

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026, 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 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

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

Guest: Mayor's Youth Council - Update

Absent: None

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

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the February 9, 2026, 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-Kirkendoll, Harrington, Petite
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Update by members of the Mayor’s Youth Council.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 001 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE FROM THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES IN FAVOR OF RUSSELL & MARY EDITH STACY FARMS OF THAT PROPERTY LOCATED BETWEEN THE SOUTH LOUISIANA HIGHWAY 1 BY-PASS AND WATERWELL ROAD BEING TRACTS "B" AND "D" AS SHOWN ON A SURVEY BY GLEN L. CANNON, DATED OCTOBER 2005 AND RECORDED AT MAP SLIDE 569-B OF THE RECORDS OF NATCHITOCHES PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING OF THE LEASE, A PUBLIC HEARING AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS Russell Stacy (sometimes hereinafter "**Stacy Farms**") submitted a response to a Request For Proposal #0329, which requested proposals for the agricultural lease of two tracts of land located in Section 88, Township 9 North, Range 7 West and Section 57, Township 8 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, said property being more fully being shown and depicted as Tracts "B" and "D" on a survey by Glen L. Cannon, dated October 2005 and recorded at Map Slide 569-B of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Tracts "B" and "D" are more fully described as follows, to-wit:

That certain piece, parcel or tract of land situated and located in Section 57, Township 8 North, Range 7 West and in Section 88 Township 9 North, Range 7 West, being more fully shown and depicted as Tracts "B" and "D" on a survey prepared by Glen L. Cannon, dated October; 2005, and recorded at Map Slide 569B of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, said Tract "B" being 171.22 acres, more or less and Tract "D" being 25.88 acres, more or less.

WHEREAS FURTHER, in their response to RFP #0329, Stacy Farms proposed to lease Tracts "B" and "D" for the sum of \$153.31 per acre per year, and as additional consideration has agreed to maintain by bush hog excess land, and will disc the property at the end of the lease in order to remove all rows; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the response by Stacy Farms was the highest price per acre offered and was the successful response; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the term of the lease, as bid, is for a three- year term, beginning

,February 1, 2026 and terminating December 31, 2028; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, understanding the City of Natchitoches acquired the property for industrial development and acknowledging that the property may need to be made available to a developer during the term of the lease or some extension thereof, the parties have agreed that the City may terminate the lease early if the property is needed for industrial development, and if the lease is canceled during its term, the City will reimburse Stacy Farms for the fair market value of the crop at the time that the lease is cancelled; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the property which is the subject of the proposed lease is currently not being used for any purpose, and the City of Natchitoches desires to create a source of income for the City of Natchitoches until such time that the property is needed for industrial development; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, a lease has been prepared setting forth the term, conditions, and consideration for the proposed agricultural lease; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that the property shown and depicted as Tracts "B" and "D" on a survey by Glen L. Cannon, dated October 2005 and recorded at Map Slide 569-B of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, are not currently needed by the City for any public purpose, but are a potential source of revenue if leased;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, that Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into an agricultural lease agreement with Stacy Farms, all in substantial compliance with the lease agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED That notice of this proposed ordinance be published three (3) times in fifteen (15) days, one (1) week apart, in the Natchitoches Times, the legal journal for the City, and that ordinance be posted in the City Hall.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any opposition to this ordinance shall be made in writing, filed with the Clerk for the City of Natchitoches within fifteen (15) days after the first publication of this ordinance, and that a public hearing be held after the advertisements have been completed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise this proposed lease in accordance with law, i.e., three times in fifteen days, one week apart and to report to the City Council if any opposition is made in writing prior to the time of final adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City takes cognizance of the fact that the rights to the property described above is not currently needed for public purposes by the City.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED The following Ordinance was **TABLED** at the January 12, 2026 City Council meeting and taken from the **TABLE** at the January 28, 2026 City Council meeting.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on January 28, 2026 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on February 5, February 12 and 19 of 2026.

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-Kirkendoll, 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 23rd day of February 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 24th day of February 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 002 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE, UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT, THAT THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES ENTER INTO AN AGRICULTURAL LEASE OF A 96.82 ACRE TRACT AT WHICH 69.11 ACRES IS FARMABLE/ARABLE LAND, MORE OR LESS, WITH RUSSELL & MARY EDITH STACY FARMS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE SAID LEASE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ADVERTISING.

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “City”) is the owner of 96.82 acre, more or less, tract situated in Section 74, Township 9 North, Range 7 West (sometimes hereinafter “Subject Tract”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the immediate plans for the Subject Tract include the location of an emergency access road across the Northeast boundary of the Subject Tract and the lease of a one acre, more or less, site for a communications tower in the Northeast corner of the Subject Tract; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City has no immediate need or plans for the remaining portion of the Subject Tract; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Subject Tract was leased by the prior owners to Russell & Mary Edith Stacy Farms, and the Purchasing Department has reviewed the existing lease, and is of the opinion that the City should enter into a three-year lease with Russell & Mary Edith Stacy Farms under the terms and conditions as set forth in the attached Agricultural Lease; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Purchasing Department has recommended to the City Council of the City of Natchitoches that the City lease the Subject Tract to Russell & Mary Edith Stacy Farms for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2026 until December 31, 2028; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the terms of the lease are for a three (3) year period, with consideration of Ten Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Five and 25/100 (\$10,595.25) Dollars per year at One Hundred Fifty-Three and 31/100 (\$153.31) Dollars per farmable /arable acreage of 69.11 acres.

WHEREAS FURTHER, a lease has been prepared setting forth the term, conditions, and consideration for the proposed Agricultural Lease, a copy of which said lease is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, under the provisions of Louisiana R. S. 33:4712, any property

owned by the City can be leased to any person after due advertisement and compliance with the law;

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that the Subject Tract is not currently needed by the City for any public purpose, but is a potential source of revenue if leased;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, in legal session convened, that the recommendations of the Finance Department are hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into an Agricultural Lease with Russell & Mary Edith Stacy Farms, all in substantial compliance with the lease agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and approved by the Finance Department.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED That notice of this proposed ordinance be published three (3) times in fifteen (15) days, one (1) week apart, in the Natchitoches Times, the legal journal for the City, and that ordinance be posted in the City Hall.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any opposition to this ordinance shall be made in writing, filed with the Clerk for the City of Natchitoches within fifteen (15) days after the first publication of this ordinance, and that a public hearing be held after the advertisements have been completed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City Clerk be authorized to advertise this proposed lease in accordance with law, i.e., three times in fifteen days, one week apart and to report to the City Council if any opposition is made in writing prior to the time of final adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City takes cognizance of the fact that the Subject Tract is not currently needed for public purposes by the City.

The following Ordinance was **TABLED** at the January 12, 2026 City Council meeting and taken from the TABLE at the January 28, 2026 City Council meeting.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on January 28, 2026 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on February 5, 12 and February 19 of 2026.

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith-Kirkendoll, 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 23rd day of February 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 24th day of February 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mrs. Smith-Kirkendoll at the February 23, 2026 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 007 OF 2026

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD THE BID FOR WATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
(PHASE 2)**

(BID NO. 0682)

WHEREAS, Resolution No.002 of 2026 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on January 12, 2026 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids Water Treatment Facility Improvements, Phase 2 (Bid No. 0682); and

WHEREAS, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, January 15, January 22, and January 29, 2026 in accordance with law; and

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

- (1) The Lemoine Company, LLC
 Lafayette, LA \$6,250,000.00

- (2) Dixie Overland Construction
 Sibley, LA..... \$6,413,000.00

- (3) CENLA Utility Contractors, LLC
 Alexandria, LA..... \$7,237,810.00

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2026, the appointed committee of Clarissa Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Tim Tousek, Utility Department; and Eddie Harrington, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for Water Treatment Facility Improvements- Phase 2 (Bid No. 0682); and

WHEREAS, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **The Lemoine Company, LLC**, in the amount of **\$6,250,000.00**.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 009 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO ENTER INTO A TASK ORDER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES AND KSA ENGINEERS INC. FOR T-HANGAR TAXILANES (DESIGN) AT THE NATCHITOCHES REGIONAL AIRPORT

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 of Natchitoches desires to approve the Task Order/Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, so as to allow for KSA Engineers Inc., to perform services related to **T- HANGER TAXILANES, (DESGIN)** and other future Task orders which the City deems necessary; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Natchitoches in regular session convened as follows:

I. The City Council of the City of Natchitoches approves the Task Order /Agreement, Exhibit A, between KSA Engineers Inc., and the City of Natchitoches.

II. That the Honorable Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a Task Order/Agreement and all attachments thereto and any other documents that may be required to complete the Task Order/ Agreement on behalf of the **CITY**. 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 Resolution and Exhibit A.

III. This Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

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

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen. Smith-Kirkendoll, 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 23rd day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 010 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO ENTER INTO A TASK ORDER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES AND KSA ENGINEERS INC. FOR FUEL FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AT NATCHITOCHES REGIONAL AIRPORT

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 of Natchitoches desires to approve the Task Order/Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, so as to allow for KSA Engineers Inc., to perform services related to **FUEL FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS** and other future Task orders which the City deems necessary; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Natchitoches in regular session convened as follows:

- I.** The City Council of the City of Natchitoches approves the Task Order /Agreement, Exhibit A, between KSA Engineers Inc., and the City of Natchitoches.

- II.** That the Honorable Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a Task Order/Agreement and all attachments thereto and any other documents that may be required to complete the Task Order/ Agreement on behalf of the **CITY**. 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 Resolution and Exhibit A.

- III.** This Resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

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

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen. Smith-Kirkendoll, 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 23rd day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 011 OF 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING EXECUTION OF
AN EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WELLS FARGO
EQUIPMENT FINANCE, INC., FOR THE PURPOSE OF LEASING A
DOZER FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES UTILITY
DEPARTMENT.**

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches desires to enter into that certain Lease Agreement by and between the City of Natchitoches and Wells Fargo Equipment Finance, Inc., for the purpose of Leasing a “*Crawler Tractor-Dozer with Allied H4A Winch*”, for a total of 48 months; and

WHEREAS, in order to acquire such equipment, the City of Natchitoches proposes to enter into that certain Agreement Number **001-0028266-000** dated as of **February 18, 2026** (together with any applicable master lease agreement, the "Agreement"), thereto, with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. or a subsidiary or affiliate thereof (the "Lessor"), the forms of which have been presented to the governing body of the Lessee at this meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, the Governing Body (the "Governing Body") of City of Natchitoches, Louisiana (the "Lessee"), acting for and on the behalf of the Lessee hereby finds, determines and adjudicates as follows:

Section 1. Approval of Documents. The form, terms and provisions of the Agreement are hereby approved in substantially the forms presented at this meeting. with such insertions, omissions and changes as shall be approved by Mayor of the Lessee or other members of the governing body of the Lessee executing the same, the execution of such documents being conclusive evidence of such approval; and the Mayor of the Lessee is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and the Mayor of the Lessee is hereby authorized and directed to attest and countersign, the Agreement and any related Exhibits attached thereto and to deliver the Agreement (including such Exhibits) to the respective parties thereto and the City Clerk of the Lessee is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the Lessee to such documents.

Section 2. Other Actions Authorized. The officers and employees of the Lessee shall take all action necessary or reasonably required by the parties to the Agreement to carry out, give effect to and consummate the transactions contemplated thereby (including the execution and delivery of an acceptance certificate with respect to the Agreement) and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith, including, without limitation, the execution and delivery of any closing and other documents required to be delivered in connection with the Agreement.

Section 3. No General Liability. Nothing contained in this Resolution, the Agreement nor any other instrument shall be construed with respect to the Lessee as incurring a pecuniary liability or charge upon the general credit of the Lessee or against its taxing power, nor shall the breach of any agreement contained in this Resolution, the Agreement or any other instrument or document executed in connection therewith impose any pecuniary liability upon the Lessee or any charge upon its general credit or against its taxing power, except to the extent that the payments payable under the Agreement are special limited obligations of the Lessee as provided therein.

Section 4. Appointment of Authorized Lessee Representatives. The Mayor and N/A of the Lessee are each hereby designated to act as authorized representatives of the Lessee for purposes of the Agreement until such time as the governing body of the Lessee shall designate any other or different authorized representative for purposes of the Agreement.

Section 5. Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

Section 6. Repealer. All bylaws, orders and resolutions or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed as reviving any bylaw, order, resolution or ordinance or part thereof.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its approval and adoption.

Section 10. Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., is further authorized for and on behalf of the Governing Body and the Lessee to do all things necessary in furtherance of the obligations of the Lessee pursuant to the Agreement, including execution and delivery of all other documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the transactions contemplated thereby in accordance with the terms and provisions thereof.

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

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen. Smith-Kirkendoll, 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 23rd day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **March 9, 2026.**

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-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE