

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025 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, February 24, 2025, 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: Jessica Broadway – Audit Presentation

Absent: None

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

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the February 10, 2025 meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith 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

Audit Report given by Jessica Broadway.

Mayoral Update

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

ORDINANCE NO. 003 OF 2025

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONCESSION AGREEMENT IN FAVOR OF LASYONE’S MEAT PIES, INC., TO HANDLE CONCESSIONS AT PARC NATCHITOCHES INCLUDING RIGHT TO SELL FOOD, BEVERAGES, CONFECTIONS, MERCHANDISE PRODUCTS AND OTHER SIMILAR ITEMS, CONFIRMING THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT, CONDITIONS, AND CONSIDERATION FOR SAID AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAID CONCESSION 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, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter “City”) issued a Request for Proposals for Concession Operations at Parc Natchitoches, being RFP #0320, on December 10, 2024 (sometimes hereinafter “RFP”), and

WHEREAS FURTHER, after review of the responses to the RFP, the City selected Lasyone’s Meat Pies, Inc. (Sometimes hereinafter “Lasyone’s”) as the successful responder; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City has drafted a proposed Concession Agreement a copy of which is attached hereto, and which Concession Agreement provides that Lasyone’s will provide concession services at Parc Natchitoches for a five-year term with five one year extensions; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the consideration for the Concession Agreement is the payment by Lasyone’s of 15% of gross revenue to the City; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, both parties, that is, the City and Lasyone’s, deem it to be in their mutual best interests and advantage to execute and enter into the Concession Agreement which will clearly delineate the respective obligations, covenants, conditions, responsibilities, and considerations under the said Concession Agreement; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the proposed Concession Agreement has been reviewed by the City Council and has been approved; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that the Concession Agreement is in the best interest of the City of Natchitoches and its citizens and will help promote tourism; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council takes cognizance of and approves the Concession Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto, and authorizes the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute the said Concession Agreement with Lasyone’s.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the terms and conditions of the Concession Agreement are hereby approved by the City Council, including the consideration for the Concession Agreement and other terms.

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 February 10, 2025 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on February 15, 2025.

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 24th day of February, 2025.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR	BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 25th day of February, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the February 24, 2025 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 004 OF 2025

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO ENTER INTO
A BANKING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
BANK OF MONTGOMERY
AND APPROVING OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
OF SAME ALL AFTER DUE COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW AND
FURTHER PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, (sometimes hereinafter City) is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana being a Home Rule Charter municipality created pursuant to the Constitution and Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City solicited proposals for banking services under RFP # 0321, dated January 28, 2025, and has received and reviewed proposals from City Bank & Trust Co., and Bank of Montgomery; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the proposals have been reviewed by a committee of Clarissa Smith, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Jenna Severance and Edd Lee, who identified the proposal from Bank of Montgomery as the most beneficial to the City; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, after hearing the report of the Committee, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that it is in the best interest of the City to enter into the Banking Services Agreement with Bank of Montgomery and desires to authorize Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, to execute the banking services agreement and all attachments thereto and any other document that may be required to complete the transaction; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council in regular session convened as follows:

I. That the recommendations of the Committee are accepted, and the City Council of the City of Natchitoches does approve of the proposal submitted on behalf of Bank of Montgomery.

II. That the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to execute the banking services agreement and all attachments thereto and any other document that may be required to complete the transaction on behalf of the City of Natchitoches, all in accordance with the general terms and conditions set forth in this Ordinance. The said Mayor is hereby given full and complete authority to incorporate in said instrument such terms, conditions, and agreements as may be necessary to protect the interest of the City in substantial compliance with the general terms and conditions set forth in this Ordinance.

III. That if any part of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by the Court of competent Jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and the invalidity shall be limited to that specific portion so declared to be invalid.

IV. That this Ordinance shall go into effect immediately after publication according to law.

V. That all Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

VI. That this Ordinance is advertised in accordance with Law.

ORDINANCE NO. <u>005</u> OF 2025				
The following ordinance was introduced by Mrs. Smith at the February 24, 2025 City Council meeting as follows:				
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024-2025 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:				
		2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025
REVENUE	GENERAL FUND REVENUE	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
GENERAL FUND REVENUE	TOTAL	-	-	-
		2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025
EXPENSES	GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
				-
				-
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	TOTAL	-	-	-
		2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025
REVENUE	SPECIAL FUND REVENUE	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
311-0000-491-0200	TRANSFERS/UTILITY FUND	400,000	650,000	1,050,000
UTILITY FUND EXPENSES	TOTAL	400,000	650,000	1,050,000
		2024-2025	2024-2025	2024-2025
EXPENSES	SPECIAL FUND EXPENSES	Original Budget	Adjustments	Revised Budget
002-6600-660-4564	TRANSFERS OUT /EMPLOYEE HEALTH FUND	400,000	650,000	1,050,000

SPECIAL FUND EXPENSES	TOTAL	400,000	650,000	1,050,000

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on February 24, 2025 and published in the Natchitoches Times on _____.

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:

NAYES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams declared the Ordinance _____ by a vote of _____ Ayes to _____
Nays this _____ day of March 2025.

Ronnie Williams, Jr., MAYOR

Betty Smith, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

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

RESOLUTION NO. 019 OF 2025

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE AND ACCEPT
BIDS FOR NATCHITOCHES REGIONAL AIRPORT CONSISTING OF
HANGAR DOOR REPLACEMENT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
NO. 3-22-0034-032-2025**

BID NO. 0673

WHEREAS, the City wishes to advertise for public bids For Natchitoches Regional Airport Consisting Of Hangar Door Replacement, Airport Improvement Program No. 3-22-0034-032-2025

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, March 25, 2025** 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; Justin Foshee, Airport Manager; and Dale Nielsen, Councilman; 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, 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 24th day of February, 2025.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Financial report given by Clarissa Smith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **Monday, March 10, 2025.**

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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

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