

PUBLIC MEETING

Public Council meeting was held 9/11/23 at 6:30pm at the Elizabeth Community Center, 210 East Main Street, Elizabeth, LA. The notice of Meeting having been duly posted in accordance with requirements, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Green at 6:30pm. Opening prayer led by Glenn Turner, then Pledge of Allegiance and roll call by Mayor Green.

Mayor, Council and Staff Present

Mandy Green, Mayor
Mea Dillehay, Council
Stacy Weldon, Council
Denise Lee, Clerk
Crystal Hunt, Code Compliance
Steven Self, Asst Fire Chief
Shane Ware, Police Chief
Mike Holmes, Attorney

Council and Staff Absent

Brandon Sweat, Fire Chief
Ken Kelly, Council

1. Mayor Green asked if any public comment on agenda items. No comments.
2. Stacy Weldon made a motion to approve the 8/14/23 minutes from last meeting. Mea Dillehay seconded. All in favor.
3. ENGINEER'S REPORT- Glenn Turner from MMLH stated that the AB Finke Park project was almost complete. He also reported that the other grants were still in progress.
4. CODE COMPLIANCE- Crystal Hunt stated that she was looking for bids to remove the condemned structure on 1103 Hickory Street. Leo and Hollis Laird (owners) still have not removed the structure.
5. MAYOR'S REPORT
 - *Old Business
 - A. Public hearing opened for Ordinance 44-2023 Enforcement of Traffic Violations by Automated Means, Mr. Mike Holmes suggested to amend the ordinance that was presented by adding to the Enforcement Procedures section, that providing the requirement for POST certified officers shall not apply to officers employed directly by the Elizabeth Police Department.
 - B. Stacy Weldon made a motion to accept amendment to Ordinance 44-2023 as suggested per legal council. Mea Dillehay seconded. All in favor.
 - C. Mea Dillehay made a motion to adopt **Ordinance 44-2023** Enforcement of Traffic Violations by Automated Means with amendment. Stacy Weldon seconded. Mea Dillehay- yea; Stacy Weldon-yea
 - D. Reminder that bids are being accepted for 307 Cypress Street property. Bids will be accepted until 12 noon on November 13, 2023. Bids to be opened at November 13, 2023 council meeting with a minimum bid of \$7000.00. Bids to be marked with 307 Cypress Street Bid on front on envelope along with name and address. Actual Bid must consist of name, address, phone number and email address. The Village of Elizabeth shall reserve the right to reject any and all bids and remove the item of immovable property from sale prior to opening of bids.
 - E. Update on Elizabeth Clinic was given per Mayor Green. After discussion, Mayor Green and Mr. Holmes will discuss new contract terms. Mea Dillehay made a motion to pass **Resolution 92-2023** which authorizes Mr. Holmes and Mayor Green to notify Oakdale Community Hospital of the breach of lease agreement on the Elizabeth Family Health Clinic building and renegotiate new lease under terms to be approved by Board of Aldermen. Stacy Weldon seconded. All in favor.

***New Business**

- F. Mayor Green stated that Mayor's Court will now be held every quarter beginning January 1, 2024 until the issue of citations increases. Mayor Green will notify Meredith Guillory the prosecutor for Mayor's Court.
 - G. Mea Dillehay made a motion to pass **Resolution 91-2023** Authorizing Advertisement for Bids ARPA/WSP Water Well Rehabilitation. Stacy Weldon seconded. All in favor.
6. POLICE CHIEF
- A. Chief Ware gave monthly report.
 - B. Chief Ware made a recommendation to hire a fulltime officer- Katelyn Cotton at the rate of \$16.40/hr for 40hours per week. Her start date would be September 25, 2023. He plans to send her to the academy to be POST certified in February 2024. After in depth discussion of what is expected for a full time officer for the village, Stacy Weldon made a motion to approve the chief's recommendation. Mea Dillehay seconded. All in favor.
7. FIRE CHIEF
- A. Asst Chief Self gave monthly report.
 - B. Also discussed was a request from the Chief to lease for purchase radios for the fire department personnel and some to be issued during emergency storms and such to the Mayor and Police Chief. The council suggested to allow them time to look over the proposal and call a special meeting by September 25, 2023 to approve.
8. COUNCIL
- A. Introduce amendment to increase sewer rates **Ordinance 14-18F Utility Rates** to become **Ordinance 14-18G**
9. Stacy Weldon made a motion for Council to approve expenses for August and comparison of actual expenses to budget. Mea Dillehay seconded. All in favor.
10. Mea Dillehay motioned to adjourn. Stacy Weldon seconded. All in favor.

Approved by: /S/ Mandy L Green, Mayor

Attest by:/s/ Denise Lee, Clerk