

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
Monday, September 13, 2021 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, September 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

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

Guests: Maddox Johnson Jr-Division winner in the 12U Home Run Derby Finals  
Absent: None

Mayor Ronnie Williams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone for coming. Mayor Ronnie Williams Jr. led the invocation and Councilman Nielsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ronnie Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the August 23, 2021 meeting. Mrs. Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Mr. Harrington, a roll call vote was as follows:

**Ayes: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite**  
**Nays: None**  
**Absent: None**  
**Abstain: None**

**Special Recognition: Maddox Johnson Jr- Division winner the 12U Jr. Home Run Derby Finals**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 080 OF 2021**

**A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**WHEREAS**, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women, and accounts for more deaths than any other gynecologic cancers; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Cancer Society estimates that 22,440 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer every year in the U.S.; and

**WHEREAS**, recognition of the warning signs are essential to an early detection and effective treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, early symptoms of ovarian cancer are commonly overlooked, public awareness and knowledge are essential to getting a diagnosis before the cancer worsens; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical that those affected by ovarian cancer have the proper resources and access to health care to prevent, detect, treat, and ultimately defeat ovarian cancer and all cancers; and

**WHEREAS**, ovarian cancer and the hardship it brings have affected too many lives. This month, the City of Natchitoches stands with everyone who has been touched by this disease, and we recognize all those committed to advancing the fight against this cancer through research, advocacy, and quality care.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, and the Natchitoches City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as:

**OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

in the City of Natchitoches, and encourage all citizens to honor ovarian cancer patients, survivors, their families and caregivers, and remember those who have lost their lives to this devastating disease.

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 September, 2021.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Leah Lentz spoke of Ovarian Cancer Awareness throughout the community.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 081 OF 2021**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 AS MIKE WILLIAMS DAY  
IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs**

**WHEREAS**, The Women’s Resource Center, a pregnancy help medical clinic, was founded in 1989 as a non-profit organization to offer services, assistance and guidance to young women facing difficult life situations most often due to unplanned pregnancies; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006, the Women’s Resource Center became a Pregnancy Help Medical Clinic that offered material assistance as well as obstetrical ultrasound, prenatal education, breastfeeding assistance and post-partum follow-up; and

**WHEREAS**, the staff of the Women’s Resource Center consists of trained volunteers, including registered nurses, as well as the donated time of Dr. Martin Aviles who oversees medical issues of the Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the Women’s Resource Center is the largest organization of its type and scope in Central Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS**, the Women’s Resource Center will be hosting the annual “**Celebration of Life**” fundraising gala on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at the Natchitoches Events Center at which Christian Comedian, Mike Williams will be the keynote speaker; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches wishes to honor Mr. Mike Williams in his life crusades and taking time from his busy schedule to promote the mission of the Women’s Resource Center.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR.**, Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, do hereby proclaim, Thursday, September 16, 2021, as

**Mike Williams Day**

in the City of Natchitoches in honor of the dedication and contributions of Mr. Mike Williams.

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 September, 2021.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Jennifer Luna Executive Director of the Women's Resource Center, provided information on the services the organization provide and the Celebration of Life Gala.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 082 OF 2021**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING AUGUST 28, 2021 AS  
“SYLVIA MORROW DAY” IN THE  
CITY OF NATCHITOCHE**

**WHEREAS**, on August 20, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One, our Heavenly Father called to rest Ms. Sylvia Morrow; and

**WHEREAS**, in the year 2000 Ms. Morrow was elected to serve as City Councilwoman for District 3 and memorable to be the first female Council Member for the City of Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Morrow continued to served her District with ample dedication, for five terms, until May 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS** Ms. Morrow worked with a total of two Mayors, and a total of ten Councilpersons; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Morrow was involved in numerous community and professional organizations, and received many awards for a love and enthusiasm to her work and to her community; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Morrow was a woman of devotion, and commitment, who was an inspiration to all as she served her District, God, and her family; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches recognizes Ms. Morrow’s dedication, perseverance, and talents, as well as the value of the services she rendered at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches expresses our sincere appreciation to Ms. Morrow for her unwavering loyalty and service to this community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., do hereby proclaim August 28, 2021 to be

**“SYLVIA MORROW DAY”**

Be it further proclaimed, that on behalf of the entire City Council, employees of the City of Natchitoches, and a thankful community of citizens, we do hereby tender to the family of **Ms. Sylvia Morrow** this certificate of public recognition, extending our collective appreciation and our heartfelt gratitude for her vital contributions made daily to the City of Natchitoches.

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 September, 2021.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Mayor Williams announced that the Fire Rating has improved from a 3, to a strong 2, a few points away from a rating of 1. Chief Wynn explained the rating and what it means for our community.



**PLANNING & ZONING – APPEAL:**

**APPLICANT/OWNER: Rowanoak Development, LLC/David Strange**

**PURPOSE:** the City Council to review a decision of the Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission at the August 10, 2021 meeting that **DENIED** the application regarding 12.436 Acres on St. Maurice Lane to develop the Glendale Subdivision, single-family residential subdivision (37 Lots).

Mr. David Strange on behalf of proposed Glendale Subdivision, presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Residents spoke on their opposition to the Glendale Subdivision.

Mr. Larry Turner of Alexandria, LA spoke in favor of Glendale Subdivision and success of the developments in Alexandria, LA.

Mr. Strange replied to opposing resident’s questions and concerns.

Mr. Strange also answered questions of the City Council Members.

Shontrell Roque Director of Planning and Zoning spoke in reference to Glendale Subdivision Compliance.

Attorney Washington spoke in reference to Council over turning Planning and Zoning decision.

Upon the review of the Natchitoches City Council, Councilman Harrington made a motion to **uphold** the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Seconded by Councilman Nielsen.

**Roll call vote as follows:**

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

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the motion to **uphold** the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission passed by a vote of **3 Ayes to 2 Nays** this 13th day of September, 2021.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 047 OF 2021**

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

**TO REZONE THE FOLLOWING:** Lot 7, Block "A" of Keegan Subdivision

**(223 Scarborough Avenue)**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **September 7, 2021** that the application of **James W. Poche II** to rezone the property described above from B-2 Neighborhood Business District to B-2 special exception to operate a Collision shop, be **APPROVED**.

Shontrell Roque explained Ordinance No. 047 of 2021 being rezoned to a B-2 with special exception.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 044 OF 2021**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHEs TO AWARD  
THE BID FOR A FORKLIFT/TELEHANDLER FOR PURCHASING WAREHOUSE**

**(BID NO. 0638)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.057 of 2021 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 26, 2021 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for a Forklift/Telehandler for Purchasing Warehouse (Bid No. 0638) and;

**WHEREAS**, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 29, August 5, and August 12, 2021 in accordance with law; and

**WHEREAS**, four bid proposals were received and opened as follows:

- (1) Scott Equipment  
Alexandria, LA.....\$116,000.00
  
- (1) Ahern Rentals  
Las Vegas, NV.....\$117,495.00
  
- (2) All Around Access  
Naples, FL.....\$121,800.00
  
- (3) Octane Forklifts, Inc.  
Denver,CO.....\$154,085.00

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2021 the appointed committee of Debbie Miley, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Director of Utilities; and Rosemary Elie, Councilwoman, reviewed the bid proposals for bids for a Forklift/Telehandler for Purchasing Warehouse (Bid No. 0638) and;

**WHEREAS**, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Scott Equipment** in the amount of **\$116,000.00**.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 045 OF 2021**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHEs TO AWARD  
THE BID FOR A 47' SHEAVE HEIGHT DIGGER TRUCK FOR THE UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

**(BID NO. 0639)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.058 of 2021 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 26, 2021 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for a 47' Sheave Height Digger Truck for the Utility Department (Bid No. 0639) and;

**WHEREAS**, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 29, August 5, and August 12, 2021 in accordance with law; and

**WHEREAS**, one bid proposal was received and opened as follows:

(1)	Lonestar Truck Group	
	Shreveport, LA.....	\$234,502.00

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2021 the appointed committee of Debbie Miley, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Director of Utilities; and Eddie Harrington, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for a 47' Sheave Height Digger Truck for the Utility Department (Bid No. 0639) and;

**WHEREAS**, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder and only bid received to **Lonestar Truck Group** in the amount of **\$234,502.00**.

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 046 OF 2021**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHEs TO AWARD  
THE BID FOR PULSE CLOSING TRANSFER SWITCHES**

**(BID NO. 0640)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.059 of 2021 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 26, 2021 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for Pulse Closing Transfer Switches (Bid No. 0640) and;

**WHEREAS**, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 29, August 5, and August 12, 2021 in accordance with law; and

**WHEREAS**, two bid proposals were received and opened as follows:

- (1) Irby Utilities  
Baton Rouge, LA ..... \$82,094.00
  
- (2) Curtis Stout  
Shreveport, LA ..... \$83,100.00

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2021 the appointed committee of Debbie Miley, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Director of Utilities; and Dale Nielsen, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for bids for Pulse Closing Transfer Switches (Bid No. 0640) and;

**WHEREAS**, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Irby Utilities** in the amount of **\$82,094.00**.

**ORDINANCE NO. 048 OF 2021**

**ORDINANCE RENAMING THE CITY STREET CURRENTLY DELINIATED AS PAULINE STREET TO HENCE FORTH BE KNOWN AS BURT CLARK STREET IN HONOR OF MR. BURT CLARK'S LIFE AND YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY, PARISH AND COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, the street extending west to east from Welch Street to Raphiel Street and which is paralleled by Bivens Street and Mandel Street in the City of Natchitoches (the "City") is currently named Pauline Street; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Clark was raised by a loving family in a community of faith on Pauline Street and though he took up residence elsewhere throughout his life, he always considered Natchitoches to be his home; and

**WHEREAS**, in honor of his extensive ties to the community and in order that future generations remember his name, it is the desire of the City to dedicate the street currently known as Pauline Street to the memory and honor of Burt Clark by renaming it **BURT CLARK STREET**; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, that the street extending west to east from Welch Street to Raphiel Street and which is paralleled by Bivens Street and Mandel Street, currently named Pauline Street, is hereby renamed Burt Clark Street on all signage, official maps, plats or subdivision controls or regulations or zoning plans as they now or may exist.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that upon adoption of this Ordinance that the City Clerk be authorized and instructed to file a copy of the Ordinance with the Clerk for Natchitoches Parish.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that appropriate street signs be installed to designate the name change.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that all official maps, plats or subdivision controls or regulations or zoning plans be amended to reflect the name change.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**Announcements:**

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **Monday September 27, 2021**
- Prayer with the Mayor will be **every Thursday at 7:30AM**
- NSU's first home game **September 18, 2021**
- Annual Car Show **October 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- Run for Burt **October 2, 2021**
- Community Shred Event **September 17, 2021**
- Natchitoches Parish Fair **September 26-October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Shontrell Roque gave an update on Hopeville Apartments, August 19<sup>th</sup> the Fire Marshall approved what developers submitted and they are good to go.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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

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