

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HAUGHTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA TAKEN AT A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 10th, 2023**

The Town Council of the Town of Haughton, State of Louisiana, met in Regular session in Council Chambers, 118 W. McKinley Road, Haughton, Louisiana, October 10th, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

Invocation was given by Council Member Colby Isom

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Phillips Smith

Roll Call as follows:

Present: Doug Adams, Carlton Anderson, Colby Isom, & Phillip Smith

Absent: Buck McGee

Also Present: Mayor, Kim Gaspard, Town Attorney, Neil Erwin, MPC Director, Sam Marsiglia, Fire Chief, Jimmy Holland, Public Works Superintendent, Jacky Hicks, Town Clerk, Misty Pee, and Deputy Clerk, Lane Brown.

Town Clerk, Misty Pee, read the decorum statement.

By Citizen William Smithy

Stated that his question about the agenda being delivered in a proper amount of time was not recorded in the previous month's minutes. The question has been added, and minutes updated.

By: Mr. Smith

Motion to approve minutes of September, 2023, Regular Council Meeting.

Seconded by: Mr. Adams

No Comment

Vote in favor of motion us unanimous

OLD BUSINESS

By: Mr. Anderson

Motion to accept the financial statements from August 2023.

Seconded by: Mr. Smith

No Comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

By Ms. Pee

Town Clerk, Misty Pee stated, the financials for September 2023 would be email to the council members this evening.

By Mayor Gaspard

Notice of a special council meeting called for October 17th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall specifically to address Ordinance 6 of 2023 and Resolution 7 of 2023 introduced at the September regular council meeting.

By Citizen Klay Harrison

Asked to speak about Item #2. He wanted to make sure he would have time to address the council, but did not want to disrupt regular business. Mayor Gaspard insured him he would have time to speak.

By Mayor Gaspard

Notice of a council work session on October 16th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Haughton Fire Station due to a regular MPC meeting being held at Town Hall.

By Mr. Smith

Motion to accept Resolution 9 of 2023 – a resolution giving signatory authority to the Mayor of Haughton for the Louisiana Community Development block grant administrative services.

Mayor Gaspard stated to the council and audience that this is a time sensitive matter. This must be voted on before the next council meeting which is scheduled for November 14th. He wanted to be upfront about the cost of the application being \$6,000 and it is not guaranteed that the grant would be given, and the granted or not, the \$6,000 upfront cost is guaranteed.

Glen Turner from MML&H came up to address the council. He stated that CBG applications are at two stage application. The first stage is submitting the severity assessment and being scored. You must be in the top tier of the severity to be invited to apply.

Comment by Citizen Klay Harrison

He asked when CBG comes back with the severity report, will there be another meeting or will the town just go ahead with the project. Mayor stated that this would be going on in January and we would receive back the severity study before we are invited to apply. He is quite sure it would be at a regular council meeting, or they could call a special meeting to discuss the results.

Seconded by Mr. Adams

No Further Comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By Mr. Adams

Motion to accept Resolution 10 of 2023 – a resolution giving signatory authority to the Mayor of Haughton for the Louisiana Community Development block grant program.

Seconded by Mr. Smith

No further comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By Mr. Smith

Motion to accept Resolution 11 of 2023 – a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for Louisiana Community Development block grant engineering services.

Seconded by Mr. Adams

No Further Comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By Mr. Adams

Motion to accept Resolution 12 of 2023 – a resolution adopting a citizen participation plan for the CDBG Program. This would take place on October 30th, 2023.

Seconded by Mr. Anderson

No Further Comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Department Reports

By Fire Chief Holland

The total number of responses were 75. 5 additional fires were extinguished for unlawful burning during the burn ban. Crews conducted Fire Safety Education classes to FBCH preschool. Open House will be held on October 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Rescue 1 is currently back in service. Ladder 1 is scheduled to be sent to the shop. Daily training continues for full-time personnel. Haughton Fire hosted an 80 – hour Driver/Operator class. They had students from multiple departments. The Haughton Public Safety Banquet was held on September 23rd.

By Police Chief Gibson

The total number of service calls were 186. 70 citations were \$20,978. Officer Cutrer was recognized by our local Masonic Lodge for his compassion to our community by always giving back. Officer Edmonds solved several car burglaries that occurred in the parish by being attentive to a dispatch put out by BOLO description.

By Public Works Superintendent Jacky Hicks

The total number of work orders were 431. All sewer lift station were good last month. All the bad man holes around town were checked. They had to clean out a sewer line at Grapp Lane from a backup. He stated that possibly 2 tanks will need to re-lined. Both located near the Buc Stop. Mr. Hicks also stated that Well 7 is going to need a new filter system. At the

Sewer Plant they are keeping our cl2 in check and are passing most of the time. Maintenance continues around the town, wells, plant, and park.

Question by Mr. Isom

He asked about the boring at Grapp Lane being done by the town or is it contracted out. Mr. Hicks stated it is contracted. Mr. Isom asked is the sewer line running under the railroad tracks at Grapp Lane. Mr. Hicks stated it goes between Big Red Circle and Grapp Lane

By MPC Director Sam Marsiglia

He stated that he will have an MPC future land use meeting on October 24th.

By Glen Turner from MML&H

The Foxskin Bayou project: The environmental record review has been completed. They are just waiting on it to be cleared and receive approval. The next step is to go into right of way acquisition and a meeting has been scheduled for October 26th with the effected land owners and will be held at the Town Hall.

The Northside Elevated Tank and Wells project: a permit from DOTD must be received for a right of entry. They have also reached an agreement with Mr. Seely about a perspective well site.

Waste Water Treatment Plant: the remaining improvements are to meet the with chlorine supplier and ask about the wait on the proper amount of chlorine needed. As for the old treatment plant, some rehab and refurbishment will be needed to get it back into operation.

Legacy Pointe: the remaining phases require a lift station. This will also serve the commercial phase. As for the drainage project for that area, Jeremy of MML&H has completed the survey and is waiting on a design for the project.

By Mayor Gaspard

He stated that there will be a work session after the November regular council meeting about the 2024 budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

By Klay Harrison

He stated that on the work session that was held on the 28th, chief Holland presented the council with documentation on the purchase details as to why a new pumper truck is needed. He was concerned that the Chief Holland miscited the document from the NFPA. Mr. Harrison presented the council with the NFPA document to review. Mayor Gaspard asked for chief Holland to be present at the meeting scheduled for October 17th so they can properly address the situation.

By Parks McCormick

He stated that he has asked the council and Mayor to have his street light fixed for four months now. Mr. Gaspard stated that he had an officer go check the light to see if it was working after he was assured it was fixed. Mr. McCormick stated that the light is not working

properly. It will come on and go off. He stated that he will contact SWEPCO in the morning. Mr. McCormick also had concerns about the parking on North Hazel especially during school pickup time. He stated that is it almost impossible for two cars to go down the road due to all the parking.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Mayor Gaspard adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lane Brown

Deputy Clerk

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