

MINUTES

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Springhill, Louisiana met in regular session in the Council Chambers at Springhill City Hall on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor W. Ray Huddleston presiding.

PRESENT: Dimettera Frazier, Dennis Smith, Stacey Willard, Mike Whitlock, and Derek Melancon, Aldermen.

ABSENT: None.

Alderman Dimettera Frazier opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on Monday, April 8, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the financial statement for April 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Amie Poladian, Main Street Manager thanked everyone that participated in Love the Boot Week the last week of April. Good participation from community members was appreciated for this event.

Springhill Art League is repainting the murals on the Farmers Market tables. Three new ceiling fans and thirty-six outlets were installed at the Farmers Market. Vendor Fees were used to cover the cost of that.

New trash cans were obtained by a grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful written by Alderman Stacey Willard. They have been installed at various locations throughout the City.

Springhill Main Street was awarded a \$2,000 grant by the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Commission for advertising for the June 1st Market "Taste of the Market" which is a tasting event. June 1st should be a big day in Springhill promoting shop local. There will be live music and lots of vendors at the event.

Congratulations go to the 3rd quarter municipal match grant recipient C & M Tire & Lube Express and the work should be completed by December.

Louisiana Main Street Restoration Grant winner was M & P Tire and they have just completed the work for that one.

The municipal match grant is \$2,000 and it is a one-page application about 10 questions if anyone is interested in applying for one. Applications are due by June 15, 2024.

Louisiana Restoration Grant is a \$2,500 to \$10,000 match. The grant is open right now and closes on May 31, 2024.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Stacey Willard to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with LA DOTD for mowing and litter pick up for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to authorize the Mayor to enter into a "Contract for Legal Services" with Talbot, Carmouche, & Marcello and Yves M. Verrett, III and his firm, Charles Jacobs and his firm, and Nelson Smith and his firm.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier to introduce an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Adopting an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025".

At this time Mayor Huddleston asked Nelson Smith, City Attorney to open the bids for the five vehicles that were declared as surplus and no longer needed for public use.

There was only one bid turned it to City Hall and it was from Robert Mayfield. The bid was as follows:

1. 2007 Chevrolet Avalanche-----Vin #4457-----\$800.00
2. 1999 Dodge Van-----Vin #4989-----\$200.00
3. 2006 Chevrolet Silverado-----Vin #1073-----\$75.00
4. 2008 Chevrolet Silverado-----Vin #3237-----\$75.00

5. 2010 Chevrolet-----Vin #4076-----\$50.00

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Derek Melancon to reject the bid from Robert Mayfield and sell them for scrap.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Huddleston presented three quotes for the police department a/c unit. They were as follows:

1. Stephen Haehn-----\$8,600.00
2. C & J Services-----\$8,900.00
3. Bobby McLain & Sons -----\$7,400.00

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to accept the Mayor's recommendation to go with the low quote from Bobby McLain and Sons in the amount of \$7,400.00 for the police department a/c unit.

MOTION CARRIED.

Police Chief Will Lynd asked to have the Budget FYE 6/30/2024 amended for an additional \$3,000.00 for informant fees.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Stacey Willard to amend the Budget FYE 6/30/2024 for an additional \$3,000.00 for line-item informant fees.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the Police Chief's recommendation to hire LaDarryl Armstrong as a full-time patrol officer, and accept the resignation of Julian Dilorenzo.

MOTION CARRIED.

At this time Mayor Huddleston said the next item of business was to consider going into executive session to discuss litigation matters. Mr. Robert Kennedy from Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway Law Firm had not arrived yet for the meeting. Mayor Huddleston tried reaching Mr. Kennedy by cell phone and he was just coming into Springhill.

Mayor Huddleston moved on to the next agenda item to pay the April 2024 monthly vendor bills.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to authorize payment of the April 2024 monthly vendor bills totaling \$122,653.83.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Stacey Willard to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation matters as soon as Robert Kennedy arrives.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: Mike Whitlock, Alderman announced that in August at the Pineywoods Jamboree they will be celebrating their 3rd year anniversary and the special guest will be Charlie Pride's brother, Steven Pride from Dallas, Texas.

Robert Kennedy, from Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway arrived and executive session began to discuss litigation matters.

Mayor Huddleston called the meeting back into order.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Stacey Willard to table the matter until the next meeting June 10, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Mike Whitlock to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor