

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

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

Guests: None

Absent: Mayor Ronnie Williams

Mayor Pro Tempore Betty Smith called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone for coming. Minister Jerry Walters of Asbury United Methodist Church, led the invocation and Natchitoches Central High School Color Guard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tempore Smith then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the September 13, 2021 meeting. Councilman Nielsen moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Councilman Petite.

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. Nielsen and Seconded by Mr. Harrington as follows, to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 083 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 3, THROUGH
OCTOBER 9, 2021 AS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,770 people in the United States in 2019, according to the National Fire Protection Association[®] (NFPA[®]), and fire departments in the United States responded to 339,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as 2 minutes to escape safely; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches residents will make sure their smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches residents are responsive to public education measures are better able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Fire Prevention Week[™] theme, “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety[™],” effectively serves to remind us it is important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

THEREFORE, I Ronnie Williams Jr., of the City of Natchitoches do hereby proclaim October 3–9, 2021, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this City, and I urge all the people of Natchitoches to “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety” for Fire Prevention Week 2021 and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the City of Natchitoches’ fire and emergency services.

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 PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Fire Chief Wynn provided information and event details in regards to Fire Prevention Week.

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**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 13, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 16, 2021.

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 PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

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**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 13, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 16, 2021.

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 PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

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**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 13, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 16, 2021.

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

THEREUPON, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

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**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 13, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 16, 2021.

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

THEREUPON, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Matt Anderson spoke in reference to Ordinance No. 046 of 2021, stating transfer switches are brought in pairs and these are for the hospital. Should one circuit go out the switches will automatically transfer to the other circuit. The hospital will only see a blink and never experience an outage.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Harrington at the September 27, 2021 City Council meeting as follows,

ORDINANCE NO. 049 OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO A FRANCHISE IN FAVOR OF PAUL’S PARTY BOAT, TO OPERATE A TOUR BOAT BUSINESS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE, ALLOWING THE OPERATION OF A SECOND VESSEL AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4404, municipalities may grant a franchise to use or occupy the streets or other public places therein for the operation of forms of transportation within the municipal limits of said municipality; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter "CITY") and Paul’s Party Boat, L.L.C. (sometimes hereinafter “Paul’s) entered into a Franchise Agreement and Lease dated November 21, 2018, which was recorded November 26, 2018 at Mortgage Book 1104, page 1 of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana (sometimes hereinafter “Original Agreement”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the CITY and Paul’s negotiated an extension of the franchise agreement, for the purpose of continuing to allow Paul’s to operate a business offering tours on Cane River Lake and allowing use of CITY public places, including parking areas and river front for its operation, which said extension provided for an additional period of one year, and an option for one additional one year term; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City and Paul’s then entered into a Renewal of Franchise Agreement dated March 1, 2021, which was recorded March 2, 2021 at Conveyance Book 744, page 750 of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana (sometimes hereinafter “Renewal Agreement”): and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Paul’s has now requested that the Renewal Agreement be amended to allow for the operation of a second vessel on Cane River Lake, and after consideration, the CITY believes that it is in the interest of the CITY to make the amendment to the Renewal Agreement; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Renewal Agreement and any amendment thereto are permitted and authorized under the authority of Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4404 and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches, Section 2:10, and is compliance with Sections 28-50 et seq, of the Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the proposed Amendment to Renewal Agreement has been reviewed by the City Council and has been approved; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that the services that Paul's offers on Cane River Lake helps promote tourism and will further offer additional recreational opportunities to the citizens of the City and that a second vessel will further the promotion of tourism and increase recreational opportunities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council takes cognizance of and approves the Amendment to Renewal of Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto, and authorizes the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute the said Amendment to Renewal of Franchise Agreement with Paul's Party Boat, L.L.C..

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the terms and conditions of the Amendment to Renewal of Franchise Agreement are hereby approved by the City Council.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any portion of this Ordinance is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional in any manner, the invalidity shall be limited to that particular section or provision, and shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance, which shall remain valid and enforceable, it being the intention of the City Council that each separate provision shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall go into effect upon publication and in accordance with law.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 27, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 30, 2021.

Paul Lorr explained adding a pontoon boat during the Christmas Season.

ORDINANCE NO. 050 OF 2022

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Elie at the September 27, 2021 City Council meeting as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 - 2022 BUDGET TO REFLECT ADDITIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

WHEREAS, L.R.S. 39:1310 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; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with L.R.S. 39:1305, the following specifies the Mayor's authority to make budgetary amendments without approval of the governing authority, as well as those powers reserved solely to the governing authority.

The Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches states in part "...at any time during the fiscal year the Mayor may transfer part or all of any unencumbered appropriation balance among programs within a department, office or agency request by the Mayor, the Council may by ordinance transfer part or all of any unencumbered appropriation balance from one department, office, or agency to another..."(Section 5.05 D) Supplemental, emergency, and reductions in appropriations must be submitted to the Council for approval by ordinance. (Section 5.05 A-C)

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the special funds budget be amended to reflect these additional revenues and expenditures as follows:

REVENUE ACCOUNTS

CODE		2021-22		
(Revenue/Expense)	BUDGET ITEM	APPROVED BUDGET	BUDGET ADJUSTMENT	REVISED BUDGET
REVENUE				
001-0000-460-0205	Sky Box	\$ -	\$ 535	\$ 535
001-0000-460-0401	Land Leases	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500
				\$ -
002-0000-481-0300	Bad Debt Recovery	\$ 3,917	\$ 3,917	\$ 4,000
002-0000-481-0400	Sale of City Property	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000
				\$ -
012-0000-446-0900	False Alarm Fees	\$ -	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,650
012-0000-446-0400	Sale of City Property	\$ -	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500
064-0000-481-0000	Misc income	\$ -	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800
071-0000--432-0700	NHDDC Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000

081-0000-491-7000	Transfer In from 70 Bond 18/19/20	\$ -	\$ 1,107,393	\$ 1,107,393
084-0000-491-9100	Transfer in from 91-2015 Revenue pmt	\$ -	\$ 185,694	\$ 185,694
091-0000-491-0170	Transfer from 170 for 2015 Rev Note	\$ -	\$ 38,965	\$ 38,965
091-0000-591-0101	Tranfer from 001-for 2015 Rev Note		\$ 108,000	\$ 108,000
099-0000-481-0000	Misc Income	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
140-000-470-0700	RW 7/25-B1-Recons/Consr	\$ -	\$ 2,250,000	\$ 2,250,000
160-0000-414-0100	Tif Dist A Sales Tax	\$ 29,876	\$ 29,876	\$ 59,752
162-0000-414-0100	Tif Dist C Sales Tax	\$ 125,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 210,000
163-0000-414-0300	Tif Dist D Sales Tax	\$ 18,301	\$ 12,500	\$ 30,801
170-0000-410-0101	Economic Dev Tif A	\$ 23,965	\$ 15,000	\$ 38,965
172-0000-410-0103	Economic Dev Tif C	\$ 18,301	\$ 75,000	\$ 93,301
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 219,360	\$ 3,947,830	\$ 4,168,356
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS				
001-5700-570-9002	Machinery/Equipment Sweeper	\$ 140,500	\$ 12,000	\$ 152,500
001-5800-580-9100	Transfer to Fund 091 for 2015 Revenue Note	\$ -	\$ 108,000	\$ 108,000

002-0000-660-4561	Transfer ouf to Airport	\$ 50,000	\$ (25,000)	\$ 25,000
002-0000-660-4571	Transfer ouf to 071	\$ 50,000	\$ (25,000)	\$ 25,000
002-0000-660-5002	Interest Coupons	\$ 36,807	\$ 45,000	\$ 81,807
070-0000-591-4581	Transfer to 081 Bonds 18, 19 & 21	\$ -	\$ 1,192,393	\$ 1,192,393
081-0000-591-5002	Pay Interest Bond 18	\$ -	\$ 26,997	\$ 26,997
081-0000-591-5005	Pay Principal Bond 18	\$ -	\$ 760,000	\$ 760,000
081-0000-591-5002	Pay Interest Bond 21	\$ -	\$ 235,395	\$ 235,395
084-0000-591-5005	Principal -2015 Revenue pmt	\$ -	\$ 123,000	\$ 123,000
084-0000--591-5002	Interest-2015 Revenue pmt	\$ -	\$ 62,694	\$ 62,694
071-0000-591-9199	Road Annexation-Moose Lodge	\$ -	\$ 7,700	\$ 7,700
071-0000-591-2603	Building and Grounds	\$ 16,426.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 32,426.00
071-0000-591-4501	General Fund	\$ 500,000.00	\$ (500,000)	\$ -
071-0000-591-4572	Capital Projects -transfer	\$ 500,000.00	\$ (250,000)	\$ 250,000
071-0000-591-9004	Building/Todd Oil Lease	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
072-0000-591-7100	Capital Improements	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 250,000	\$ 750,000
072-0000-591-1009	Part time Wages	\$ 116,479.00	\$ (75,000)	\$ 41,479

072-0000-591-2003	Engineering Services	\$ 50,000.00	\$ (50,000)	\$ -
072-0000-591-3016	Tools & Equip	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 50
072-0000-591-9031	Streets	\$ 1,000,000	\$ (500,000)	\$ 500,000
073-0000-591-9014	Elec Dirtribution Equip	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000
084-0000-591-5002	Interest / Coupons	\$ -	\$ 31,347	\$ 31,347
054-0000-491-0093	Transfer in from Community Dev to Green Market--correction	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
104-0000-591-3025	Mach/equipment	\$ 2,543	\$ 7,500	\$ 10,043
160-0000-591-3585	NSU	\$ 14,331	\$ 15,398	\$ 29,729
160-0000-591-4509	Sports Parc	\$ 18,301	\$ 26,287	\$ 44,588
162-0000-591-3585	NSU	\$ 90,969	\$ 75,000	\$ 165,969
162-0000-591-4509	Sports Parc	\$ 33,301	\$ 150,000	\$ 183,301
170-0000-591-091	Transfer to 091-for 2015 Revenue Note	\$ -	\$ 38,965	\$ 38,965
	TOTAL	\$ 3,119,657	\$ 1,831,726	\$ 4,951,383

This ordinance was introduced on Sept 27 , 2021 and published in the Natchitoches Times on September 30, 2021.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the September 27, 2021 City Council Meeting as follows,

ORDINANCE NUMBER 051 OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 8-4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, WHICH SECTION PROVIDES FOR PERMIT FEES FOR PERMITS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, REPAIR AND REMODELING OF STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs AND SECTION 8-4.1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, WHICH SECTION PROVIDES FOR PERMIT FEES FOR REMOVAL OR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES, PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Natchitoches provides for the regulation of buildings and building regulations in the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 provides for permit fees for the issuance of permits for new construction, alteration, repair and remodeling of structures in the City of Natchitoches and Section 8-4.1 of Chapter 8 provides for permit fees for the removal or demolition of existing buildings or structures in the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Sections 8-4 and 8-4.1 of the Code of Ordinances have not been amended since 1993, and the Director of Planning and Zoning has recommended that Sections 8-4 and 8-4.1 be amended to provide for a new schedule of fees that is more in line with fees charged by other municipalities; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 8-4 of the Code of Ordinances currently provides as follows, to-wit:

“Section 8-4. - Permit fees generally.

(a) No permit, as required by the code adopted by section 8-1 of this chapter, shall be issued until the fees described in this section shall have been paid; nor, shall an amendment to a permit be approved until the additional fee, if any, due to an increase in the estimated cost of the building or structure, shall have been paid.

(b) There shall be no fee for work less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00)

(c) Residential. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(d) Commercial. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(e) Alteration, repair, remodeling, removal or demolition. For a permit for the alteration, repair or remodeling of an existing structure, the fee shall be fixed and graded as follows:

(1) Residential. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(2) Commercial. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(f) Swimming pools. For a permit for the construction of a swimming pool, the fee shall be ten cents (\$0.10) per square foot.

(g) House-moving permit. For a permit for the moving of a house or other structure, the fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per section.

(h) Mobile home permit. For a permit for the locating or placing of a mobile home, the fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(i) The term "estimated cost", as used in this section, means the reasonable value of all services, labor, materials and use of scaffolding and other appliances or devices entering into and necessary to the prosecution and completion of the work ready for occupancy; provided that the cost of excavation or grading, and of painting, decorating or other work that is merely for embellishment or not necessary for the safe and lawful use of the building or structure, is not deemed a part of such estimated cost.

(j) When a building or structure is constructed by the owner and no contract is involved, the building permit fee shall be based on the valuation of average current building costs per square foot, multiplied by thirty-five hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%).

(k) A double permit fee shall be paid for all construction, alteration, repair or remodeling of a building or structure if work is begun before first securing a permit from the building official as provided for in this chapter."

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 8-4.1 of the Code of Ordinances currently provides as follows, to-wit:

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the recommended updates to the schedule of fees for building permits should be updated as recommended by the Director of Planning and Zoning; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches has reviewed the proposed amendment to Sections 8-4 and 8-4.1 of the Code of Ordinances, and agrees that the amendments are advisable and in the best interest of the City of Natchitoches and its citizens; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 8-4 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Natchitoches is hereby amended to provide as follows:

"Section 8-4. - Permit fees generally.

(a) No permit, as required by the code adopted by section 8-1 of this chapter, shall be issued until the fees described in this section shall have been paid; nor, shall an amendment to a permit be approved until the additional fee, if any, due to an increase in the estimated cost of the building or structure, shall have been paid.

(b) For work less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) the permit fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(c) Residential. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(d) Commercial. Seventy-five one-hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%) of the estimated cost.

(e) Alteration, repair, remodeling, removal or demolition. For a permit for the alteration, repair or remodeling of an existing structure, the fee shall be fixed and graded as follows:

(1) Residential. Seven Dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50) per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) of the estimated cost.

(2) Commercial. Seven Dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50) per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) of the estimated cost.

(f) Swimming pools. For a permit for the construction of a swimming pool, the fee shall be fifty cents (\$0.50) per square foot.

(g) House-moving permit. For a permit for the moving of a house or other structure, the fee shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per section.

(h) Mobile home permit. For a permit for the locating or placing of a mobile home, the fee shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(i) The term "estimated cost", as used in this section, means the reasonable value of all services, labor, materials and use of scaffolding and other appliances or devices entering into and necessary to the prosecution and completion of the work ready for occupancy; provided that the cost of excavation or grading, and of painting, decorating or other work that is merely for embellishment or not necessary for the safe and lawful use of the building or structure, is not deemed a part of such estimated cost.

(j) When a building or structure is constructed by the owner and no contract is involved, the building permit fee shall be based on the valuation of average current building costs per square foot, multiplied by seventy-five hundredths of one percent (.75 of 1%).

(k) A double permit fee shall be paid for all construction, alteration, repair or remodeling of a building or structure if work is begun before first securing a permit from the building official as provided for in this chapter.

(l) All permits for construction, alteration, repair or remodeling are subject to inspection and re-inspection fees. The number of required inspections shall be determined by the Building Official. The fees for inspections shall be Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per inspection.

(m) The fee for the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

(n) There shall be the following fees for residential new construction or additions:

Plan review fee - \$150.00

Driveway Drainage - \$50.00"

SECTION 2. Section 8-4.1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Natchitoches is hereby amended to provide as follows:

"Sec. 8-4.1. - Permit fees for removal or demolition of existing buildings or structures.

Before an existing building or structure may be demolished by the owner or his agent, a permit must be issued by the city through the department of community affairs. The base fee for the permit is hereby fixed at seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). In addition, the following fee schedule shall be applicable with the additional fees to be fixed and graded as follows:

(1) When the estimated cost is less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), the additional fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

(2) When the estimated cost is five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more, and less than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), the additional permit fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(3) When the estimated cost is twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) or more, and less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00), the additional permit fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(4) When the estimated cost is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, and less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00), the additional permit fee shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(5) When the estimated cost exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00), an additional five dollars (\$5.00) shall be charged for each additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of estimated cost.”

SECTION 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If any portion of this Ordinance is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional in any manner, the invalidity shall be limited to that particular section or provision, and shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance, which shall remain valid and enforceable, it being the intention of the City Council that each separate provision shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall go into effect upon publication and in accordance with law.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 27, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 30, 2021.

Shontrell Roque explained Ordinance No. 051 of 2021

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

RESOLUTION NO. 084 OF 2021

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY GROUND LEASE WITH LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOSPITALS THROUGH THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE TROY MAYEAUX BASEBALL FIELD PARKING LOT FOR A MOBILE CLINIC FOR COVID ANTIBODY INFUSIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches has negotiated a Temporary Ground Lease (sometimes hereinafter “Lease”) with Louisiana Department of Health (sometimes hereinafter “LDH”), which will allow for a mobile clinic for COVID Antibody Infusions; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the consideration of this Lease is the payment by Lessee to Lessor of the sum of **NO DOLLARS**, but is the benefit of providing COVID related services for the better health of the citizens of the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the term of this Lease is for a period of **September 20, 2021 through December 31, 2021, commencing September 20, 2021, and ending December 31, 2021 at the following described property:**

Parking lot of Troy Mayeaux Ball Field located at 230 Dalme Drive, located at the Southeast corner of Dalme Drive and School Drive in the Dixie Youth Recreation Complex, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the Lease will be beneficial to the citizens of the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana has reviewed and approved the attached Lease, has approved same and desires to authorize the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute same; and

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, that the attached Ground Lease is approved and that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to execute the attached Ground Lease with LDH.

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 PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Randy LaCaze explained in detail Resolution No. 084 of 2021.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 085 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO
ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RISK SERVICES
OF LOUISIANA, INC. FOR PROPERTY INSURANCE
FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs**

WHEREAS, the Insurance Committee has reviewed the proposals submitted for property insurance for the City of Natchitoches and recommends the contract be awarded to Risk Services of Louisiana, Inc. in the amount of **\$183,917.24** for the policy period **October 11, 2021** through **October 11, 2022**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign any and all documents necessary for the execution of the contract as above referenced.

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 PRO TEMPORE, Betty Smith declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 27th day of September, 2021.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Edd Lee explained Resolution No. 085 of 2021, a renewal of insurance for the City that is done every year.

Public Works Director, Donald Forest made a plea to residents of the city to help control and pickup litter.

Police Chief Collins announced National Night Out October 5, 2021.

Finance Director, Debbie Miley announced her retirement.

City Attorney, Alex Washington commented on Ordinances and Policies being outdated, future legislation will be coming forward making updates.

Announcements

- **Prayer with the Mayor every Thursday from 7:30am-7:45am**
- **Punt your weekend into gear with NSU Football, Saturday October 2, 2021**
- **Annual Natchitoches Car Show-October 1st and 2nd**
- **Run4Burt-October 2nd at NSU**
- **Natchitoches Parish Fair and Rodeo September 26th-October 2nd on Fairgrounds Rd.**
- **Next City Council meeting Monday, October 11, 2021 at 5:30PM**

With no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tempore Betty Smith 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