

MINUTES

CITY OF NEW ROADS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

September 19, 2017

The New Roads City Council met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at the City Hall in New Roads, Louisiana. Mayor Robert A. Myer called the meeting to order. A roll call resulted as follows:

PRESENT: Anthony Daisy, Vernell Davis, Kurt Kellerman, Bernadine St. Cyr and Kirk White

ABSENT: None

Notice of this meeting was duly exercised and mailed per bylaws:

Agenda Amendment(s)

Mayor Myer proposed the following agenda amendment(s).

Item 8B Set date for Trick or Treat

Item 6A Employee Recognition

Motion by Mr. Kellerman and seconded by Mr. Daisy.

RESOLVED, That the agenda be amended.

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Daisy, Davis, Kellerman, St. Cyr and White

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

Adoption of Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of September 5, 2017

Adoption of the minutes was deferred.

Engineer's Report

Cletus Langlois was not in attendance.

Employee Recognition

Mr. Charles Guidroz was commended for ten years of outstanding and meritorious service and presented a key to the city. Mr. Guidroz retired on August 31, 2017.

Several new police officers were introduced to the council. Also, the supervisors from the Public Works department were recognized for their contributions to the city.

Discussion on renewal of P.C. Electric Franchise Agreement

The “agreement language” is under discussion by the legal teams and the final report by the consultant is forthcoming.

Discussion and approval of new policy/procedure for Harvest Festival concessions

Mayor Myer reported that the concession booths will be operated by local nonprofit organizations.

In addition, a \$5.00 per day admission fee will be charged. There will be free admission for attendees aged eighteen and under.

Set date for Trick or Treat

Motion by Ms. St. Cyr and seconded by Mr. Daisy.

RESOLVED, That Trick or Treat be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Daisy, Davis, Kellerman, St. Cyr and White
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

State of the City

Mayor Myer presented the State of the City report.

A Strong Financial Condition

- 2017 Audit was successful.
- Revenues have increased.
- Seventy three new homes have been constructed.
- Permits issuance has increased.
- IPT (Insurance Premium Tax) taxes have increased.
- Occupational licenses are going well.
- Property taxes have increased by 3%.
- Sales taxes have increased by 5.5%.
- Two new taxing districts were created in 2017. Funds generated will be used for infrastructure improvements in the respective districts.
- Residential utility connections have increased.
- Commercial utility connections have doubled.
- A total of \$127,000.00 has been generated by the issuance of permits.
- Internal controls – new policies and procedures have been implemented. New cameras have been installed. Employee theft of ticket revenues was recently revealed and has been turned over to the Attorney General’s office.

Moving into the Information Age

- A new telephone and software package that provides the transfer of calls among city locations has been installed.

Serving our Citizens

- Continue with beautification and safety measures.
- Nine blighted/abandoned properties have been condemned.
- The condemnation of four additional blighted/abandoned properties are in progress.
- Wm. H. Scott Civic Center has undergone numerous improvements.
- Morrison Parkway improvements include the restroom facility maintenance and new trash receptacles.

Keeping New Roads Safe

- Crime statistics reveal a 12% decrease in overall offenses.
- Police Substation – Mayor Myer proposed entering into a rental agreement with Brian Pangburn for the use of the former Pangburn Building to provide a police presence on the south side of the city.

Economic Development

- The movie “Jeepers Creepers III” will premiere on September 26, 2017. Several parts of the movie were filmed in New Roads.
- The new Best Western hotel is scheduled to open the first week in October

Community Outreach

- Mayor’s Summer Youth Employment and Mayor’s Senior Citizen Employment Programs were successful.
- Math Workshop celebrated its third year.
- Art Camp celebrated its seventh year.
- Junior Police Academy program conducted in partnership with the New Roads Fire Department

City Sponsored Community Events

- Community Impact Awards
- Market at the Mill
- Crawfish Jams
- Fourth of July Boat Parade
- Harvest Festival – This year will be the 7th annual festival and the first time an entry fee will be charged.
- City sponsored events provide a \$750,000.00 economic impact on the community
- Holiday Market at the Mill
- Xmas Parade

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Myer informed the council of a proposed new park in the Kings Subdivision area. The location of the park is city-owned property. The council members were asked to consider the concept.

Sal Rinaudo reported on drainage problems throughout the city and was instructed to draft a letter to the police jury regarding the issue.

Council Reports

Mr. Kellerman mentioned that the plants at Community park are dying, requested an update on the Rodemacher agreement, the legal fees on the sign lawsuit, and a copy of the agreement for the Riverdale Subdivision.

Mr. White updated the council on his meeting with the father of the owner of the property located at 211 Community Street. The individuals have instructed the city

to proceed with the condemnation process.

Ms. St. Cyr also informed the council that the owners of the property at 504 St. Jude have expressed an interest in condemnation.

Both items will be placed on the next agenda.

Mr. White reported that Rep. Garrett Graves would be making an appearance at Satterfields Restaurant on Friday, September 22, 2017 at 12:00.

Before adjourning, the council offered a prayer in memory of Eddie “Pop” Langlois, Jr.

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Robert A. Myer, Mayor

Lynette H. Nelson