



**TOWN OF PEARL RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING
March 17, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting was held at the Pearl River Town Hall and so called to order by Mayor McQueen at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Alderman Bennett.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor McQueen.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Alderman Galloway, McGregor, Lee, Bennett, Chief Sessions, along with Mayor McQueen, Attorney Mathison and Attorney Daigle. Absent: Walsh

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor McQueen called for the approval of the minutes for February 18, 2020 Council Meeting. Alderman Lee made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Bennett. **All in favor. So moved.**

BID ACCEPTANCE:

Fuel Services – Davison Fuel Company

Mayor McQueen stated that Davidson Fuel was the lowest bidder for the Fuel Bids. He then asked the Council if they received the Bid Tabulation provided by Attorney Mathison so they could make their decision to accept the lowest bidder. The Council stated they did receive the Tabulation.

Alderman McGregor asked if the cost included the tanks to be on site. Mayor McQueen told Alderman McGregor none of the bids included the tanks on site.

Attorney Daigle asked if it would keep track of the mileage and usage for each unit or car. Mayor McQueen stated that it would and we would be able to print a report for each vehicle.

Mayor McQueen asked the Council to make a motion. Alderman Bennett made a motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Lee. **All in favor. So moved.**

RE-SUBDIVISION:

Re-subdivision Approval – David McQueen – McQueen Road

Mayor McQueen discussed with the Council that Planning & Zoning held a public meeting on the

property located on McQueen Road and wanted to make a recommendation to the Council to approve the subdivision of the property.

Mayor McQueen asked the Council to make a motion. Alderman Bennett made a motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Lee. **All in favor. So moved.**

PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance No. 18-02-20 – An Ordinance annexing and zoning 1.479 acres of land located at 64599 Hwy. 41 from Parish HC-2 (Highway Commercial) to Town B2, as petitioned by 4KYM, L.L.C., represented by Yvette Carrasco.

Mayor McQueen discussed with the Council that Planning & Zoning held a public meeting on the property located at 64599 Hwy 41 and wanted to make a recommendation to the Council to approve the annexation of the property. Mayor McQueen informed the Council that it was already located in the town's growth management area.

Mayor McQueen asked the Council to make a motion. Alderman Lee made a motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Galloway. **All in favor. So moved.**

RESOLUTION:

Mayor McQueen asked the Council to add Resolution No. 17-03-2020 to the floor for discussion. Alderman Bennett made the motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Lee. **All in favor. So moved.**

Mayor McQueen informed the Council that Resolution 17-02-2020 was in opposition to all proposed legislation that enables the legislature to remove the authority of local governments to administer and collect local sales and use taxes. He also mentioned he Council passed a Resolution like this one in 2019. Attorney Mathison informed the Council that the request came from the Louisiana Municipal Association. He stated if the Resolution was adopted he would forward it to Karen White- Executive Counsel of the Louisiana Municipal Association in turn she would inform the Legislators Office the Town has passed the Resolution.

Mayor McQueen asked the Council to make a motion. Alderman Galloway made a motion to accept, seconded by Alderman Lee. **All in favor. So moved.**

LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS

- **Police Chief**

- **Mayor**

Mayor McQueen told the Council he cut the agenda short because of the COVID-19 virus. He then informed the Council that the Hwy 41 Spur Bridge went out for bids and received 9 bids. He told the Council that within the next 60 to 90 days the process of tearing out the old bridge and rebuilding the new one should start.

Mayor McQueen informed Chief Sessions that because of the Governor's Order he would have to enforce the restrictions on bars and restaurants pertaining to the COVID-9 virus.

Mayor McQueen informed the council that after talking to Attorney Mathison and Attorney Daigle he decided to closed the Town Hall from the public. He stated that all payments for tickets and water bills could be made online, mailed in or dropped in the payment box outside.

Mayor McQueen then asked the Council for their opinion on the Town Crew in reference to COVID-19. He stated that they are working but he was going to send them home after tomorrow placing them On Call with a two (2) hour time frame to get back to work if they are needed. He told the Council that they really don't interact with the public, just amongst themselves. He then informed the Council that if he sent them home it would be with pay.

Alderman Galloway stated that if the workers are out in the open and not around anyone she didn't see any reason why they shouldn't keep working.

Alderman Bennett asked Attorney Mathison about the employees receiving pay and how it would work. Attorney Mathison stated the basis for payment is for the employee to be On Call and able to report to duty in a short period of time.

Alderman Bennett then stated if the Town Crew was out in the open and amongst themselves in her opinion they should work.

Chief Sessions stated they should work and if they are on call, then they need to answer the phone report in.

Alderman Lee stated he was good with the Town Crew coming in and that the Mayor could split the crews up into smaller groups.

Attorney Daigle notified Chief Sessions the Court date for April will be moved to May.

Mayor McQueen stated after talking to the Council he felt he would keep the Town Crew working until further notice.

RECREATION DISTRICT #5

None

FIRE DISTRICT #11

None

SCHOOL BOARD:

None

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

None

Mayor McQueen adjourned the meeting.

CD available in Records room, per-request.

MEETING ADJOURNED

AT 7:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 17 TH DAY OF MARCH 2020



Cheryl K. Schultheis



Honorable Clarence "David" McQueen