

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Natchitoches met in legal and regular session at the Natchitoches Council Chambers, 716 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

Mayor Ronnie Williams  
Councilwoman At Large Betty Sawyer-Smith  
Councilman Eddie Harrington  
Councilman Christopher Petite  
Councilman Dale Nielsen  
Councilwoman Rosemary Elie

**Guest:** None

**Absent:** None

Mayor Ronnie Williams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone for coming. Mayor Williams led the invocation and Councilwoman Elie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the February 27, 2023 meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Councilman Nielsen.

A roll call vote was as follows:

**AYES:** Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite  
**NAYS:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Harrington and Seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows, to –wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 018 OF 2023**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF MARCH AS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE**

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

**WHEREAS**, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

**WHEREAS**, American women have served our country courageously in the military; and

**WHEREAS** American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which created an impartial and just society for all; and

**WHEREAS** despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, Jr.**, of the City of Natchitoches hereby proclaim, that March is designated as

**Women’s History Month**

in the City of Natchitoches and I call upon all citizens to observe this month and to invite all citizens to visit [www.WomensHistoryMonth.gov](http://www.WomensHistoryMonth.gov) to learn more about the vital contribution of women to our Nation’s history.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None</b>

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of March, 2023.

---

**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Proclamation No. 018 of 2023 was presented to Ms. Elnora Robinson. Councilwoman At Large Smith spoke in detail about the accomplishments of Ms. Robinson.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen as follows, to-wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 017 OF 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 64 OF 2001 BY CHANGING ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

**LOTS 1 AND 2 AT NORTHEAST CORNER OF TEXAS ST. AND 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**(312 TEXAS ST.)**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **March 7, 2023** that the application of GrayLew Ventures, LLC., to rezone the property described above from B-2 Commercial to B-3 with additional B-A Zoning to operate as a Cigar Lounge/Restaurant with alcohol consumption on premises (312 Texas Street), be **APPROVED**.

Nicole Gray, Eddie Harrington, Dale Nielsen, and Shontrel Roque spoke in reference to Ordinance No. 017 of 2023.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Petite as follows, to-wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 018 OF 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA, INC., WHEREBY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs WILL PROVIDE EMPLOYEES TO THE CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SERVICES AND BENEFITS THAT THE CITY RECEIVES FROM THE OPERATIONS OF THE CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “City”) is a Municipality located in the State of Louisiana, Parish of Natchitoches governed under a Home Rule Charter and a Code of Ordinances adopted by Ordinance No. 5 of 1977; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches is specifically authorized under Section 1.06 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to provide for the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City, and further authorized under Section 1.07 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to enter into Joint Service Agreements or Cooperative Efforts with other governmental agencies; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Cane River National Heritage Area (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Heritage Area”) was established by Public Law 103-449 as a means by which the cultural heritage of the Cane River area may be recognized, preserved, promoted interpreted and made available for the benefit of the public; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Public Law 103-449, (Section 401c) and the Cane River National Heritage Area Management Plan identify the national heritage area as (1) an area of 116,000 acres, stretching from Interstate 49 to the Red River; (2) those properties within the Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District which provide important education and interpretive opportunities relating to the heritage of Cane River and facilitate the preservation of important historic sites and structures; (3) the Los Adaes State Historic Site; (4) the Fort Jesup State Historic Site; (5) the Fort St. Jean Baptiste State Historic Site; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Public Law 103-449, Sections 402c and 402d authorizes the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “CRNHA”) to develop cooperative agreements with property owners, preservation groups, educational groups, the State of Louisiana, the City of Natchitoches, universities, tourism groups, other groups, public or private individuals or entities for research, historic preservation and education purposes; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Public Law 103-449(d), subsections 1,2,4 and 7 specifically authorizes CRNHA to accept services from the City of Natchitoches and reimburse the City of Natchitoches for such services, give or accept services to or from other entities; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., a Louisiana not for profit corporation, (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “CRNHA, Inc.”) has been created to carry on the duties and activities of CRNHA, and the transfer of responsibilities of the CRNHA; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the CRNHA, Inc. is authorized to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, CRNHA, Inc. has projects and programs that focus on historic preservation, cultural conservation and economic development primarily related to heritage tourism, and these projects and programs benefit the City through the development of the tourism infrastructure in the region, leading to increased visitors, longer length of stay, all of which results in higher tax revenues for the City; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, among the beneficial programs and projects which CRNHA, Inc. has participated in partnership with the City in the past and will participate with the City in the future are listed and itemized on the attached Exhibit “A”; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches acknowledges that all of the above projects and programs were and are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, under the terms of a Cooperative Agreement entered into February of 2001, as extended by other agreements, CRNHA, Inc. has reimbursed fully the City for salaries and related benefits paid for these employees in exchange for the partial exchange of the promotional and economic benefits derived from the activities of CRNHA, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the arrangement between the City and CRNHA, Inc. was extended by a Cooperative Agreement dated February of 2006, as amended in 2008, and was further extended by Cooperative Agreement in 2013, as extended in 2017, and further extended by Cooperative Agreement in 2020; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches and CRNHA, Inc. have agreed to enter into a new Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as set forth in the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, with the following terms:

(1) The City does hereby contract with the CRNHA, Inc. to provide employees to the CRNHA, Inc. as contemplated under this and prior Cooperative Endeavor Agreements. The employees assigned by the City to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement will provide services at the direction of the CRNHA, Inc.

(2) The CRNHA, Inc. will fully reimburse the City for the actual cost of the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, which said reimbursement shall include the cost of salaries and related benefits including retirement, sick leave, vacation, comp time, worker's compensation, retirement, health insurance, etc.

(3) The CRNHA, Inc. will pay an annual administration fee of \$5,000.00 per full time employee, and \$2,000.0 per part time employee, which administration fee will offset some of the costs to the City and to establish an escrow for future claims that may be made by the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement or for actions of the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

(4) The City will amend its general liability insurance policy, to include coverage for injuries, death or loss of property, associated with the actions of the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

(5) The City agrees that the benefits provided by the CRNHA, Inc. to the City, as more fully set forth above, are consideration for the services provided to the CRNHA, Inc.

(6) The CRNHA, Inc. further agrees to continue to participate in and provide services which are beneficial to the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

(7) This agreement shall be in effect for five years from the date of this Agreement, as long as the CRNHA, Inc. continues to provide services that are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, and reimburse the City for the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement on the same terms as detailed in (2) above. In the event that the CRNHA, Inc. fails to provide the services that are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, or reimburse the expenses set forth in paragraph (2), then the City may terminate the agreement with thirty days written notice. If the City fails to provide the employees to the CRNHA, Inc. as contemplated under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, then the



CRNHA, Inc. may terminate the agreement with thirty days written notice. This Cooperative Endeavor Agreement may be extended under the same terms and conditions for two additional one-year periods by agreement of the parties hereto.

(8) It is understood and agreed by the parties that the CRNHA, Inc. shall be solely responsible for the performance management of the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, including definition of expected performance, evaluation, and appraisal of employee and organizational performance. The City shall have administrative management of the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement only. The employment of all the employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement shall be subject to all City administrative policies and procedures, including, but not limited to the Personnel Policies Manual, and all local ordinances and state laws or regulations which govern the City of Natchitoches.

(9) The employees assigned to the CRNHA, Inc. under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement will be reimbursed for travel at federal rates, and any travel cost incurred by the City will be reimbursed to the City by the CRNHA, Inc.

(10) It is specifically understood and agreed that the continuation of this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to the CRNHA, Inc. for the reimbursement of the costs of the employees to the City. If the CRNHA, Inc. fails to have sufficient monies appropriated to it to provide for the continuation of this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement shall terminate on the last day of the federal fiscal year for which funds have been appropriated.

(11) This agreement may be terminated and or canceled at any time by mutual agreement of the parties with 30 day prior written notice.

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, under the general law and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches, the City has the right, power, and authority to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the continuation of the agreement with the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams is hereby authorized to execute the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the terms of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, attached hereto, are approved and accepted by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the Mayor is authorized to extend the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for two additional one year terms upon approval by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, by Resolution.

Rebecca Blankenbaker, Executive Director of Cane River National Heritage Area, and Dale Nielsen provided comments in reference to Ordinance No. 018 of 2023.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Smith as follows, to-wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 019 OF 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE BEN JOHNSON EDUCATIONAL CENTER, WHEREBY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE WILL PROVIDE EMPLOYEES TO THE BEN JOHNSON EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SERVICES AND BENEFITS THAT THE CITY RECEIVES FROM THE OPERATIONS OF THE BEN JOHNSON EDUCATIONAL CENTER.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “City”) is a Municipality located in the State of Louisiana, Parish of Natchitoches governed under a Home Rule Charter and a Code of Ordinances adopted by Ordinance No. 5 of 1977; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches is specifically authorized under Section 1.06 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to provide for the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City, and further authorized under Section 1.07 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to enter into Joint Service Agreements or Cooperative Efforts with other governmental agencies; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, The Ben Johnson Educational Center (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “BJEC”) is Louisiana not for profit corporation with 501(c)3 status, with a mission to build the community in the City of Natchitoches and give access to social and economic success to all of the residents of the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the BJEC is authorized to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, BJEC is a SNAP Education and Training Provider and offers training to SNAP recipients providing them a portal of state assistance through workforce development training has projects and programs which include opportunities to gain skill, training, work and on the job training that increase the ability of residents to obtain employment, and these projects and programs benefit the City through the development of a skilled work force which increases economic development; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, among the beneficial programs and projects which BJEC provides are listed and itemized on the attached Exhibit “A”; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches acknowledges that all of the above projects and programs were and are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, BJEC has requested assistance from the City so that it will be able to offer certain benefits and services to its employees; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, more specifically BJEC has requested that the City and BJEC enter into a Cooperative Agreement under which the City will supply certain employees to BJEC, the BJEC will reimburse the City for the salaries and related benefits paid for these employees, and the BJEC will continue to provide the services outlined above; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the proposed arrangement between the City and BJEC is set forth in the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches and BJEC have agreed to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as set forth in the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, with the following terms:

(1) The City does hereby contract with the BJEC to provide employees to the BJEC as contemplated under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. The employees assigned by the City to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement will provide services at the direction of the BJEC.

(2) The BJEC will fully reimburse the City for the actual cost of the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, which said reimbursement shall include the cost of salaries and related benefits including retirement, sick leave, vacation, comp time, worker’s compensation, retirement, health insurance, etc.

(3) The BJEC will pay an annual administration fee of \$5,000.00 per full time employee, and \$2,000.0 per part time employee, which administration fee will offset some of the costs to the City and to establish an escrow for future claims that may be made by the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement or for actions of the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

(4) The City will amend its general liability insurance policy, to include coverage for

injuries, death or loss of property, associated with the actions of the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

(5) The City agrees that the benefits provided by the BJEC to the City, as more fully set forth above, are consideration for the services provided to the BJEC.

(6) The BJEC further agrees to continue to participate in and provide services which are beneficial to the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

(7) This agreement shall be in effect one five year from the date of this Agreement, as long as the BJEC continues to provide services that are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, and reimburse the City for the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement on the same terms as detailed in (2) above. In the event that the BJEC fails to provide the services that are beneficial to the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, or reimburse the expenses set forth in paragraph (2), then the City may terminate the agreement with thirty days written notice. If the City fails to provide the employees to the BJEC as contemplated under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, then the BJEC may terminate the agreement with thirty days written notice. This Cooperative Endeavor Agreement may be extended under the same terms and conditions for two additional one-year periods by agreement of the parties hereto.

(8) It is understood and agreed by the parties that the BJEC shall be solely responsible for the performance management of the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, including definition of expected performance, evaluation, and appraisal of employee and organizational performance. The City shall only have administrative management of the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement. The employment of all the employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement shall be subject to all City administrative policies and procedures, including, but not limited to the Personnel Policies Manual, and all local ordinances and state laws or regulations which govern the City of Natchitoches.

(9) The employees assigned to the BJEC under this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement will be reimbursed for travel at state rates, and any travel cost incurred by the City will be reimbursed to the City by the BJEC.

(10) It is specifically understood and agreed that the continuation of this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement is contingent upon the availability of funds to the BJEC for the reimbursement of the costs of the employees to the City. If the BJEC fails to have sufficient

monies available to it to provide for the continuation of this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement shall terminate.

(11) This agreement may be terminated and or canceled at any time by mutual agreement of the parties with 30 day prior written notice.

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, under the general law and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches, the City has the right, power, and authority to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the proposed agreement with the BJEC will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams is hereby authorized to execute the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with The Ben Johnson Educational Center.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the terms of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, attached hereto, are approved and accepted by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the Mayor is authorized to extend the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for two additional one year terms upon approval by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, by Resolution.



Claire Prymus President and Founder of the Ben Johnson Educational Center provided comments in reference to Ordinance No. 019 of 2023.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Elie and Seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows, to – wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 019 OF 2023**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING  
THE NATCHITOCHE PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2023**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Parish of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parish of Natchitoches has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the **Natchitoches Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023** in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Natchitoches Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023** identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Parish of Natchitoches from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

**WHEREAS** adoption by the City of Natchitoches demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the **Natchitoches Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023**.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA, THAT:**

Section 1. In accordance with the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in due, regular and legal session convened approves the **Natchitoches Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023**

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None</b>

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of March, 2023.

---

**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Edd Lee provided an explanation of Resolution No. 019 of 2023.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Harrington and Seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows, to –wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 020 OF 2023**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT FOR EXEMPTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES (ADVANCE NOTIFICATION #20210507) FOR ALLIANCE COMPRESSORS, LLC, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO DRAFT AND EXECUTE A LETTER, OR ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT NECESSARY, TO CONVEY THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES TO THE EXEMPTION.**

**WHEREAS**, Alliance Compressors, LLC, has prepared and filed an application with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development under the Industrial Tax Exemption Program requesting a property tax exemption for certain property acquired by Alliance Compressors, LLC; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches was provided with notice of the Tax Exemption Application pursuant to the Rules of the Board of Commerce and Industry, effective August 20, 2018, specifically Title 13 of the Louisiana Administrative Code, Section 503 (H) (1); and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches has been made aware of the significant capital investment that Alliance has made through equipment acquisition for its plant located in the City of Natchitoches as well as the related retention of existing jobs and the possibility of new jobs; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, if the application is approved by Louisiana Economic Development, property taxes imposed by the City of Natchitoches would be abated; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, having reviewed the incentive plan being offered by the State, and having been made aware of the equipment acquisition made by Alliance, desires to cooperate with the State in order to provide the most benefit possible under the incentive plan being offered to Alliance; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana is of the equipment acquisition will be beneficial to the City of Natchitoches in a number of ways, including increasing the future property tax basis, retention of existing jobs, and increasing new job

opportunities, including construction jobs and permanent manufacturing jobs; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches and the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desire to express their approval of the Application #20210507 - ITE, made by Alliance, and further commit to take the action necessary to express their approval and acceptance of the Application made by Alliance; and

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Council expresses its acceptance and approval of Application #20210507 - ITE, made by Alliance.

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Council expresses its gratitude to Alliance for its continued presence in the City of Natchitoches, and further desires to offer incentives that will make it possible for Alliance to not only remain in Natchitoches but to expand its operation.

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana is of the opinion that the property tax exemption being offered to Alliance and the equipment acquisition made by Alliance will be beneficial to the City of Natchitoches in a number of ways, including increasing the property tax basis, retention of existing jobs, and increasing new job opportunities, including construction jobs and permanent manufacturing jobs.

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary and proper in connection herewith, including but not limited to execution of a letter on behalf of the City of Natchitoches, expressing the acceptance and approval of Application #20210507 - ITE, made by Alliance.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

**AYES: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite**  
**NAYS: None**  
**ABSENT: None**  
**ABSTAIN: None**

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of March, 2023.

---

**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Brian Brock, Plant Manager, of Alliance Compressor, provided a presentation regarding Alliance Compressor in relation to Resolution No. 020 of 2023.

Carl Sias spoke in reference to Resolution No. 020 of 2023.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **March 27, 2023**.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/  
**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/  
**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE**