

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, July 8, 2024 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor Pro Tem Dimettera Frazier presiding.

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

ABSENT: Mayor W. Ray Huddleston.

Mayor Pro Tem Dimettera Frazier called the meeting to order.

Alderman Mike Whitlock opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor Pro Tem Dimettera Frazier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on June 10, 2024 and the special call meeting held on June 18, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Mike Whitlock to approve the financial statement for June 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro Tem Dimettera Frazier recognized Webster Parish Police Juror District #2 Mr. Allen Gilbert. Also, recognized were visitors from California, the Thompsons along with the Hudsons who have moved here from Houston, Texas, Carol White, wife of Calvin White who worked for Entergy in Springhill for years. Mayor Pro Tem Frazier went on to recognize the following city employees: Mike Dunaway, Public Works Director, Darren Givens, Street Supervisor, and Robert Gildon, Water Supervisor.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Amie Poladian, Main Street Manager gave an update on the Main Street Activities. A couple of months ago Springhill participated in a letter writing campaign to benefit the Louisiana Main Street Program by lobbying our area state legislators to bring awareness of the Louisiana Main Street Program to all the communities in Louisiana. Springhill had the highest number of participants in the campaign with area legislators and over 16 businesses participating in it. For all their hard work the program was awarded a one-time appropriation of \$450,000. Amie thanked everyone for their participation in the campaign which helped the Louisiana Main Street Program receive this appropriation. Here is the list of businesses that participated in the campaign: Springhill Post Acute and Memory Care, Honey's Hanger, A Piece of Heaven Cakery, The Messy Bun, Carter Federal Credit Union, Springhill Climate Control, AmJenn's Soups and Scoops, Frog's Liquidation, Callie Jo Photography, Gipson Law Firm, Krewe of Artemis, Sharpe's Department Stores, Citizens About Progress, M & M Floral and Special Occasions, and Studio B.

Amie also announced the third and fourth quarter municipal grant winners. They are the Springhill Masonic Lodge in the amount of \$2,000 and 206 North Main Street which is a vacant building owned by David Smith in the amount of \$1,800.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon to introduce an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Supplementing and Amending Chapter 102, Entitled "Taxation, Article 2, Entitled Ad Valorem Tax, Section 102-27, Entitled "rate of Assessment, Purposes", of the Code of Ordinances, City of Springhill, Louisiana levying taxes of 7.70 mills General Alimony Tax, on all taxable property in the City of Springhill, Louisiana for the year 2024".

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to approve a list of utility write-offs in the amount of \$13,188.95 for the first half of 2024.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dennis Smith, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the quote in the amount of \$4,900 for the airport air conditioner.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to approve the flooring request of \$7,111 for the flooring installation at the North Webster Parish Chamber of Commerce Building.

Discussion followed on the matter with Alderman Melancon correcting the agenda item to state that the amount of the flooring installation was not \$7,111 but instead only \$2,500 for the installation of the new flooring. The other items were for the purchase of the Chamber Building flooring and some other items for the renovation of the facility which the city owns.

Alderman Derek Melancon presented an Act of Donation of \$2,500 for the flooring installation cost which lowered the agenda item to \$4,600.

MOTION was made by Alderman Willard, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the flooring for the Chamber of Commerce Building and other renovation costs in the amount of \$4,600.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to approve the emergency sewer main repair in the amount of \$31,854 beside Tyler's Garage located at 909 Plain Dealing Road.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the change order in the amount of \$7,000 for the emergency repair on 4th Street SW.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to purchase a 1 ton truck from Springhill Motor Company in the amount of \$38,950.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the juvenile detention bill in the amount of \$13,800.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to hire John Wahlstrom as a full-time patrol officer.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to hire Ana Gonzalez, and Linda McDaniel as part-time dispatchers.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to remove Ken Burlison, Danny Curtis, Skylar Smith, and Hayley White as part-time workers.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to amend the agenda to change the amount from \$16,000 to \$30,000 for the purchase of two new police units.

Discussion followed from the Police Chief that a mistake was made on the dollar amount that was talked about at Thursday's planning session. The correct amount was \$30,000 for the two units instead of \$16,000.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Stacey Willard to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to purchase two police units in the amount of \$30,000.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to pay the monthly vendor bills for June 2024 totaling \$140,536.01.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: Pineywoods Jamboree will be Saturday, July 14, 2024. The show is the second Saturday of every month. Come out and enjoy some good music. Also, next month Pineywoods Jamboree will feature Steve Pride from Dallas the brother of Charlie Pride.

The North Webster Men of Progress on August 3, 2024 will be hosting a big Back to School Event from 4 PM to 8 PM behind the old Brown High Football Stadium. Everyone is invited to attend.

No further announcements the meeting was adjourned.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor