

CITY COUNCIL

**December 11, 2017,
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: Denise Maddox, Mark Peloquin, and Judy Landry. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman.

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

Motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to approve the November 13, 2017 regular session minutes. Without objection, the motion carried.

Chief Suchanek gave the police report. The bonds and fines totaled \$24,513.00.

Mayor Henagan gave the public works report for Eddy Dahlquist who is on vacation this week. The crew has started putting out Christmas decorations this week and they have had several sewer projects, one of which was the sewer for the new duplex on the corner of Center and Hwy. 27.

CITY REPORTS GIVEN BY MAYOR HENAGAN

- Christmas Parade went well again this year.
- Mayor Henagan recently went to the National City of League of Cities Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina and advised the council he saw, at one of the display booths, information on a piece of equipment that can be attached to a backhoe that can be used to clean out culverts. It is fairly inexpensive so we are looking into possibly getting one for the city.
- Mayor Henagan wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Valecia Royer, CPA, gave the financial report for November 2017. Total actual year to date revenue is \$574,675.70, with amount budgeted \$4,161,110.00 and the remaining budget being \$3,586,434.30. The total expenses to date are \$552,368.65, with amount budgeted \$5,025,570.00 and the remaining budgeted for expenses is \$4,473,201.35. We are within the 5% as of November so there is no need to amend at this time.

Fire chief Johnny Copeland was called out to a fire so Mayor Henagan gave the fire report for November. There were eight fire runs for the month of November 2017.

Mark Peloquin made a motion to approve the December 11, 2017 agenda and Judy Landry seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion carried.

Judy Landry made a motion to add to the agenda, as item no. 14, enter into a Joint Service Agreement with the Melville Police Department and moving Council Concerns to no. 15. Mark peloquin seconded the motion. Without objection motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Items not on the agenda.

- None.

Items on the agenda.

- None.

A motion was made by Mark Peloquin and seconded by Judy Landry to approve the liquor license applicants for 2018. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

An election was held for the 2018 city council officers. A motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to nominate Denise Maddox as 2018 City Council Co-Chairman. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None. A motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to nominate Mark Peloquin as 2018 City Council Chairman. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to authorize Mayor Henagan to go out for bids for replacing the roof on Old Town Hall. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Mark Peloquin and seconded Judy Landry to authorize Mayor Henagan to sign a Taxing Agreement between the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office and the City of DeQuincy. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to authorize Mayor Henagan to proceed to the final step in the demolition process by accepting the bid of \$3,450.00 for demolition of the mobile home on 307 LeBlanc Street. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

After a lengthy discussion on the gas rates, a motion was made by Mark Peloquin and seconded by Judy Landry to table the introduction of the ordinance until January 8, 2018. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

After a brief discussion wherein Mayor Henagan mentioned to attorney Doug Cox that he felt a paragraph needed to be added to the ordinance stating once a billboard gets in an unsafe condition it needs to come down and cannot be replaced, a motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to introduce an ordinance and set a public hearing for January 8, 2018 amending the current billboard ordinance. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

Denise Maddox led the discussion regarding proposed guidelines for the board members of the Grand Avenue Gym Board. The Mayor suggested the board get their By-laws updated and then meet with a couple of the council members to try to put together guidelines. It was decided that Mark Peloquin would meet with the board members and once the District 4 council member is appointed, then he or she would be the second council member to meet with the board members.

After the council verified their list was still current, a motion was made by Mark Peloquin and seconded by Judy Landry to approve the following Grand Avenue Gym Board Members: Catrina Ford, Joseph Eaglin, Seymour Pullam, Derrick Taylor, Robert Mackey, Ethel Hodges, Rose Cooks, Preston Chenier, Jr. and Wilson Chapman. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Judy Landry and seconded by Mark Peloquin to authorize Mayor Henagan to enter into a Joint Service Agreement with the Melville Police Department to receive one or more of our old police units. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Judy Landry, Denise Maddox, and Mark Peloquin. Nays: None. Absent: Ronda Jacobs and Andrea Coleman. Abstain: None.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Judy Landry had no council concerns.

Andrea Coleman had no council concerns.

Mark Peloquin asked what could be done about the hedges next to the big two-story house at the corner of Hwy. 27 and Harrison Street. They block the view of the vehicles trying to pull out on Hwy. 27 from Harrison Street. Mrs. Maddox advised she would contact the property owner and ask if he would cut the hedges back. Mr. Peloquin also mentioned he had several people mention to him the items being put out on the sidewalk at the corner of Pine Street and Hwy. 12. This could become a hazard if it continues.

Ronda Jacobs mentioned what a great job had been done on the Buxton Creek Project and thanked the businesses and residences in each district for upgrading their buildings. She also asked that everyone look around their district and make a list of any buildings that need attention and present the list at the next council meeting.

Denise Maddox had no council concerns.

Ronda Jacobs made a motion to adjourn and Andrea Coleman seconded the motion.

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
Pat Brummett City Council Clerk Lawrence Henagan Mayor

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN: _____
Denise Maddox Council Chairman