

## MINUTES

### CITY OF NEW ROADS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 2, 2019

The New Roads City Council met in regular session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at the City Hall in New Roads, Louisiana. Mayor Cornell Dukes called the meeting to order. A roll call resulted as follows:

**PRESENT:** Kurt Kellerman, Joy Nelson, Theron Smith and Kirk White

**ABSENT:** Vernell Davis

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

#### Consent Calendar – Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2019

The minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 19, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The reading of the minutes was waived.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. White.

**RESOLVED**, That the minutes be adopted in their entirety.

The motion carried.

#### Engineer's Report

Thomas Olinde reported on the following:

**Major Parkway Pump Station –** Reported that the contractor has discovered that the wet well is corroded and as a result, the damage will be assessed and a cost estimate prepared.

**Pointe Breeze Lift Station -** Reported that he is working on an assessment of the condition of the lift station.

#### Discussion of Collection of Drainage Impact Fee/Intergovernmental Agreement

Major Thibaut appeared before the council to address the city's questions regarding the parish's request for the city to collect the parishwide drainage fee.

On behalf of concerned citizens, Ms. Nelson reported a complaint of stagnant green water in the ditches on Coretta Drive. A motion was offered by Ms. Nelson to test and study the water to ensure there is no contamination. Major Thibaut reported that the parish is in the process of addressing this issue.

After a lengthy discussion, the following motions were offered.

A motion was offered by Ms. Nelson to table the matter of the collection of the drainage impact fee until further study is conducted.

A substitute motion was offered by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Kellerman.

**RESOLVED, That the city proceed with the collection of the drainage impact fee of \$4.50.**

**A roll call vote resulted as follows:**

**YEAS: Kellerman, Smith and White**  
**NAYS: Nelson**  
**ABSTAIN: None**  
**ABSENT: Davis**

**On a vote of 3-1-0-1, the substitute motion carried.**

**Mayor Dukes stated that “I’ve only been in office since January 1<sup>st</sup>. It’s only fiscally responsible that we study the issue and I think that’s what is in the best interest of the city. He further stated that “I’m not saying we don’t collect this. But, the city is under a new administration who has not had the chance to get a financial analysis from the accounting firm. I don’t know if it is fiscally responsible to tag on fees to this bill and not know our own needs at this time”.**

**Resolution – To name the baseball field at Emmitt J. Douglas Park, Edward St. Cyr, Jr. Field, to be known as “Mr. Slowly Field”**

**Motion by Mr. Kellerman and seconded by Mr. White.**

**RESOLVED, That the resolution be adopted.**

**The motion carried.**

**Resolution – Urging and requesting that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development change the speed limit on LA Hwy. 1 with the city limits**

**Mr. White reported on the numerous telephone calls regarding speeding motorists on LA 1 and the possibility of lowering the speed limit to 30 mph. The limit in the school zone would remain at 25 mph.**

**A motion was made by Mr. White but failed due to lack of a second.**

### **Reports**

#### **Chief of Police**

**Kevin McDonald reported that the night time operations are going well and that three new officers have been hired.**

#### **Public Works Director**

**Paul Seawell reported that the department has been busy cleaning the streets, cutting grass, installing signs and new LED lights from Morningside Street to Main Street. He also stated that credit cards are now accepted at the cashier’s windows and the relay that was out of order at the sub station is now repaired and working.**

#### **Mayor’s Report**

**Mayor Dukes commended the Public Works and Electric Departments for their hard work during the recent weather event. He also announced a citywide clean up event by Miss Louisiana Earth on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Committee Report**

Mr. White reported a vacancy on the Airport Commission and stated that the airport should re-open this month.

### **Council Reports**

Mr. White requested a contract between the city and Faulk & Winkler and a list of all pending litigation.

### **Agenda Amendment(s)**

Mayor Dukes proposed the following amendment(s) to the agenda.

Item 10E - Resolution Approving the appointment of an Alternate Director to represent the City of New Roads on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Municipal Natural Gas Purchasing and Distribution Authority

Motion by Mr. Kellerman and seconded by Mr. Smith and Ms. Nelson.

RESOLVED, That the agenda be amended.

The motion carried.

**Resolution – Approving the appointment of an Alternate Director to represent the City of New Roads on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Municipal Natural Gas Purchasing and Distribution Authority**

Motion by Mr. White and seconded by Ms. Nelson.

RESOLVED, That Elie Part be appointed the Alternate Director to represent the city on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Municipal Natural Gas Purchasing and Distribution Authority.

The motion carried.

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

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**Cornell Dukes**  
**Mayor**

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**Lynette H. Nelson**  
**Secretary-Treasurer**