

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024 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 12, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

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

Guest: None

Absent: None

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

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the July 10, 2024 meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Councilman Nielsen.

A roll call vote was 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. Smith as follows, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 014 OF 2024

**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 Director of Planning & Zoning and City Building Inspector 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. Demitrice Thomas & Catrina Fifer
609 Jackson Dr.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 3 BLK E of River Road Subd. (**609 Jackson Dr.**)

2. Ophelia Jackson
C/O Charles Wamber Sr.
1235 Holmes St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 37 of Trudeau Addition (**506 Hedges St.**)

3. Doffie Benjamin Sr. and Delores L. Benjamin
413 Payne St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot N ½ of Lots 4 & 5 Blk G of Breda Add. (**1313 St. John St.**)

4. James R. Smith ET AL
C/O Joyce MacMcMilan.
1912 Kiestwood Circle
Plano, TX 75025

Re: Lot On West Side Duplex St. Having Front of 64 Ft, N By Black, S By Smith
W By Norris Subd. (**314 & 316 Duplex St.**)

5. Brenda S. Smith
C/O Kim Smith
416 Jean Marie St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 1 Blk N of East Natchitoches (**401 Jean Marie St.**)

6. James M. Clark
159 Caspari St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 7 Blk 10 of Bailey Hgts. Annex (**1025 Pavie St.**)

7. JB White Properties, LLC
111 Fox Run Dr.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot E Side 3rd St., N By Glover, E By Lieber, S By Hyams **(931 Third St.)**
8. Lodis & Irma Johnsonl
1312 Ash St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lots 5 & 12 Blk 3 of Pinecrest Add. **(1312 Ash St.)**
9. Bennie R & Bennie P. Holmes, est.
C/O Christopher Carter
436 Prather St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 2 Blk 4 of Carver Add **(436 Prather St.)**
10. Eleanor Louise Westmoreland
1017 Collins St
Natchitoches, LA 71457

Re: Lot 5 Blk C of Breda Add. **(1221 St. John St.)**
11. Sidney Nora, ET. AL
C/O Joyce McMillian
1912 Kiestwood Cir
Plano, TX 75025

Re: N 134 ½ Ft of Lot 9 BLK K of East Natchitoches **(324 E. Third St. & 245 Carver St.)**

THIS ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED on May 28, 2024 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on June 1, 2024.

THIS ORDINANCE WAS TABLED by Mr. Harrington and Seconded by Mrs. Smith at the July 10, 2024 City Council meeting.

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

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

Petite

ABSTAIN:

None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays this 12th day of August, 2024.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 13th day of August, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Harrington at the August 12, 2024 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 020 OF 2024

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024

BE IT ORDAINED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2024 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the City of Natchitoches:

MILLAGE

Public Safety Tax	9.350	mills
General Alimony Tax	<u>6.570</u>	mills
TOTAL MILLAGE	15.92	mills

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2024, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that cognizance is taken by the City Council that this Ordinance was introduced on the 12th day of August, 2024.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Smith at the August 12, 2024 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 021 OF 2024

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD THE BID FOR A BUCKET TRUCK FOR
THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES UTILITY DEPARTMENT**

BID NO. 0668

WHEREAS, Resolution No.050 of 2024 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on June 24, 2024 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for a Bucket Truck for The City of Natchitoches Utility Department (**Bid No. 0668**)

WHEREAS, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, June 27, July 4, and July 11, 2024 in accordance with law; and

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

- (1) Global Rental Co., Inc.
Birmingham, AL\$223,000.00
- (2) Versalift
Waco, TX..... \$270,432.00

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2024 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 bids for a Bucket Truck for the City of Natchitoches Utility Department Bid No. 0668; and

WHEREAS, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Global Rental Co. Inc.**, in the amount of **\$223,000.00**.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 072 OF 2024

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE AND ACCEPT BIDS FOR REHABILITATION OF EXISTING CLEARWELL AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

BID NO. 0669

WHEREAS, the City wishes to advertise for public bids for Existing Clearwell at the Water Treatment Plant (Bid No. 0669); and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches will accept sealed and electronic bids for the project until 2:00 pm on **Tuesday, September 19, 2024** at the Office of the Director of Purchasing, 1400 Sabine Street; and

WHEREAS, bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the location and time herein above; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of proposals, the committee members consisting of Clarissa Brown-Smith, Director of Finance; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Matt Anderson, Utility Director; and Rosemary Elie, Councilwoman; 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:

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

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 12th day of August, 2024.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 073 OF 2024

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2024
AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES FOR THE YEAR 2024.**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Natchitoches appreciate the hard work of the Natchitoches City Employees; and

WHEREAS, to show appreciation for the dedicated efforts of our City Employees, the Mayor and Natchitoches City Council wish to declare, Friday, August 30, 2024 as an official City Holiday for 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that Friday, August 30, 2024 be declared an Official Holiday for the City of Natchitoches Employees.

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

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

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 12th day of August, 2024.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 074 OF 2024

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT, WHEREBY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES WILL RECEIVE RECLAIMED ASPHALT PAVEMENT FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

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 (sometimes hereinafter “City”) is specifically authorized under Section 1.06 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to provide for the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City, and further authorized under Section 1.07 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to enter into Joint Service Agreements or Cooperative Efforts with other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article 7, Section 14(B) (9) authorizes the donation by the State of Louisiana of reclaimed asphalt pavement (sometimes hereinafter “RAP”) from state road and highways to the governing authority of the parish or municipality from which it is taken, of if not needed by that governing authority, then to the governing authority of any other parish or municipality, pursuant to a cooperative endeavor agreement between the State and the receiving authority; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the state has offered to convey approximately 55 cubic yards of RAP to the City and the City desires to accept same; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the State has prepared and presented to the City a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (sometimes hereinafter “CEA”), which said CEA provides for the transfer of RAP from the State to the City, and a copy of the CEA is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to accept the transfer of RAP from the State and has reviewed the attached CEA and agrees to the terms set

forth therein; 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 CEA with the State, will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the terms of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, attached hereto, are approved and accepted by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER 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 execute the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development.

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

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

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 12th day of August, 2024.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **Monday, August 26, 2024.**

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams, Jr., made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

/s/
RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

/s/
BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE