

# CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2023

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jimmy Watson, followed with prayer led by Council member, Richard Wales. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, called the roll of the council after the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The council members present were: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Major and Richard Wales.

With no comments, Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt the council minutes for the May 8, 2023 meeting.

The motion was made by Mr. Wales and seconded by Mr. Cook, to adopt the minutes of the May 8, 2023 council meeting.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Financial Director, Mike Cotton, addressed the mayor and council members with the April 2023 Financial Report. Net profit (loss) before transfer as of April 30, 2023 was \$1,344,056. The gas revenue decreased by 11%; sales tax revenue decreased by 4%.

Mr. Cook introduced the Ordinance to Approve the 2023 Annual Budget Amendment No. 1. The proposed ordinance is to increase the street department expenditures to purchase a tractor and other equipment. It will be discussed in a public hearing at the special council meeting on June 26, 2023.

Ms. Major introduced the Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4, Sec. 4-2, Cruelty to Animals of the City of Walker Code of Ordinances. This proposed ordinance will be discussed in a public hearing at the July 2023 regularly scheduled council meeting.

Tammy Payton presented a resolution before the Mayor and Council Members of the district revenue projection for the 2023 millage. The taxable value calculation is \$64,790,700 @ the millage rate of 2.23. The projected revenue yield is \$144,483.26.

A motion was made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to adopt the 2023 Millage Resolution as proposed.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Etheridge introduced to the Mayor and Council Members the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Report, completed on April 5, 2023, by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Wendy Montalbano, Water Services and Environmental Compliance Director, followed with an overview of the audit report. She explained the point calculation the city received—92.5. It was requested that the council approve the Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of the MWPP Audit Report from DEQ and Authorizing Certain Actions to Address the Problems Contained in the Audit Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve the resolution as presented.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Etheridge presented to the Mayor and Council Members Ms. Nancy Kimble and Ms. Lynette Richardson. They were recognized for their diligent dedication to floodplain management for the Walker community with the Community Rating System (CRS). Our rate is class 7, the highest in Livingston Parish. This will have a positive impact on the flood insurance rates for Walker residents by reducing their premium cost. This will be effective April 2024.

Chief David Addison introduced to the Mayor and Council Members two full-time candidates and one reserve candidate as recommendations for hire.

Candidate, Clayton Henderson, has completed the application process and has successfully passed all the required evaluations and tests.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Wales, Clayton Henderson recommendation for hire was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Corey Cudd is a POST-certified candidate with 10 years of law enforcement experience. He has completed the application process and has successfully passed all the required evaluations and tests.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Clark, Corey Cudd recommendation for hire was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Tristan Priest was presented as a reserve candidate who has completed the application process and has successfully passed all the required evaluations and tests.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Clark, Tristan Priest recommendation as a reserve officer at the Walker Police Department was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**Additional Comments:**

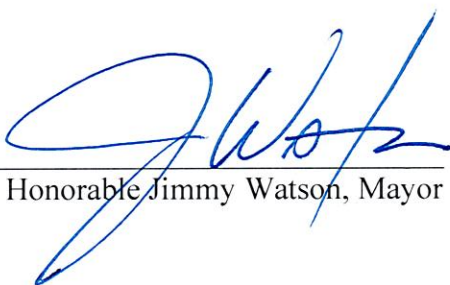
- Mayor Watson announced that there will a special council meeting on Monday, June 26, 2023 @ 6:00 PM for the review of our 2022 Annual Audit. Additionally, there will be a public hearing for the 2023 Annual Budget Amendment No. 1 introduced by Councilman Cook.
- The Jeep Show and Jambalaya Cook-Off garnered a huge crowd at Sidney Hutchinson Park on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. It was deemed a successful event.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event will be celebrated on Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at Sidney Hutchinson Park.


With no further business or comments brought forth for discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wales and seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn the June 12, 2023 council meeting.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

  
The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:   
Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk