

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PORT ALLEN, LOUISIANA  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Port Allen, Louisiana, met in Regular Session at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2019, in the Council Chambers at Port Allen City Hall.

Mayor Lee called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and asked Tommy Comeaux to lead the pledge of allegiance. A roll call vote resulted as follows:

Present: Ray Helen Lawrence, Garry Hubble, Brandon Brown, Carey Williams and Hugh Riviere

Absent: None

Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 12, 2019. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none and the motion carried by unanimous consent of the members present.

Mayor Lee read aloud the procedure for public participation at the Regular Meetings of the Port Allen City Council in accordance with state statutes and local ordinances.

Mayor Lee stated that two amendments to the posted Agenda were necessary. He explained that earlier that day, he terminated an Operator Trainee assigned to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and was asking the Council's approval to advertise, interview and make a recommendation for a replacement. Mr. Brandon Brown moved to amend the posted Agenda as explained by Mayor Lee. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection to this amendment. No one answered. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The Agenda was amended to include this item as 15.1.

Mayor Lee then explained that two additional items of funding for Community Development events under Agenda Item 10 needed to be discussed and voted on. He explained that he wished to have the Council determine if funding would be available for \$1,000 for the Halloween Extravaganza held at Port Allen Middle School later in the year and \$5,000 for a planned Holiday Tree Lighting event. Mayor Lee stated that these items had been left off the Agenda's original posting and asked that these items be added to the Agenda. Mr. Brandon Brown moved to add these items to the Agenda under item number 10. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection to this amendment. No one answered. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Williams. NAYS: Hubble, Riviere. The proposed amendment failed due to a lack of unanimous approval.

Mr. Hugh Riviere stated that he asked to put this item (amending the ban on chickens inside the city limits) on the Agenda for discussion about the proposed ordinance to get feedback from members of the City Council and/or the citizens regarding this proposal. Mr. Riviere led the discussion and answered questions. No further action was taken.

Mayor Lee recognized Zane Nelson in reference to the demolition of condemned property on Third Street. Mr. Nelson explained the reasons for his requested extension. Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to allow an additional thirty (30) days before moving on demolition of the property. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee asked Karla Swacker of Republic Services to address the City Council regarding an increase in the monthly cost of garbage and recycling services in the City of Port Allen in accordance with the City's contract with the company. No further action was requested of nor taken by the City Council.

Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence moved to authorize Mayor Lee to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Tullier Services, in the amount of \$374,410 for the Westside Village Subdivision Sewer Project and to sign all necessary documentation to complete this project. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee recognized Chad Danos of Duplantis Design Group to explain the updated Whitehead Boulevard Recreational Trails Project. After explaining the details of the changes and bid prices submitted, Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Kort's Construction Services, Inc. for the base bid of \$131,365.00 and Alternate #2 for \$3,500.00 only for a total of \$134,865 for the project and to sign all necessary documentation to complete this project. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Hubble, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: Brown, Lawrence. The motion carried.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to authorize spending \$3,000 in additional funds in the Community Events expense account for the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: Hubble. The motion carried.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to authorize spending \$5,000 in additional funds in the Community Events expense account for the Senior Holiday Dinner. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: Hubble. The motion carried.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to rezone a commercial tract of land fronting on Court Street between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> streets from C-2 to C-1. Mr. Hugh Riviere seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee explained the reasons for hiring an additional employee in the utility department. Mr. Brandon Brown moved to authorize Mayor Lee to hire a part-time utility clerk to work up to 30 hours per week. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Williams. NAYS: Hubble, Riviere. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee explained the reasons for additional employees in the Roads and Drainage Department to assist with grass cutting. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence moved to authorize Mayor Lee to hire two (2) part-time laborers in the Roads and Drainage Department through the end of December, 2019. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: Hubble. The motion carried.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to authorize Mayor Lee to advertise for a full-time position of laborer in the Roads and Drainage Department to be filled when an expected vacancy occurs. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence moved to reclassify Curt Richardson from Laborer II at Step 108, Grade D to Equipment Operator at Step 110, Grade A. Mr. Brandon Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee stated that an Operator Trainee assigned to the Wastewater Treatment Plant was terminated today and requested authority to advertise, interview and recommend hiring someone to replace that employee. Several members of the Council asked Mayor Lee to post the job description to include individuals with more advanced experience and training for the position in the advertisement. He stated that he would include the entry level description, along with more advanced training descriptions, in the advertisement in hopes of attracting more experienced applicants. Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to authorize Mayor Lee to advertise, interview and make a recommendation to hire someone to replace the vacancy in the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Brandon Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

City Attorney Alvarez stated there were no condemnations pending at this time.

Adrian Genre stated there were no alcoholic beverage permits pending at this time.

Mr. Brandon Brown announced that the Justice for Fatrell organization is holding a meeting in reference to the proposed Community Oversight Board at the Port Allen Community Center on July 18, 2019 at 6 p.m. Mayor Lee reminded everyone that there was a potential tropical storm in the Gulf of Mexico and asked that everyone take precautions and remain safe. Mayor Lee announced that Phase 1 of the Centennial Park has been completed with the addition of a monument.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to adjourn. Mr. Brandon Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried without objection and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

          s/ Richard N. Lee, III            
Richard N. Lee, III, Mayor

          s/ Audrey A. McCain            
Audrey A. McCain, City Clerk