

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022 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, August 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

Mayor Ronnie Williams  
Councilwoman At Large Betty Sawyer-Smith  
Councilman Eddie Harrington  
Councilman Dale Nielsen  
Councilman Christopher Petite  
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 at Large Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the August 8, 2022 meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Councilman Harrington.

A roll call vote was 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>

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 048 OF 2022**

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

Lot 10 of Peoples Subdivision, Less The West 111.3 Feet As Shown On Plat In Conveyance Book 419, Page 358.

**(1230 Washington Street)**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **August 2, 2022** that the application of Reginald Smith to rezone the property described above from B-3 Commercial to B-3 Commercial with additional B-A zoning for high and low alcohol consumption on premises, be **APPROVED**.

**THIS ORDINANCE** was introduced on August 8, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on August 11, 2022.

The above Ordinance having been duly advertised in accordance with law and public hearing had on same, was put to a vote by the Mayor 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 Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**

Delivered to the Mayor on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mr. Petite as follows, to-wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 041 OF 2022**

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS UNSAFE AND RECOMMENDING THAT SAME BE DEMOLISHED OR PUT INTO REPAIR TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDING CODE, AUTHORIZING NOTICE TO BE SERVED, FIXING HEARING DATE AND APPOINTING CURATOR TO REPRESENT ABSENTEES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Building Inspector and the Director of Planning & Zoning have filed written reports with the City Council declaring that the buildings listed below are in a dangerous and unsanitary condition which makes them unsafe and endangering the public welfare, and recommending that said buildings be demolished or put in repair to comply with the Building Code, to-wit:

1. Shields, Cletus & Tamila S. Reliford  
1600 Old Robeline Rd.  
Natchitoches, La 71457  
  
Lot 7 & S 24 FT of Lot 6 Blk C of S & P Add. Having Front of 72.1 Ft. on Lee St. (409 Martin Luther King Dr.)
2. Shields, Grant & Michael Shields  
1093 Shady Grove Rd.  
Natchitoches, La 71457  
  
Lot E ½ Lot 10 & 11 Blk U of S & P Add. **(910 West St.)**
3. Delphin, Terrel A. Jr.  
P.O. Box 82  
Natchitoches, La 71457  
  
Lot NE COR 4<sup>th</sup> & Buard St. 183.7 Ft on 4<sup>th</sup> St. By 150 Ft on Buard. **(801 Fourth.**
4. Luberta Walker  
C/O Cloretha Gay  
1099 Shady Grove Rd  
Natchitoches, La 71457  
  
Lot E Side Pierson St., N By Swett, S by Breazeale & Being A Portion of Lots 28 BLK B of S & P Add. **(153 Pierson St.)**
5. Lewis, Ronnie J.  
P.O. Box 411  
Kent, WA 98053  
  
Lot 80' by 120' E Side Pierson St., N by Green, E by Jones, S by Jones, Being Lot 22 Blk B of S & P Add. **(223 Pierson St.)**
6. Raymond, Frank J., Sr & Eddie T.

1223 Welch St.  
Natchitoches, La 71457

LOT 9 Block 1 OF Lieber Subd. Of Lot 3 of Breda Property **(1539 Stella St.)**

7. Braxton Rental, LLC  
672 Abbie Dr.  
Natchitoches, La 71457

Lots 5 & 6 of Peoples Subd. **(1203 Rusbo St.)**

8. Dynise Colbert  
510 W. 82<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Shreveport, La 71106

Lot 50 By 100 Ft W. Side Salim St. N. S, & W by Ellis Dean and Being Lot 3  
Blk 1 of Ellis Dean Add. **(729 Salim St.)**

**THIS ORDINANCE** was introduced on July 11, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on July 14, 2022.

The above Ordinance having been duly advertised in accordance with law and public hearing had on same, was put to a vote by the Mayor 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 Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**

Delivered to the Mayor on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

Shontrell Roque explained in detail Ordinance No. 041 of 2022.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Harrington at the August 22, 2022 City Council meeting as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 049 OF 2022**

**A ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR. TO EXECUTE AN INSTRUMENT ENTITLED “SERVICE AGREEMENT” UNDER WHICH THE CITY WILL CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM MERCHANT MCINTYRE & ASSOCIATES, LLC, RELATED TO PURSUING AND OBTAINING FEDERAL FUNDING.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches (CITY) has negotiated a Service Agreement with Merchant McIntyre & Associates, LLC, (sometimes hereinafter “Agreement”) for professional services related to pursuing and securing federal funding; and,

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Agreement provides for an initial term of one (1) year and a fee of \$7,500.00 per month, commencing on August 1, 2022 and terminating on July 31, 2023; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, having reviewed the attached Agreement and believing that entering into the Agreement is in the best interest of the CITY, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement on behalf of the CITY;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** that the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, does hereby authorize, empower, and direct the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, to execute the Service Agreement, between the City of Natchitoches and Merchant McIntyre & Associates, LLC.

Mayor Ronnie Williams spoke in reference to Ordinance No. 049 of 2022

	The following Ordinance was introduced by Mr. Petite at the August 22, 2022 City Council meeting as follows:			
	<b>ORDINANCE NO.050 OF 2022</b>			
<b>AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022-2023 BUDGET TO REFLECT ADDITIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>WHEREAS</b> , Louisiana Statute (R.S. 39:1310-1311) requires that the City amend its operating budgets when fund balance is being budgeted, and there is a 5% unfavorable variance in revenues and expenditures.				
<b>NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED</b> , that the special funds budget be amended to reflect these additional revenues and expenditures as follows:				
		<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
001-0000-491-0100	TRANSFERS GENERAL FUND	2,208,500	81,396	2,289,896
<b>GENERAL FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,208,500</b>	<b>81,396</b>	<b>2,289,896</b>
		<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
001-5801-580-1006	WAGES & SALARIES-MARSHALL'S OFFICE	-	31,200	31,200
001-5801-580-3001	MATERIALS & SUPPLIES-OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	12,000	12,000
001-5801-580-3003	MATERIALS & SUPPLIES-FUEL EXPENSE	-	5,000	5,000
001-5801-580-2601	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE-VEHICLES	-	4,250	4,250



001-5801-580-1112	BENEFITS-MEDICARE/FICA	-	814	814
001-5801-580-1113	BENEFITS-GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE	-	17,628	17,628
001-5801-580-1101	BENEFITS-MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	-	9,204	9,204
001-5801-280-1114	BENEFITS-WORKERS COMP	-	1,300	1,300
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>81,396</b>	<b>81,396</b>
		<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>UTILITY FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
<b>UTILITY FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	-
		<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>UTILITY FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
<b>UTILITY FUND EXPENSES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	-
THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on _____ and published in the Natchitoches Times on _____.				
The above Ordinance having been duly advertised in accordance with law and public hearing had on same,				

was put to a vote by the Mayor and the vote was recorded as follows:					
AYES:					
NAYES:					
ABSENT:					
ABSTAIN:					
THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams declared the Ordinance _____ by a vote of ____ Ayes to _____					
Nays this _____ day of _____, 2022.					
_____ _____					
Ronnie Williams, Jr., MAYOR			Betty Smith, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE		

Clarissa Brown-Smith explained Ordinance No. 050 of 2022.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 071 OF 2022**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO SUPPORT THE COST TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE NATCHITOCHEs PARISH VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE.**

**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 Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “LDVA”) is a state agency within the Executive Branch of the State of Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Louisiana Revised Statute - Title 29: Section 251-262, as amended and reenacted, specifically provides enabling legislation for LDVA, as to estimate and recover part of the operations cost of parish veterans service offices; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the CITY desires to support local veterans and improve their access to benefits and services by providing for both the cost to maintain and operate veterans service offices and space to house such service offices as provided by law, more fully identified in the attached Cooperative Agreement; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City of Natchitoches shall pay to the order of LDVA an annual payment of \$10,796.00 to support the cost to operate and maintain the veterans service office; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, this Cooperative Agreement shall be in effect from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to approve the attached Cooperative Agreement, and further desires to authorize the Mayor, Ronnie Williams Jr., to execute same on behalf of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council in legal session convened that it does hereby approve the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor, Ronnie Williams Jr., is hereby authorized to execute the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Petite and Seconded by Mr. Nielsen as follows, to –wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 072 OF 2022**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR CAUSTIC SODA  
FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**BID NO. 0655**

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to advertise for bids for Caustic Soda for the Water Treatment Plant, Bid No. 0655; and

**WHEREAS**, sealed proposals shall be addressed to the City of Natchitoches, Office of the Director of Purchasing, City of Natchitoches Purchasing Department, 1400 Sabine Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, 71457; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches will accept sealed and electronic bids for the project until 2:00 pm on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at the Office of the Director of Purchasing, 1400 Sabine Street; and

**WHEREAS**, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 pm, on Thursday, September 22, 2022 held at the above mentioned Office of the Director of Purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, upon receipt of proposals the committee of Clarissa Smith-Brown, Director of Finance; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Christopher Petite, Councilman; and Matt Anderson, Utility Director, are to review and make a recommendation of the bids received.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, be and is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to order the publication of the above bid.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 073**

Date: August 22, 2022

**R E S O L U T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, Title 2 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 provides that cities, towns, parishes, and other political subdivisions of this State may separately or jointly acquire, establish, construct, expand, own, lease, control, equip, improve, maintain, operate, regulate, and police airports and landing fields for the use of aircraft; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, Division of Aviation (formerly the LA DOTD-OAPT) is charged by Title 2 with the responsibility for the development of aviation facilities within the State to foster air commerce and to safeguard the interests of those engaged in all phases of the aviation industry and of the general public; and,

**WHEREAS**, the *City of Natchitoches*, hereinafter referred to as “Sponsor”, has completed an FAA and DOTD approved Master Plan, Action Plan, and/or Airport Layout Plan which outlines the specific future development of the Natchitoches Regional Airport; and, the Sponsor is desirous of implementing a portion of the approved Plan recommendations which provide for the critically needed improvements as stated below to substantially improve the safety and usability of the Airport, but does not have sufficient funds of its own required for completing the needed improvements; and,

**WHEREAS**, the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation is authorized by Title 2 to expend funds for the construction or enlargement of airports for the safety and advancement of aeronautics;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**SECTION I.**

That the Sponsor does hereby formally request that the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements at the Natchitoches Regional Airport specifically as described in the Capital Improvement Program Application for State Financial Assistance dated August 22, 2022:

**SECTION II.**

That the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation be and is hereby assured that all necessary servitudes, rights-of-way, rights of ingress and egress and means thereof will be furnished by the Sponsor and the titles thereto will be valid and indefeasible, and that the Sponsor will assume ownership, financial reporting, and complete responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the airport after completion of said improvement.

**SECTION III.**

That the Sponsor will save and hold the said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, and employees harmless from any liability or claim for damages arising out of the project, including death or injuries to third parties including, but not limited to, liability or claim for damages out of the negligence of said LA DOTD, Division of Aviation, its officers, agents, or employees, and expressly agrees to defend any suit of any nature brought against the LA DOTD, Division of Aviation as a result of this project.

**SECTION IV.**

That the *Mayor* of the Sponsor be and is hereby authorized and directed to evidence this agreement by affixing his signature at the place provided therefore on this resolution and on subsequent related documents/agreements as required by the rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of Louisiana and the Clerk is hereby authorized to attest said execution.

The aforesaid resolution, having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was follows:

**YEAS: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABESENT: None**

**WHEREUPON**, the Resolution was declared adopted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

**CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Ronnie Williams, Jr.  
(Typed or Printed Name)

TITLE: Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

TITLE: Clerk \_\_\_\_\_



Johnathan Farmer with KSA Engineers spoke in reference to and explained Resolution No. 073 of 2022.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 074 OF 2022**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM  
REHABILITATION, KEYSER LIFT STATION**

**(BID NO. 0650)**

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to advertise for bids for Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation, Keyser Lift Station, Bid No. 0650; and

**WHEREAS**, sealed proposals shall be addressed to the City of Natchitoches, Office of the Director of Purchasing, City of Natchitoches Purchasing Department, 1400 Sabine Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, 71457; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches will accept sealed and electronic bids for the project until 2:00 pm on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at the Office of the Director of Purchasing, 1400 Sabine Street; and

**WHEREAS**, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 pm, on Thursday, September 22, 2022 held at the above mentioned Office of the Director of Purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, upon receipt of proposals the committee of Clarissa Brown-Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Betty Smith, Councilwoman at Large; and Matt Anderson, Utility Director, are to review and make a recommendation of the bids received.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, be and is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to order the publication of the above bid.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2022.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Mayor Ronnie Williams Jr. provided a video in relation to Resolution No. 74 of 2022. Matt Anderson provided information for this Resolution.

Financial Report by Clarissa Brown-Smith.

**Announcements:**

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be Monday, September 12, 2022.
- The City of Natchitoches offices will be closed on Friday, September 2, 2022, for Employee Appreciation Day and Monday, September 5, 2022, in honor of Labor Day.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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

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