

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, November 13, 2023 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 Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on Monday, November 13, 2023.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dennis Smith, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to approve the financial statement for November 2023.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Amie Poladian, Main Street Manager reported that Christmas on Main was a great success with about 3,000 people attending throughout the day. Amie thanked the Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring the Hot Cocoa Crawl for downtown with businesses reporting record sales for that day. There was also an Elf contest for downtown. Amie thanked all the businesses for decorating and getting into the Christmas Spirit and making downtown look so wonderful.

She also went on to thank the City of Springhill workers for all their hard work in getting everything set up. Christmas Extravaganza Committee for all their hard work and fundraising to buy more Christmas decorations for our downtown area.

Thanks go to the National Guard Youth Challenge Program Workers for all their help in assisting with all the night time events which included games, carriage rides, barrel train rides, face painting, caricature drawings, and all the other activities throughout the park

Thanks also go to North Webster High School Talented Art Program for all their caricature drawings and their work on the restoration of the downtown Coca-Cola Mural which should be completed by the end of the month and a dedication ceremony will be held sometime in the first part of the new year.

On Friday, January 26, 2024 the Main Street Mardi Gras Parade will be held that evening at 6 PM. This is the first time the parade will be held at night. The parade will start at the Piggly Wiggly Parking Lot and proceed down Main Street turning onto 1st Street and winding down back at the Piggly Wiggly Parking Lot. Piggly Wiggly is graciously donating the use of their huge outdoor white tent that will be set up in the parking lot for a huge event that will be held there after the parade.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to approve the list of 2024 alcohol license renewals.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve a new alcohol license for Venus Trading, LLC.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Stacey Willard accept the recommendation from JBF Engineering to approve the change order in the amount of \$14,513.00 for the Highway 371 Drainage Project behind the old Movie Mania Store.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Derek Melancon to adopt a Resolution for the LCDBG 2024 Language Access Plan.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis to authorize payment of the November 2023 monthly vendor bills totaling \$107,142.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: Alderman Melancon wanted to express Thanks again to the Christmas Extravaganza Committee, Rhonda Taylor and the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Program, and all those that worked so hard to make that night and the weekend so special here in Springhill.

He went on to state that he had traveled with the group from Senior Friends to Natchitoches for their sightseeing of Natchitoches Christmas Lights for selfish reasons to remember his proposal to his late wife in December in Natchitoches from 43 years ago. While it was nice, he believes that Springhill's was much nicer. Springhill rocked it!

Also, he mentioned that the Springhill Medical Center has a 20 X 40 tent that the City could borrow if they need it, and the renovations to the emergency room at the hospital have begun and should be complete sometime in the first part of the new year. This was in thanks to the hospital board and CEO Pete for working to get a grant to help fund this project.

Alderman Whitlock wishes everyone a Merry Christmas! And thanked everyone for everything they do. The Pineywoods Jamboree had a man from Nashville here that has played at the Nashville Grand Ole Opry for 38 years and drove him and his wife around town that night and they were amazed at how beautiful the town looked.

He went on to state that this has been a whirlwind year here at the City and seems like it was just yesterday that they were taking the oaths of office. It has been a fast year but also a good one with lots of things going on and he feels privileged to be a part of it.

Mayor Huddleston stated that he appreciates the Council, and the workers Mike, Darren, and everybody that worked so hard to make Springhill look so pretty and that is something that everyone should be proud of. He also went on to state that he too travelled to Natchitoches and he agrees that Natchitoches while it was pretty it has nothing on Springhill.

No further announcements.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor