

CITY COUNCIL

**April 9, 2018
DeQuincy, LA**

The city council of the city of DeQuincy met in regular session on the above date in the city hall council chambers located at 300 Holly Street, DeQuincy, Louisiana, with the following members present: Judy Landry, James Harris, Mark Peloquin, and Ronda Jacobs. Absent: Denise Maddox.

Council Chairman Mark Peloquin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Lawrence Henagan gave the invocation and Judy Landry led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion was made by Ronda Jacobs and seconded by James Harris to approve the March 12, 2018 regular session minutes. Without objection, the motion carried.

Valecia Royer, CPA, gave the financial report for April 9, 2018. As of March 31, 2018, the overall total revenue, the actual year to date is \$2,466,393.87 with the budget being \$4,161,110.00, with a remaining budget of \$1,694,716.13. The total expenses, as of February 28, 2018, are \$2,273,183.58, with the budget being \$5,025,570.00, with a remaining budget of \$2,752,386.42.

Fire Chief Johnny Copeland gave the fire report for the month of March 2018. They had nine (9) calls for the month.

Chief Suchanek gave the police report. The bonds and fines totaled \$31,912.00 for March 2018.

Eddy Dahlquist gave the public works report. The crew killed two gas lines and filled as many potholes as possible with the cold mix on hand. More has been ordered and should be in this week. A load of cement was received and repairs were made to the street by Fred's and to a couple of sidewalks. The crew also has been busy trying to keep the grass mowed around town. Ronda Jacobs asked Eddy who was responsible for cleaning out the ditches, the homeowners or the city. He explained if the homeowners are able and the job isn't too big, they are asked to clean their ditches but if they are not able or the job is too big, they can call city Hall and request that the crew go out and clean it.

CITY REPORTS GIVEN BY MAYOR HENAGAN

- We are preparing for the Railroad Festival and are hoping for good weather this year.
- Mayor Henagan just returned from a trip to Washington D.C. to the National League of Cities where he and other members of the LMA met with Legislatures, Senators and Congressmen, and they focused on three things; infrastructure needs, NFIP, and the Fair Market Act. Also discussed was the 1-10 Bridge and they were told the Federal Government was willing to put up 20% of the funding but the local people needed to put up 80%, which seems to be the mindset right now. There just doesn't seem to be any funding.
- We received bids on the hangers at the airport that were damaged when the tornado came through in December and hopefully we will be able to start the repairs soon.
- LRWA came to DeQuincy with their camera and took pictures of some of our sewer lines. We have about 120 feet on Green Street that will need to be replaced, Boise Street has a sinkhole that needs to be repaired and the sinkhole on LeBlanc Street will also need repairs but shouldn't be a major job.
- We have gone out for bids on Old Town Hall again and hopefully we will be get some bids this time.
- We purchased a used fire truck for \$85,000.00 that looks just like new and has only 15,000 miles. This purchase should help us with our fire rating later this year.

Judy Landry made a motion to approve the April 9, 2018 agenda and Ronda Jacobs seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Items on the agenda.

- None

Items not on the agenda.

- Amos Jones suggested a company that may be available to do work on Old Town Hall.

Riley Smith, President of Old Town Hall Museum, addressed the council with questions about repairs to the roof of the Old Town Hall Museum. He also asked if Old Town Hall Museum could be put on the city website and their phone number listed.

Regarding surplus vehicles, the Mayor contacted the scrap yard and got prices for scrap vehicles and found out we can get much more if we scrap the vehicles than was offered on the low bids. He suggested the bids be rejected. A motion was made to reject the bids below scrap price but to offer the vehicle to the bidder for the scrap price less 10 percent. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, James Harris, Mark Peloquin, and Ronda Jacobs. Nays: None. Absent: Denise Maddox. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by James Harris and seconded by Judy Landry to authorize Mayor Henagan to go out for bids on old fire truck with minimum bid of \$2,500.00 and dump truck for minimum bid equal to scrap price, less ten per cent. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, James Harris, Mark Peloquin, and Ronda Jacobs. Nays: None. Absent: Denise Maddox. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by James Harris and seconded by Judy Landry to amend the proposed ordinance to ban hogs, pigs and swine from the City of DeQuincy by adding that potbellied pigs and pigs or hogs used for 4-H project be excluded from the ordinance. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, James Harris, Mark Peloquin, and Ronda Jacobs. Nays: None. Absent: Denise Maddox. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Ronda Jacobs and seconded by James Harris to introduce an ordinance banning hogs, pigs and swine from the City of DeQuincy, as amended, and set a public hearing for May 14, 2018. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, James Harris, Mark Peloquin, and Ronda Jacobs. Nays: None. Absent: Denise Maddox. Abstain: None.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Judy Landry had no concerns.

James Harris asked about the condemnation process regarding a house on Jefferson Street behind the Methodist Church. The house is falling down and the city needs to go ahead and begin the condemnation process. Mr. Harris also mentioned that potholes are still an issue in his district and the sewer situation is still an issue that need attention.

Ronda Jacobs asked if we could put money for infrastructure in the budget and the Mayor explained that we could not budget enough to do us any good. That is where our bonds and grants come in. Mrs. Jacobs asked what could be done about some houses on W. Fourth Street that are falling down and are an eye sore. Mayor Henagan advised she bring the addresses to City Hall and a letter could be written to the owner.

Mark Peloquin mentioned a house on Denise Street that has a sewer line that appears to be leaking and has caused sinkholes. Eddy Dahlquist advised Mr. Peloquin they were aware of the problem and that someone had put postholes through the sewer line without calling 811 beforehand. New pipe is ordered and it should be in and the line fixed this week.

Ronda Jacobs made a motion to adjourn and Judy Landry seconded the motion.

ATTEST: _____
Pat Brummett City Council Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Lawrence Henagan Mayor

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN: _____
Mark Peloquin

