

CITY OF WINNFIELD  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order at 6:07 p.m. on Tuesday, March 09, 2021 by Mayor George Moss. Those present in addition to Mayor Moss were Councilpersons Junkin, Miller, Holden, Phillips, Katina Smith, City Clerk, and Herman Castete City Attorney. Not present Councilman Hamms

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilperson Matt Miller

**INVOCATION**

Councilperson Matt Miller

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

1. Councilperson Junkin asked that the Agenda be amended to add New Business Action item #6- Fire Department Personnel

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Miller, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to amend the agenda to add Item #6 under New Business Action to the Agenda.

2. Councilperson Junkin asked that the Agenda be amended to Add New Business Action item #7- Resolution for Weed Control

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Miller, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to amend the agenda to add Item #15 under New Business Action to the Agenda.

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Miller, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to accept the Agenda as Amended.

**Guest and Audience Participation**

None

**Old Business- Action Items**

None

**Old Business- Non-Action Items**

None

**New Business-Action Items**

**Item #1- Accept Minutes from the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting- Mayor**

On motion by Councilperson Junkin, duly seconded by Councilperson Miller, after discussion and no public comment, the minutes from February 9, 2021 were approved by unanimous vote.

Yeas: 4 (Phillips, Miller, Junkin, Holden,)

Nays: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: 1 (Hamms)

**Item #2- Accept Minutes from the February 8,2021 Special Meeting- Mayor**

On motion by Councilperson Junkin, duly seconded by Councilperson Phillips, after no discussion or no public comment, the minutes from February 8 ,2021 were approved by unanimous vote.

Yeas: 4 (Phillips, Miller, Junkin, Holden)

Nays: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: 1(Hamms)

**Item #3- Resolution for Employee Clock Time- Junkin**

**Tabled**

**Item #4 -Introduction to Amend Sec-2-61 Health Insurance benefits for retirees after twenty-five years of full-time service to the city- Junkin.**

The following Ordinance was introduced by Councilperson Junkin at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Winnfield City Council held on March 9, 2021, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 2 of 2021

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-61 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WINNFIELD, LOUISIANA TO PROVIDE FOR HEALTH INSURANCE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WINNFIELD WHO BECOME EMPLOYED ON OR AFTER MAY 15, 2021 AND ARE CONTINUOUSLY EMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST 20 YEARS THEREAFTER, TO PROVIDE FOR ANY RELATED MATTERS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREFOR.

The above ordinance will be considered for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winnfield to be held April 13, 2021.

**Item #5- Approve Funding for wastewater treatment plant-lift station pumps- Junkin**

Councilperson Junkin requested that the City utilize funds from the sewer sales tax funds to repair the wastewater treatment plant lift station pumps at cost of \$380,000.00(bulk of the funding will come from the Deq loan) to begin the process as soon as possible.

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Miller, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to approve Funding for wastewater treatment plant-lift station pumps.

**Item #6- Fire Department Personnel- Chief Montgomery**

Chief Montgomery asked that the Council approve the Hiring of Mr. Roberts, and the Public Safety Committee offered a favorable recommendation for Mr. Roberts hiring as a volunteer firefighter.

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Phillips, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to authorize the Hiring of Colin Roberts for Volunteer Firefighter.

Chief Montgomery asked that the Council approve the Hiring of Mr. Gospert, and the Public Safety Committee offered a favorable recommendation for Mr. Gospert hiring as a volunteer firefighter.

On motion by Councilperson Junkin duly seconded by Councilperson Phillips, after no public comment, the Council members present unanimously voted to authorize the Hiring of Kraff Gospert for Volunteer Firefighter

**Item #7-Resolution for weed control- Junkin.**

A resolution offered by Councilperson Hamms at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winnfield; Louisiana held on March 9, 2021.

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Winnfield has in effect a policy of weed control within the City of Winnfield.

**WHEREAS** the members of the City Council desire to be kept informed of the progress of weed control within their respective districts.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winnfield that all members of the City Council are to be notified prior to any weed control or mowing actually occurring on any properties within their respective districts. This resolution was offered on motion by Councilperson Hamms/Junkin and seconded by Councilperson Phillips.

Ayes: 4(Junkin, Miller, Phillips, Holden)

Absent: 1(Hamms)

Nays: 0

Abstaining: 0

**WHEREUPON** the Mayor declared that the motion passed, and the resolution was adopted.

Date: March 9, 2021

*George Moss*

*Katina Smith*

George Moss, Mayor

Katina Smith, City Clerk

## **NEW BUSINESS, NON-ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Update from Electric Department Supervisor- Miller**

Councilperson Miller asked water supervisor Jonathan Paul to address the citizens on power restoration and how they pursue major outages and the process of it. Mr. Paul stated that on major outages they focus on

1. hospital and get electricity to it.
2. Focus on water and sewer to assure that it is not backing up
3. Nursing homes and homes of the elderly with medical issues
4. Focus on most of the outage where most people are out.
5. Single services.

Councilperson Miller asked on both storms (hurricane and ice storm) what was the most hours worked? Mr. Paul stated that they worked the norm of 18 hours a day.

Councilperson Miller asked Paul if the electric department have access to outside help when they are overwhelmed? Paul stated that they do.

Councilperson Junkin asked if they ever run out of materials? Paul stated that they have reached out to other companies but are stocked and prepared for any other storm.

### **2. Update from Water department supervisor- Miller**

Councilperson Miller asked water supervisor Eugene Jones to address the citizens on power restoration and how they pursue major outages and the process of it. Mr. Jones stated that on major outages they focus on.

1. In storm situations his department try to make sure that there is a blow out and maintain the lines so there want be a boil advisory.

2. Next the department do an assessment to determine what is out and what need to restore and what needs a generator.

3. Prior to any situations, the department try to stay alert about the weather and stay ahead of it.

4. Keep Contact with the department of health.

5. Keep generators ready or contact other vendors to have a generator on standby.

Councilperson Miller asked Mr. Jones to explain boil advisory. Mr. Jones stated that a boil advisory comes into play if we loose disinfection to any part of our system or if we loose pressure below 20 pounds to our system or if we get a bacteria hit.

Councilperson Phillips asked what causes our water to be brown? Mr. Jones that the sparta that we are tapped into is dark water, but there are some things in place to clear the water the ozone plant, does not like power pikes up and down or cold water and causes the plant to go down and loose the part of the plant that keeps the water from being brown.

### **3. Building Rental Rates- Junkin**

Councilperson Junkin proposed new rental forms and rates that will aid to the facilitator and employees working the events and cleaning deposit will change.

### **4. Water/Sewer Maintenance Fee- Holden**

Councilperson Holden asked on behalf of the citizens that live outside of the City limit why they are paying a sewer maintenance fee and the City does not provide sewer to their homes. Councilperson Junkin reply stated that the fee is a flat fee to cover water or sewer lines inside or outside of the City. Mr. Jones (water department suggest that the wording be changed to better identify the fee).

Councilperson Miller asked about utility bills being mailed out late? Due to the winter storm the office was closed and caused the billing process to be detained. Mayor Moss stated that the penalty date was changed from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the late billing.

### **5. Mowing and Condemnations- Hamms**

### **6. Rapides Foundation Grant-Phase 1- Junkin**

Shannon with Winnfield Recreation Board discussed their newest project the walking trail and presented the phase 1 plans.

Anthony Hall recreation director proposed a plan for the City to purchase the property next to the Grove Street complex belong to Catherine Smith so that the parking lot can be extended.

Mr. Hall will contact the property owner Catherine Smith and make a proposal.

Shannon also discussed the second phase will consist of the Henderson /Holden park and recover the tracks and put adult fitness equipment along the tracks.

Phase 3 will install the equipment.

### **7. Fema Update- Mayor**

We have had our kickoff meeting with our Fema PDMG- DR to report overall damages and cost. We will begin meeting on a weekly basis with our PDMG- DR and be instructed further and will have things rapped up in 60 days.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councilperson Junkin, seconded by Councilperson Miller, the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council held February 9, 2021 was adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:50 p.m.

*Katina Smith*

*George Moss*

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KATINA SMITH, CITY CLERK

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GEORGE MOSS, MAYOR