

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 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, June 9, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

Mayor Ronnie Williams  
Councilwoman At Large Betty Sawyer  
Councilman Eddie Harrington  
Councilman Dale Nielsen  
Councilman Christopher Petite

**Guest:** Employee Of The Month Nicole Oakes  
Charles Hall-Henry O Flipper Foundation

**Absent:** Councilwoman Rosemary Elie

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 May 27, 2025 meeting. Councilman 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:

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Smith, Nielsen, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 043 OF 2025**

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING JUNE 14, 2025 AS “BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY” IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**WHEREAS**, on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress established a Continental Army to secure the common defense of the original 13 colonies during the War of Independence; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Army exists to preserve the Republic and defend the liberty and freedom of its citizens and national security interests; and

**WHEREAS**, many citizens of Natchitoches served our country as members of the United States Army and gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, it is proper to recognize the United States Army annually on its birthday and thank those who have served and those who are presently serving our nation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR.**, Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, do hereby proclaim, June 14, 2025, as

**“BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY”**

in the City of Natchitoches and commend its observance to all citizens, please join the celebration of the U. S. Army Birthday as we remember its creation in 1775.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Harrington at the June 9, 2025, City Council meeting as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 020 OF 2025**

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

Lot on South Side Sidney Street Being The West 20 Feet of Lot 3 and The East 20 Feet of Lot 4 of The David Pierson Lots **(119 Sidney St.)**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **June 3, 2025** that the application of Mukeshchandra D. Dodi, to rezone the property described above from R-1 to R-2 Special Exception for operation of a Short Term Rental, be **APPROVED**

**THIS ORDINANCE** was introduced on June 9, 2025 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on June 14, 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:**            **Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite**  
**NAYS:**           **None**  
**ABSENT:**       **Elie**  
**ABSTAIN:**      **None**

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**

Delivered to the Mayor on the 24th day of June, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the June 9, 2025 City Council meeting as follows:

:

**ORDINANCE NO. 019 OF 2025**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD THE BID FOR THE  
SOUTH WILLIAMS WATER LINE PROJECT  
(BID NO. 0675)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.034 of 2025 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on April 28, 2025 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for the South Williams Water Line Project (Bid No. 06752); and

**WHEREAS**, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, May 1, May 8, and May 15, 2025 in accordance with law; and

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

- (1) David Lawler Construction, LLC  
Shreveport, LA.....\$837,860.60
- (2) Budds Construction of Haughton, LLC  
Haughton, LA.....\$882,942.50
- (3) Skyplex Trucking, LLC  
Natchitoches, LA..... \$923,800.00
- (4) Rylee Contraction, Inc.  
Alexandria, LA.....\$1,095,766.20

**WHEREAS**, on June 2, 2025 the appointed committee of Clarissa Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Tim Tousek, Utility Director; and Dale Nielsen, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for the South Williams Water Line Project (Bid No. 0675); and

**WHEREAS**, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **David Lawler Construction, LLC** in the amount of **\$837,860.60**.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Petite at the June 9, 2025 City Council meeting as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 021 OF 2025**

**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. Randy Turner, Et AL  
774 Hwy 1220  
Natchez, La 71456  
Lots 1 & 2 Block 5 of Bailey Hgts. Annex **(801 Dixie St.)**
2. Louisiana State Board of Elementary & Secondary Education  
1201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup>. St., Suite 5-190  
Baton Rouge, La 70810  
Five Lots 319.6 Ft. Fronting on Alley Connecting Martin Luther King Dr. & High St. And Lots 1, 2, 3, & 4 44.2 Ft of Lot 6 Blk C & Lots 2 & 3 Blk B of the S & P Add. **(412 Martin Luther King Dr.)**

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the following locations were provided an additional 30 days to make progress/improvements to comply with the Building Code for compliance at the April 28, 2025 City Council meeting. The 30-day time frame has now expired.

3. Cynthia Mandarino  
817 Fourth Street  
Natchitoches, LA 71457  
Lot SE Corner 4<sup>th</sup> & Buard Streets, E By Green & Hughes, S By Holmes **(817 Fourth St.)**
4. Paul Douglas Solomon Family Trust  
223 Sewanee St.  
Natchitoches, LA 71457  
Lot West Side 2<sup>nd</sup> St., N By Aaron, S By Fixary **(852 Second St.)**

The following Ordinance was **TABLED** by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mr. Nielsen as follows, to-wit:

**ORDINANCE NO. 022 OF 2025**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE A FOURTH LEASE AMENDMENT TO WATER TOWER OPTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC, SAID AMENDMENT PROVIDING FOR AN EXTENDED TERM, PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION AND ESCALATING RENT, THE ORDINANCE FURTHER PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches (hereinafter “City”) and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, successor by merger to BellSouth Mobility (hereinafter “Tenant”) entered into a Water Tower Option Lease Agreement dated November 6, 2003 (sometimes hereinafter “Agreement”), which was amended by a First Lease Amendment on July 15, 2014, later amended by a Second Lease Amendment on December 11, 2019, and further amended by a Third Amendment to Water Tower Option and Lease Agreement executed May 24, 2022 and June 22, 2022, whereby the City leased to Tenant, certain Premises, therein described, that are a portion of Property located at 200-B School Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana: and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, City and Tenant desire to amend the Agreement to implement the terms set forth in the attached “Term Letter” dated May 21, 2025, said terms to provide for an extended term, increase rent and provide for an annual rent increase; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, the Term Letter provides for initial rent of \$4,000.00 per month with an annual 3% escalation in rent beginning July 15, 2028, provides for an additional ten year term followed by two 5 year options, and further provides additional language regarding the permitted use, right of first refusal, and sale of property; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, City and Tenant desire, in their mutual interests, to amend the Agreement as set forth in the attached Term Letter”; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, The City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, has reviewed and approved the attached Term Letter and desires to authorized the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute a Fourth Lease Amendment to Water Tower Option and Lease Agreement that is accordance with the terms set forth in the Term Letter; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to execute a Fourth Lease Amendment to Water Tower Option and Lease Agreement that is accordance with the terms set forth in the attached Term Letter.

**THIS ORDINANCE** was introduced on June 9, 2025 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on June 14, 2025.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to table this ordinance which was seconded by Mr. Nielsen, the motion to table was presented for a vote and the vote was recorded as follows:

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

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Ordinance **tabled** by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 23rd day of June, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**  
**TEMPORE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO**

Delivered to the Mayor on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 044 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION FIXING THE TIME, DAY, DATE AND PLACE  
OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF NATCHITOCHES FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in regular session convened, that in accordance with Section 2.09 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches, that the City Council of the City of Natchitoches will meet in regular session at 5:30 P.M. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month for the next twelve (12) months.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the place of meeting shall be at the Natchitoches City Council Chambers, 716 Second Street, City of Natchitoches, unless provided otherwise by the Mayor upon public notice.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that special meetings may be held in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.09 of the Home Rule Charter and further providing that notice of the special meeting to be posted at the principal office of the City no less than forty-eight (48) hours in advance of said meeting.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that at the discretion of the Mayor and Councilmen, an informal meeting may be called to begin at 5:00 p.m. preceding the regularly scheduled City Council meeting to discuss any business deemed prudent and necessary.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 045 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MEETING TIMES AND PLACES OF:  
NATCHITOCHES PLANNING COMMISSION  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION  
WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 1**

**WHEREAS**, State law requires that notice of meetings of governing bodies and agencies thereof must be published in accordance with the provisions of Louisiana R.S. 42:7.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches that the **Planning Commission** of the City of Natchitoches shall meet in regular session at 5:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month at the City of Natchitoches Council Chambers, 716 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the **Historic District Commission** for the City of Natchitoches shall meet at 5:00 P.M. on the first Monday of each month at the City of Natchitoches Council Chambers, 716 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the **Airport Advisory Commission** will meet at 5:00 P.M. on the third Monday of each month, except December, at the Natchitoches Regional Airport Terminal located at 450 Wallenberg Drive, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the **Waterworks District No. 1** shall meet at 5:30 P.M. on the third Monday of each month at the Thomas Building located at 560 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 046 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING STACY McQUEARY  
AS CLERK OF THE COUNCIL  
FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council does hereby take cognizance of the recommendation of Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that Stacy McQueary be appointed as Clerk of the Council for the City of Natchitoches, in accordance with Section 2.08 of the Home Rule Charter, and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council hereby confirms the said appointment.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 047 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE AUDITOR  
FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council does hereby take cognizance of the recommendation of Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that the firm of Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway and Todtenbier be appointed as City Auditor for the City of Natchitoches for the period of June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council hereby confirms the said appointment.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 048 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FISCAL AGENT  
FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Ordinance No. 004 of 2025 of the Natchitoches City Council awarded Bank of Montgomery the contract for Fiscal Agent for the City of Natchitoches; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council does hereby take cognizance of the recommendation of Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that Bank of Montgomery, Natchitoches, LA, be appointed as Fiscal Agent for the City of Natchitoches for the term June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council hereby confirms the said appointment.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 049 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING *THE NATCHITOCHES TIMES*  
AS THE OFFICIAL LEGAL JOURNAL FOR THE CITY OF  
NATCHITOCHES FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches in regular session convened that *The Natchitoches Times* is hereby designated as the official legal journal for the City of Natchitoches for the next twelve months.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 051 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CITY  
PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches has submitted the following names for appointment to the Natchitoches City Planning Commission to-wit:

- 1. Charles Whitehead, III**
- 2. Rev. Bobby Claiborne**
- 3. Michael D. Lewis**
- 4. Rickey McCalister**
- 5. Walter Johnson**
- 6. Isaac Lewis**
- 7. Alexia Conday**
- 8. Anita Dubois**
- 9. Sadie Sawyer**

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, Section 24-17 of the Natchitoches Code of Ordinances provides that the members of the Commission shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, with consent of the Natchitoches City Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches that they hereby acknowledge the appointment of the above individuals to the City Planning Commission and hereby approve and consent to same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Commission shall have such powers and duties as are provided in R.S. 33:101, et seq.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 053 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT, SLUDGE  
THICKNER NO. 1, CITY OF NATCHITOCHES WASTEWATER**

## **TREATMENT PLANT**

**(BID NO. 0674)**

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to advertise for bids for Equipment Replacement, Sludge Thickener No. 1, City of Natchitoches Wastewater Treatment Plant, 900 Laird Fletcher Road, Natchitoches, LA, Bid No. 0674; 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 project will commence to be publicly advertised starting on Thursday June 12, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches will accept sealed and electronic bids for the project until 2:00 pm on Thursday, July 10, 2025 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 Thursday, July 10, 2025 held at the above mentioned Office of the Director of Purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, upon receipt of proposals, the committee members consisting of Clarissa Brown-Smith, Director of Finance; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Tim Tousek, Utility Director; and Betty Smith, Councilwoman at Large; 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>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 054 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025 AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES IN OBSERVATION OF JUNETEENTH**

**WHEREAS**, the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress established Juneteenth National Independence Day and declared June 19 as a legal public holiday; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free; and

**WHEREAS**, Though the Emancipation Proclamation was signed into law and became official on January 1, 1863, slaves in the state of Texas had not heard of the news until 2 ½ years later on June 19, 1865; and

**WHEREAS**, People celebrate Juneteenth by eating barbecue, shooting fireworks, gathering at a cookout, shopping at black-owned businesses, sharing history and sipping on red drinks, a tradition that symbolizes perseverance and honors the blood that was shed of African-Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is a day that should be recognized by all Americans, and a day that reminds us of our incredible capacity to heal, hope, and emerge from our darkest moments with purpose and resolve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Natchitoches City Council wish to declare, Thursday, June 19, 2025 as an official City Holiday.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that Thursday, June 19, 2025 be declared an Official Holiday for the City of Natchitoches Employees in observation of Juneteenth.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 055 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES COMMITTING THE REQUIRED MATCH CONTRIBUTION FOR A SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT APPLICATION.**

**WHEREAS**, tragically, many people are injured or killed in traffic-related accidents every year in Natchitoches; and

**WHEREAS**, fatalities and serious injuries caused by traffic-related accidents are devastating and a serious public safety issue that necessitates public action; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of these facts, the City of Natchitoches has developed and is seeking to implement its Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan to reduce the potential for serious traffic-related injuries and fatalities in our community.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are true, correct, and adopted hereby as findings, purpose, and intent of the City Council.

**SECTION 2.** The City of Natchitoches supports the submission of a Safe Streets and Roads for All implementation grant seeking funding for the projects outlined in the City’s approved Action Plan development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, a holistic, well-defined, and evidence-based strategy to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries in the city.

**SECTION 3.** The City of Natchitoches commits to provide the required 20% match contribution for the grant, equal to an estimated amount of \$1,081,766.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 056 OF 2025**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC, FOR THE EUCLID CASUALTY PACKAGE INSURANCE RENEWAL EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026**

**WHEREAS**, the Insurance Committee has reviewed the proposals submitted for the General Liability, Employee Benefit Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Public Entity Management Liability, Public Entity Employment-Related Practices Liability, Auto Liability, Auto Physical Damage, Umbrella and Crime Insurance for the City of Natchitoches and recommends the contract in the amount of \$573,870.65 be awarded to Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, LLC, for the period June 30, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

**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 this contract.

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

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 057 OF 2025**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 2023 - 2024 COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND GRANT APPLICATION (CWEF) FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NATCHITOCHES WATER SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) was established in the 2008 Louisiana regular legislative session by way of HB 926 (Act 513). Its intent is to provide a source of funding to aid units of local government solely for the purpose of rehabilitation, improvement, and construction projects for community water systems to provide safe and clean drinking water; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches desires to provide its citizens safe and clean drinking water; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Natchitoches has been awarded a Community Water Enrichment Grant for \$25,926.00, for water improvements on Douglas Drive; and

**WHEREAS FURTHER**, having reviewed the attached agreement between the Louisiana Office of Community Development and the City of Natchitoches and approving same the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to authorize the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute the agreement on behalf of the CITY;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES HEREBY**

1. Approves the Execution of the Agreement with the Louisiana Office of Community Development for the FY 2023 - 2024 Community Water Enrichment Fund (CWEF) in the amount of \$25,926.00, for water improvements on Douglas Drive.
2. Approves Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., to sign the attached agreement and all related documents.
3. This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | <b>Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite</b> |
| <b>NAYS:</b>    | <b>None</b>                               |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | <b>Elie</b>                               |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> | <b>None</b>                               |

**THEREUPON**, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

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**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **Monday**, June 23, 2025.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor.  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
**RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
**BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE**