

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 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, September 12, 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: Judith Walters – Sickie Cell Anemia Drive

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 22, 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:

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 075 OF 2022

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 AS
GIANNA JESSEN 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 29, 2022 at the Natchitoches Events Center at which Gianna Jessen will be the keynote speaker; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches wishes to honor Ms. Gianna Jessen in her life crusades and taking time from her 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 29, 2022, as

GIANNA JESSEN DAY

in the City of Natchitoches in honor of the dedication and contributions of Ms. Gianna Jessen.

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 12th day of September, 2022.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 076 OF 2022

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2022 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 2022 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 12th day of September, 2022.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 077 OF 2022

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 16 AND 17, 2022
AS NATCHITOCHES MEAT PIE FESTIVAL DAY’S
IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

WHEREAS, Records show that the concept of the meat pie took shape in the mid-1700's in Louisiana by Native Americans and later enhanced by the Spanish; and

WHEREAS, 55 years ago, James Lasyone’s -opened his meat pie kitchen which is still in operation today in Historic Downtown Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS, the recipe of the meat pie has changed slightly from its inception and has been handed down from generation to generation; however, the basic ingredients and the process for creating a meat pie remains the same; and

WHEREAS, with an abundance of excitement in 2002, the Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival was formed to celebrate the noted culinary staple in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, the Natchitoches meat pie was named Louisiana 's official meat pie, and Natchitoches was one of the last cities to not have an identified food festival until 2002; and

WHEREAS, the annual Festival attracts visitors from throughout the state and over a dozen of other states as well each year; and

WHEREAS, the festival has always been a family-oriented, non-admission required event over a two-day period in Downtown Natchitoches, helping to enhance the area's economy with individual activities that can be enjoyed at a small fee; and

WHEREAS, the organizing committee for the Festival is a complete volunteer committee; and

WHEREAS, the Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival is returning by popular demand after a two-year break due to the novel coronavirus.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, and the Natchitoches City Council, do hereby proclaim September 16 and 17, 2022 as:

NATCHITOCHES MEAT PIE FESTIVAL DAY’S

in the City of Natchitoches, and invite all residents to participate and enjoy the two-day Festival, that will include various bands, fireworks, vendors, children’s performances and play area, and a “how to” workshop will encompass this year’s celebration.

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 12th day of September, 2022.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ORDINANCE NO. 053 OF 2022

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

**LOT 4 BLOCK “F” OF KEEGAN ADDITION. FROM: R-1 RESIDENTIAL TO R-1
RESIDENTIAL WITH A SPECIAL EXCEPTION REASON.**

(516 KEEGAN ST.)

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **September 6, 2022** that the application of **Carolyn LaCour** to rezone the property described above from R-1 Residential to R-1 Residential, with special exception zoning to operate a short term rental (**516 Keegan Street.**), be **APPROVED**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 054 OF 2022

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

**LOT NORTHWEST CORNER OF NELKEN AND DEMEZIERE STREETS, 53 FEET
FRONT ON NELKEN STREET BY 125 FEET.**

(202 DEMEZIERE ST.)

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **September 6, 2022** that the application of **Jon & Sarah Zeagler** to rezone the property described above from R-1 Residential to R-1 Residential, with special exception zoning to operate a short term rental (**202 Demeziere Street.**), be **APPROVED**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 055 OF 2022

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

LOT 5 OF DAVID PIERSON SURVEY SOUTH SIDE SIDNEY STREET FROM: R-2 RESIDENTIAL TO R-2 RESIDENTIAL WITH A SPECIAL EXCEPTION.

(203 Sidney St.)

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **September 6, 2022** that the application of **Winston Ferguson** to rezone the property described above from R-2 Residential to R-2 Residential, with special exception zoning to operate a short term rental (**203 Sidney Street**), be **APPROVED**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 17, 2022.

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

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.

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

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on August 22, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on August 25, 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 12th day of September, 2022.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 13th day of September, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

	The following Ordinance was introduced by Mr. Petite and seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows, to-wit:			
	ORDINANCE NO.050 OF 2022			
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022-2023 BUDGET TO REFLECT ADDITIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES				
WHEREAS , 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.				
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED , that the special funds budget be amended to reflect these additional revenues and expenditures as follows:				
		2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023
REVENUE	GENERAL FUND REVENUE	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
001-0000-491-0100	TRANSFERS GENERAL FUND	2,208,500	81,396	2,289,896
GENERAL FUND REVENUE	TOTAL	2,208,500	81,396	2,289,896

		2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023
EXPENSES	GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
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
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	TOTAL	-	81,396	81,396

		2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023
REVENUE	UTILITY FUND REVENUE	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
UTILITY FUND REVENUE	TOTAL	-	-	-
		2022-2023	2022-2023	2022-2023
EXPENSES	UTILITY FUND EXPENSES	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
UTILITY FUND EXPENSES	TOTAL	-	-	-
THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on August 22, 2022 and published in the Natchitoches Times on August 25, 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				
NAYES: None				
ABSENT: None				
ABSTAIN: None				
THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of <u>5</u> Ayes to <u>0</u>				
Nays this 12th day of September, 2022.				
Ronnie Williams, Jr., MAYOR MAYOR PRO TEMPORE			Betty Smith,	

ORDINANCE NO. 051 OF 2022

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD
THE BID FOR THE WATER DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS; POWHATAN CONNECTION
(CONTRACT I, WATER WELL);
LCDBG FY 2020-2021 POTABLE WATER IMPROVEMENTS
SCC PROJECT NO. 3080**

BID NO. 0651

WHEREAS, Resolution No.066 of 2022 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 25, 2022 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Water Distribution and Production System Improvements; Powhatan Connection (Contract I, Water Well); LCDBG FY 2020-2021 LCDBG Potable Water Improvements, Bid No. 0651; and

WHEREAS, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 28, August 4, and August 11, 2022 in accordance with law; and

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

- (1) Watson Well Drilling and Construction, LLC
Rayville, LA.....\$370,693.00

- (2) Continental Drilling Service, Inc.
Shreveport, LA.....\$442,526.00

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2022 the appointed committee of Clarissa Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Director of Utilities; and Eddie Harrington, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for the Water Distribution and Production System Improvements; Powhatan Connection (Contract I, Water Well); LCDBG FY 2020-2021 LCDBG Potable Water Improvements, Bid No. 0651; and

WHEREAS, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Watson Well Drilling and Construction, LLC., Rayville LA** in the amount of **\$370,693.00**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 052 OF 2022

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD
THE BID FOR THE WATER DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS; POWHATAN CONNECTION
(CONTRACT II, WATER MAINS AND SITE WORK);
LCDBG FY 2020-2021 POTABLE WATER IMPROVEMENTS
SCC PROJECT NO. 3080**

BID NO. 0652

WHEREAS, Resolution No.067 of 2022 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on July 25, 2022 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Water Distribution and Production System Improvements; Powhatan Connection (Contract II, Water Mains and Site Work); LCDBG FY 2020-2021 LCDBG Potable Water Improvements, Bid No. 0652; and

WHEREAS, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, July 28, August 4, and August 11, 2022 in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, five bid proposals were received and opened as follows:

- (3) ASB Utility Construction, LLC
Shreveport, LA.....\$1,839,788.00
- (4) Womack and Sons Construction Group, LLC
Harrisonburg, LA\$1,869,748.00
- (5) David Lawler Construction, Inc.
Shreveport, LA.....\$1,973,188.76
- (6) Pulley Construction, Inc.
Benton, LA.....\$2,174,000.00
- (7) Apeck Construction, LLC
Leesville, LA.....\$2,296,450.12

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2022 the appointed committee of Clarissa Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Director of Utilities; and Eddie Harrington, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for the Water Distribution and Production System Improvements; Powhatan Connection (Contract II, Water Mains and Site Work); LCDBG FY 2020-2021 LCDBG Potable Water Improvements, Bid No. 0652; and

WHEREAS, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **ASB Utility Construction, LLC., Shreveport, LA** in the amount of **\$1,839,788.00**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 056 of 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FOR USE BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES FOR THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND OTHER MOVABLE PROPERTY TO BE WHOLLY OWNED AND TITLED TO THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO PROPERLY EFFECTUATE SUCH PURCHASES; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

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, Section 1310 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 39:1310) requires that when “there has been a change in operations upon which the original adopted budget was developed, the governing authority shall adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting to reflect such change;” and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 2.10 of the Charter of the Home Rule Charter of the City, approved by the charter commission of the city on July 7, 1975 and the voters at the election of November 1, 1975, requires that any appropriation of funds by the City be enacted by an ordinance of the City Council of the City, acting as the governing authority thereof (the “**Governing Authority**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, enacted by the 117th Congress of the United States of America (“**ARPA**”), appropriated Five Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand/Eight Hundred Four Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$569,804.80) to the State of Louisiana, which was then appropriated to the City (the “**ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding**”) for the purpose of providing funding for government services that may have seen a shortfall of revenue funding them due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including, but not limited to, funding infrastructure equipment purchases up to the amount of the City’s revenue loss (“**Equipment Purchases**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Office of the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches is the proper recipient of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding as the instrument of the City most capable of properly distributing it to Equipment Purchases; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it is the desire of this Governing Authority to appropriate the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to the Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended by the Mayor of the City, or the administrative designee of the Mayor (the “**Finance Director**”), pursuant to the guidelines published by the United States Department of the Treasury in its final rule implementing the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act, effective April 1, 2022 (the “**ARPA Guidelines**”).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the defined terms in the recitals of this ordinance (the “**Ordinance**”) are incorporated herein; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Natchitoches City Council, in legal and regular session convened, that it hereby appropriates the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended at the direction of the Mayor or the Finance Director, pursuant to the ARPA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the budget of the City be amended to reflect the receipt of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding and its designation for expenditure by the Mayor or the Finance Director, for the purposes of properly distributing it to Equipment Purchases; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are repealed.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 057 of 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FOR USE BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR NECESSARY RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE JOHN DEERE BUILDING; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS, CONTRACTS AND/OR AGREEMENTS NECESSARY TO PROPERLY EFFECTUATE SUCH RENOVATIONS; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

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, Section 1310 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 39:1310) requires that when “there has been a change in operations upon which the original adopted budget was developed, the governing authority shall adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting to reflect such change;” and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 2.10 of the Charter of the Home Rule Charter of the City, approved by the charter commission of the city on July 7, 1975 and the voters at the election of November 1, 1975, requires that any appropriation of funds by the City be enacted by an ordinance of the City Council of the City, acting as the governing authority thereof (the “**Governing Authority**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, enacted by the 117th Congress of the United States of America (“**ARPA**”), appropriated Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) to the State of Louisiana, which was then appropriated to the City (the “**ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding**”) for the purpose of providing funding for government services that may have seen a shortfall of revenue funding them due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including, but not limited to, funding projects up to the amount of the City’s revenue loss (“**Projects**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Office of the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches is the proper recipient of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding as the instrument of the City most capable of properly distributing it to the Projects; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it is the desire of this Governing Authority to appropriate the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to the Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended by the Mayor of the City, or the administrative designee of the Mayor (the “**Finance Director**”),

pursuant to the guidelines published by the United States Department of the Treasury in its final rule implementing the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act, effective April 1, 2022 (the “**ARPA Guidelines**”).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the defined terms in the recitals of this ordinance (the “**Ordinance**”) are incorporated herein; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Natchitoches City Council, in legal and regular session convened, that it hereby appropriates the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended at the direction of the Mayor or the Finance Director, pursuant to the ARPA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the budget of the City be amended to reflect the receipt of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding and its designation for expenditure by the Mayor or the Finance Director, for the purposes of properly distributing it to the Projects; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are repealed.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 058 of 2022

AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FOR USE BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A GRANT PROGRAM FOR NECESSARY RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES THROUGH A CEA WITH COMMUNITY FAÇADE & ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

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, Section 1310 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (La. R.S. 39:1310) requires that when “there has been a change in operations upon which the original adopted budget was developed, the governing authority shall adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting to reflect such change;” and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 2.10 of the Charter of the Home Rule Charter of the City, approved by the charter commission of the city on July 7, 1975 and the voters at the election of November 1, 1975, requires that any appropriation of funds by the City be enacted by an ordinance of the City Council of the City, acting as the governing authority thereof (the “**Governing Authority**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, enacted by the 117th Congress of the United States of America (“**ARPA**”), appropriated One Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$105,000.00) to the State of Louisiana, which was then appropriated to the City (the “**ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding**”) for the purpose of providing funding for government services that may have seen a shortfall of revenue funding them due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including, but not limited to, funding essential projects up to the amount of the City’s revenue loss (“**Projects**”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Office of the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches is the proper recipient of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding as the instrument of the City most capable of properly distributing it to the Projects; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it is the desire of this Governing Authority to appropriate the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to the Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended by the Mayor of the City, or the administrative designee of the Mayor (the “**Finance Director**”),

pursuant to the guidelines published by the United States Department of the Treasury in its final rule implementing the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act, effective April 1, 2022 (the “**ARPA Guidelines**”).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the defined terms in the recitals of this ordinance (the “**Ordinance**”) are incorporated herein; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Natchitoches City Council, in legal and regular session convened, that it hereby appropriates the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding to Office of the Mayor of the City, to be expended at the direction of the Mayor or the Finance Director, pursuant to the ARPA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the budget of the City be amended to reflect the receipt of the ARPA Revenue Replacement Funding and its designation for expenditure by the Mayor or the Finance Director, for the purposes of properly distributing it to the Projects; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are repealed.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on September 12, 2022 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on September 15, 2022.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 078 of 2022

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES FOR GRANT FUNDING REGARDING BROADBAND AND AN EXPRESSION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROJECT: AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

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, the City desires to seek state and federal grant funding to expand broadband telecommunications within its boundaries with the guidance and direction from NEO networks (“the Partners and Consultants”) who was hired and confirmed by Resolution 102 of 2021; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Article II of the Home Rule Charter of the City, approved by the charter commission of the city on July 7, 1975 and the voters at the election of November 1, 1975, describes the powers and duties of the City Council of the City, acting as the governing authority thereof (the “**Governing Authority**”), which included applying for such grant funding; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, The City Council has expressed financial support for any match funding or operational cost contributions related to the State and Federal grant application upon approval and provided the City is financially able to provide the match or operational cost at the time of any approval; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in due, regular and legal session convened that such applications as are necessary be made by the Mayor of the City and his administration to secure grant funding at the state or local level to expand broadband telecommunications within the boundaries of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or

applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared to be severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

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 12th day of September, 2022.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Announcements:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be Monday, September 26, 2022.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE