

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 8, 2024

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at the Walker City Hall on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Jimmy Watson called the meeting to order which was followed with prayer by council member, Gary Griffin. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, proceeded with the roll call of the council members.

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

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt/approve the council minutes of the March 11, 2024 council meeting. With no comments or objections, the motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approve the minutes.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales

Finance Director, Mike Cotton, presented to the council the February 2024 financial report. Total net profits for the period ending February 29, 2024 were \$1,712,501; sales tax decreased 2% and gas revenue increased 19%.

Mr. Griffin made an introduction of the 2024 Annual Budget Amendment No. 2; Purchase of Trailer mounted trash pump in the sewer department.

Ms. Major made an introduction of the 2024 Annual Budget Amendment No. 3; DWRLF Walker Water Well #4 Filtration Project.

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, presented before the council the Resolution to Enforce and Implement Participation in Open Meetings in Accordance with Act 393 of 2023 as Amended LA R.S. 42: 17.2.1

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve the resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales

Jamie Etheridge presented before the council the Resolution Adopting the Policy Regarding Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability.

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve the resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales

Jamie Etheridge presented before the council the Resolution Declaring City Equipment as Surplus (2019 Case-CS60C Excavator CN860 Case).

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to approve the resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales

Jamie Etheridge presented before the council the Resolution to Give Preliminary Approval of the Issuance of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond (LDH) of the City of Walker, State of La., in a principal amount not exceeding One Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000) and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

A motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve the resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales

Jamie Etheridge reviewed in the council meeting the 2023 Louisiana Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Compliance Report. Mr. Etheridge then proposed to the council the Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of the MWPP Compliance Audit Report and Authorizing Certain Actions to Address the Problems Contained in the Audit Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve the resolution as presented.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Wales


Comments on the *Half-Cent Sales Tax Special Election* were made by Mayor Watson and Jamie Etheridge. Flyers were available at the council meeting that outlines the various uses of the revenue generated from the tax. Those present were reminded of the April 27, 2024 election date.

Additional Comments:

- ◆ Mayor Watson announced the Miles for Smiles Fun Run sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Walker. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th starting @ 8:00 a.m.—Sidney Hutchinson Park.
- ◆ The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall is coming to Walker in September 2024 at Sidney Hutchinson Park. More information will become available in the coming months.
- ◆ Thursday, May 2nd is the National Day of Prayer. Citizens are invited to attend. The assembly location will be confirmed in the near future.
- ◆ Mr. Cook announced that Club Outreach is sponsoring a community service clean-up day on Saturday, April 20th from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Household items will be given away along with refreshments provided. Jamie Etheridge will provide vests for the workers and will have the street department collect the trash bags to aid in the clean-up effort.

- ◆ The Walker Animal Shelter is near completion. It was announced that there are a few installations scheduled and other maintenance items needed in the interior of the structure.

With no further business matters to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to adjourn the April council meeting.


The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest: 
Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk