



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING
December 18, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting was held at the Pearl River Town Hall and so called to the order by Mayor McQueen at 7:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Aldermen Walsh, Bennett, Phillips, Cutrer, McGregor along with Mayor McQueen, Deputy Chief Hunter, Attorney Daigle and Attorney Tim Mathison. Absent: None

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Pastor Terry Hoyt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor McQueen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor McQueen called for approval of minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on October 23, 2018. Alderman Walsh made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Bennett.

All in favor. So moved.

Mayor McQueen called for approval of minutes from the Council Meeting held on November 27, 2018. Alderman Bennett made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Cutrer. **All in favor. So moved.**

Special Recognition:

- a. **Alderman Bennett**- Yard of the Quarter- Davy Gant was awarded "Yard of The Quarter" for his beautiful Christmas Décor located on Birch Court.
- b. **Haven Phillips**-Conservation Project- Haven has collected 450 Christmas trees over the past three years. He requested permission to collect trees again under the water tower. The Mayor gave his consent.

Ordinance Introduction

1. Ordinance No. 18-11-01 2019 Budget

Mayor McQueen introduced Ordinance No. 18-11-01 for the 2019 Budget. He requested the Council to come up with a date to hold a Special Meeting for the new council to go over the Budget. The Mayor also requested to add the amended commercial sewer rates at this Special Meeting. Amended Ordinance No. 174-A that Attorney Daigle drew up.

Alderman Walsh stated a workshop would be good for the new council to go over the 2019 Budget. The Mayor agreed and said it would give them a better understanding of the Budget. The Mayor stated that the Council would hold a Public Meeting at the next Council meeting for the Ordinance # 18-11-01 in January.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

None

LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**1. Alderman Bennett– A-1 Wrecker/ Joann House**

Alderman Bennett spoke for Samantha Marshall stating she wanted to thank the Mayor and town crew for helping A-1 have a successful toy giveaway. A-1 gave out over 225 toys. A-1 also gave Jubilee gift cards and toys to four needy families from Little Pearl Elementary. A-1 is presently still giving out toys to those who need them. Alderman Bennett thanked A-1 for all the work they do.

Alderman Bennett thanked everyone for a wonderful turnout at the Fish house for project "Joann's House". It was a great success.

2. Alderman McGregor-Christmas Toys

Alderman McGregor stated that he was picking up a load of toys and if anyone knew of any needy families that needed toys just to let him know or call the Town Hall.

3. Alderman Phillips- Christmas Trees/Benefit for Neighbor

Alderman Phillips wanted to ask for Haven's Flyer to be placed on the town Facebook page. He also stated that the Wildlife and Fisheries let him know that the Christmas trees being collected this year would be used in St Tammany parish and Bayou Savage on the other side of the lake.

Alderman Phillips raised awareness for a Benefit for his next door neighbor of his that will be held at Speckled T's on January 16, 2019 from 5-9 pm.

Alderman Phillips gave kudos to the Pearl River High School Football team for a great season and won the 1st Playoff's in the history of the school.

Alderman Phillips thanked the Council and Mayor for a great four years 2015-2018. He then congratulated the new Council and wished them success.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS**1. Mayor**

Mayor McQueen thanked Alderman Phillips and Alderman Cutrer for their service and time during the past four years 2015-2018.

Mayor McQueen thanked everyone for helping with the Christmas program. It was well attended with the big Christmas tree. The program was the best turnout the Town has had and again he thanked everyone for making it a great success for the kids and the community.

Mayor McQueen then addressed the Council in reference to the sewer plant. As we are refurbishing and making repairs to the old plant we are running into issues.

The Lift Station on Shinglemill needs to replace the entire inside of the lift station underground costing the Town \$39,000.00

The Clarifier needs 4ft of steel remove and the trough needs to be replaced costing the Town \$144,877.00.

The holding tank is full of silt. It needs to be pumped and cleaned. Breaux Engineering out of Kiln, Mississippi has offered to do it. This will cost the Town \$20,000.

The Mayor stated he wanted the Council to be aware of the costs that the Town will incur do to these repairs.

Alderman Bennett stated the Council was aware some problems would arise in the repair of the sewer plant.

Attorney Daigle stated the Mayor is asking for a motion for these big expenditures and to be transparent with the Council and the he would like a resolution/motion to continue with this project.

Alderman Phillips made the motion to accept. Alderman Bennett & Walsh seconded. **All in favor. So moved.**

The Mayor notified the Council that the town received the permit from the Corp of Engineers for the Boat Launch project. The town is in the process of sending a copy of the permit to DOTD. Once the permit is filed with DOTD the town can start back working on the project.

2. Police Chief
No Report

PARISH COUNCIL:

Gene Bellisario- absent.

The Mayor stated he has been working with Gene Bellisario and found out that the town cannot contact the landowners in reference to the land purchases. Meetings are being set-up with DOTD, the State and representatives to get it settle. The Mayor informed the Council as soon as he received any updates he would let them know.

RECREATION DISTRICT #5:

Peter Finger stated the Boat Launch project will be a great asset for the town and it will open many recreation opportunities for the residents of Pearl River.

FIRE DISTRICT #11:

Pam read the monthly report for Fire District #11. There were a total of 90 calls that consisted 61 EMS, 5 Medical Vehicle Accidents, 1 Gas Leak, Structure Fire, 7 False Alarms, 5 Service Calls, 1 Police Matter, 1 Faulty Wire, 1 Complaint, and 4 Cancellations.

She also stated the town received a new fire rating of Class 2 that will cause the residents homeowner's insurance to go down. A letter will be available on the Fire District Facebook page for residents to obtain a copy and submit to their insurance companies.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

No Business

SCHOOL BOARD:

No Business


The Mayor thanked his wife and everyone for all their hard work on the Christmas Program. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas & a happy New Year.

He informed the audience the new council would be sworn in after the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

AT 7:34 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 18TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2018.


Cheryl K. Schultheis


Honorable Clarence "David" McQueen
Mayor

For more information CD available upon request.