

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 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 24, 2020 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

Guests: Leah Lentz – Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Absent: None

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

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the August 24, 2020 meeting. Mrs. Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Mr. Nielsen, 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 Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mr. Harrington as follows, to –wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 059 OF 2020**

**A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2020 AS OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHE**

**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 2020 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Leah Lentz thanked the Mayor and the City Council for continuing to allow them to Turn Natchitoches Teal for Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. This started in 2011 on LSMSA's campus and grew to NSU's campus, but it started with the city when the City allowed teal ribbons to be tied onto the bridge. Leah stated doing this has been a part of the healing process for her as she lost her mom to ovarian cancer as well as Mayor Sampite's daughter. Every time we raise awareness it not only helps those who are fighting, but those who have lost loved ones as well.

Councilwoman at Large Betty Sawyer Smith presented Leah Lentz with the proclamation recognizing September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Natchitoches.

**PLANNING & ZONING – APPEAL:**

**APPLICANT/OWNER: Braddox Johnson**

Purpose: the City Council to review a decision of the Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission at the **August 18, 2020** meeting that **approved** the application to subdivide 17- Acres in Section 50 and 56, Township 9 North-Range 7 West, Bounded North by Stephens, East by Bertrand Jones South by Continuation of Park Street for the purpose of sale. **(Lot on Katelynn Circle)**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Randal Smoak with CGS Engineering stated he was in attendance tonight representing Braddox Johnson and was available if anyone had any questions. He later addressed the stormwater code and the flood zone of this area.

Rick Harrington, Joe Payne Williams, Elvin Shields and Breland Johnson all spoke in opposition of the project and presented material to the mayor and city council.

Shontrell Roque, Planning and Zoning Director, provided the ordinance and standards for which Mr. Johnson had met and was approved at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

Councilman Harrington stated he had checked with the State Ethics Board and could vote on this matter. He is in opposition of tonight's proposal because he has experienced firsthand the flooding that occurs in this area.

Carolyn Roy asked Mr. Smoak if the three houses would affect the flooding on Ledet and Katelynn. Mr. Smoak stated there would be minimal impact due to the area he plans to construct on being so minimal.

Councilman Eddie Harrington made a motion to reverse the decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission and to deny the application, seconded by Councilwoman at Large Betty Smith. The vote was recorded as follows:

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

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

**ORDINANCE NO. 044 OF 2020**

**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. Alvin R. & Monica T. Bradley  
270 Mockingbird Lane  
Grambling, LA 71245

**Lot 11 Block 3 Of Ellis Dean Addition (1217 Dean St.)**

2. Corey Layfield  
660 Holman Loop  
Campti, LA 71411

**Lot 21 Block 3 Of Ellis Dean Addition (1124 Allen St.)**

3. Myrtis Handy  
406 Hedges St.  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Rosa Green  
115 Alaska St.  
Natchitoches, LA 71457

**Lot 1 Block AD of Roy Addition (130 Howell St.)**

**THIS ORDINANCE** was introduced on August 10, 2020 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on August 13, 2020.

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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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**RONNIE WILLIAM, JR., MAYOR**

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**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**

Delivered to the Mayor on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Elie at the September 14, 2020 City Council meeting as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 046 OF 2020**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHEs TO AWARD  
THE BID FOR CAUSTIC SODA FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**(BID NO. 0628)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.049 of 2020 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 27, 2020 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for Caustic Soda for the Water Treatment Plant (Bid No. 0628); and

**WHEREAS**, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 30, 2020, August 6, 2020 and August 13, 2020 in accordance with law; and

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

- (1) Premier Chemicals and Services  
Baton Rouge, LA ..... \$0.1175 cents per pound
- (2) Brenntag Southwest, Inc.,  
Lancaster, Tx..... \$0.1268 cents per pound
- (3) Harcross Chemicals, Inc.,  
Shreveport, LA..... \$0.1285 cents per pound

**WHEREAS**, on September 8, 2020 the appointed committee of Debbie Miley, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Charles Brossette, Utility Director; and Dale Nielsen, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for bids for Caustic Soda for the Water Treatment Plant (Bid No. 0628); and

**WHEREAS**, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Premier Chemicals and Services** in the amount of **\$0.1175 cents per pound**.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to sign any and all documents necessary for acceptance of this bid.

**The following Ordinance was introduced by Mr. Harrington at the September 14, 2020 City Council meeting as follows: ORDINANCE NO. 047 OF 2020  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 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:

<b>FUND 001 (General Fund)</b>		<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
001-0000-432-12-00	Cares Act	\$ 58,750	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,858,750
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 58,750</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,858,750</b>

<b>FUND 001 (General Fund)</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
001-0000-491-0100	Transfer Out to Utility	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>

**Fund 002 (Utility)**

<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
002-0000-491-0200	Transfer in from General Fund	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>

**Fund 002 (Utility)**

<b>EXPENSE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
002-6300-630-3301	Major Storm Expense	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>

**Fund 148 (Eagle Building)**

<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
148-0000-481-0900	State -Rent payment	\$ -	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 130,000</b>	<b>\$ 130,000</b>

**Fund 148 (Eagle Building)**

<b>EXPENSE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
148-0000-591-2013	Construction	\$ -	\$ 619,970	\$ 619,970
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 619,970</b>	<b>\$ 619,970</b>

**Fund 70 (Sales Tax Rededication)**

<b>EXPENSE</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Proposed Amended Budget</b>
070-0000-591-9024	Intersection of Texas & Second Street	\$ -	\$ 81,156	\$ 81,156
070-0000-591-2615	Bayou Jacko Sewer Main Relocation	\$ -	\$ 77,220	\$ 77,220
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 158,376</b>	<b>\$ 158,376</b>

Debbie Miley, Finance Director, stated we are amending the budget due to some extra revenue and expenditures due to the storm. She asked if the council had any question.

Councilman Harrington asked if the expenditures would be reimbursable by FEMA?

Ms. Miley stated yes through both FEMA and the CARES Act we should received 75% reimbursement on these expenditures.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 058 OF 2020**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR LIQUID CHLORINE  
FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

**BID NO. 0632**

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to advertise for bids for Liquid Chlorine for the Water Treatment Plant, Bid No. 0632; 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 Wednesday, October 14, 2020 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 Wednesday, October 14, 2020 held at the above mentioned Office of the Director of Purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, upon receipt of proposals the committee of Debbie Miley, Director of Finance; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Christopher Petite, Councilman; and Charles Brossette, 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 060 OF 2020**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALEX J. WASHINGTON  
AS THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, in accordance with Section 4.02 of the Home Rule Charter the City Attorney shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., desires to replace the existing City Attorney Ronald Corkern.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council does hereby take cognizance that Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., appoint Alex J. Washington as City Attorney for the City of Natchitoches, in accordance with Section 4.02 of the Home Rule Charter.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council does hereby confirm the appointment of Alex J. Washington as the City Attorney for the City of Natchitoches.

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

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

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution **FAILED** by a vote of 2 Ayes to 3 Nays on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Councilman Harrington started the discussion and questioned why the appointment was being done this way. Mayor Williams addressed Mr. Harrington's concern stating this was the next step in the process. Mr. Corkern was asked did he ever agree to stay on as the city attorney. Mr. Corkern stated in conversation with Mayor Williams he let him know if he would feel more comfortable with someone else he understood and would help in any way to make that transfer as easy as possible. He stated he conveyed at a more recent meeting that he would continue to serve for some period of time over the next year if that is what the Mayor wanted. Mayor Williams stated Alex Washington is his choice and it is nothing against Mr. Corkern. Mr. Corkern was offered to serve as Assistant City Attorney and declined that offer because he didn't think that would be in the best interest of the city. Councilman Nielsen thanked Mr. Corkern for his years of service to the city and also stated his disappointment in how this has been handled. Mr. Nielsen questioned why this was being done this way and asked Mr. Alex Washington what his current status was. Mr. Washington addressed the council stating his office is currently on probation. He stated he has worked in municipal government across the state, mainly in Caddo Parish. He elaborated on why his firm is on probation as well as listed his accomplishments and qualifications. Mr. Harrington stated tonight the council has been provided a letter of resignation from Mr. Corkern which means there is a position to be filled, but it should be done the right way by following the process provided. Mr. Harrington suggested voting this down tonight to follow the application process. He further explained every department head and attorney selected serves at the pleasure of the mayor subject to approval by the council via the application process. Mr. Washington stated his interpretation of the charter is that the mayor makes his recommendations to the council and it goes from there. Mr. Corkern stated he did not have a legal opinion on this matter as there has only been one transition in the 45 years he has been practicing. John Winston gave his opinion on how this was handled when he was in office and the vote would be to confirm or deny this appointment tonight. Mr. Steve Crews spoke tonight as Ronald Corkern's law partner thanking him for keeping the city in great shape for decades of service. Mr. Corkern has always given timely and honest advice, but hates it came to this tonight. He wished Mr. Corkern the best, but also wished the Mayor the best. Ms. Sylvia Morrow also thanked Mr. Corkern for his years of service and being a man of integrity. Ms. Dorothy McGaskey stated while we appreciate the time and service Mr. Corkern has given to the City and she thinks the mayor has the option to choose who they would like to work with them. She does not see this as a disservice, but it's the option given to the mayor and thinks Mr. Washington would do a fabulous job.

With no further discussion a roll call voted was recorded and the motion **failed** by a vote of 3 Nays and 2 Ayes.

Councilman Nielsen made a motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Councilman Harrington. A vote was recorded as follows:

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

Then Councilwoman at Large Betty Smith made a motion to add to the agenda an item that the city advertise and accept application for the position of City Attorney for 14 days, seconded by Councilman Harrington. A vote was recorded 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 Mr. Nielsen as follows, to –wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 061 OF 2020**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs, LOUISIANA, TO EXTEND THAT COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA, INC. FOR AN ADDITIONAL TWO YEAR TERM, NOTED AS THE SECOND EXTENSION, UNDER SAID AGREEMENT THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHEs PROVIDES 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**, by Ordinance No. 9 of 2013, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches approved a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (sometimes hereinafter “Agreement”) with the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Heritage Area”) which said Agreement provided for a five-year term, with two separate two year extensions, upon approval by the City Council by Resolution; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, by Resolution No. 091 of 2017 the City Council of the City of Natchitoches approved to extend the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. for an additional two-year period, noted as the first extension; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the Agreement has been beneficial to the City and its citizens, as the Heritage Area has participated in projects and programs that focus on historic preservation, cultural conservation and economic development primarily related to heritage tourism, and these projects and programs have benefited 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**, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desire to extend the Agreement for an additional two-year term, noted as the second extension as called for in the Agreement; and

**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 Heritage Area Commission, or its successor, the Cane River 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 RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to extend the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Cane River Heritage Area, Inc.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is authorized and directed to execute the second extension of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement or any other document that may be necessary to accomplish the extension.

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 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

Rebecca Blankenbaker, Executive Director of CRNHA, stated since 2010 we have had this personnel agreement with the City of Natchitoches and has since invest \$1.8 million in grants and funding to promote the City of Natchitoches and the Cane River Heritage Area region as a tourism destination. CRNHA works to engage in community partnerships and provide leadership in heritage tourism, cultural resource management and planning. Mrs. Blankenbaker spoke towards the accomplishments over the past year and hopes to continue that partnership in the years to come.

