Associated Facilities.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the resolution was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Jamie Etheridge presented the **Resolution to Adopt Changes to Employee Handbook Updating Travel and Insurance Policies.**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Wales, the resolution was approved.

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

Representatives from the Livingston Parish Library addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the renewal of an existing 10 year, 10 mill parish-wide renewal tax that will be on November 18, 2023 ballot. David Gray and Dustin Cotton provided additional information on the programs, services, and resources available at the LPL. They asked for voters' support in the upcoming election.

Chief David Addison requested of the Mayor and Council his recommendation for full-time hire, post-certified candidate, Isaiah Chester.

A motion was made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve the hiring of Mr. Chester at the Walker Police Department.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Wales
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

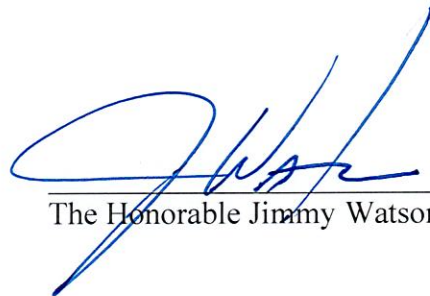
SJB Group, LLC did a presentation on the Gas System Modernization/Improvement Projects. Gas Superintendent, Larry Williams and Jamie Etheridge discussed the work completed which addressed deficiencies within the system that resulted in low gas pressure. Residents impacted during cold, frigid weather were present to hear of the improvements made in the system. They were allowed an opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns.

Additional Comments:

- The Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2023 @ Sidney Hutchinson Park.
- The Veterans Day Parade is November 11, 2023, starting at 11:00 a.m.
- The Walker Christmas Parade and Santa in the Park is scheduled December 2, 2023.

With no further business or comments to discuss, the motion was made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn the October 9, 2023, council meeting.

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


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:


Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk