

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 9, 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 9, 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: Moffet Family

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 January 28, 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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 006 OF 2026

PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 9, 2026 AS AKA DAY IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated the oldest Greek letter organization established in 1908 by 16 African American College educated women committed to sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action at Howard University in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha provides service to the community under Program Initiatives: Empowering Families, Economic Wealth, Enhancing the Environment, Social Justice, and uplifting the local community; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha currently has more than 360,000 members inn over 1,000 undergraduate and graduate chapters in the United States and twelve nations and territories, and

WHEREAS, On January 15, 1908 founding AKA member Ethel Hedgeman Lyle established AKA in an effort to alleviate deplorable social, political and economic conditions that impeded citizens from becoming productive citizens, and

WHEREAS, Vice President Kamala Harris will forever be known as the first African American and Asian American woman and the first member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated to have become a candidate to run for the position of president of the United States of America. Her commitment was to always speak and act “for the people” of our, and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Vice President Kamala Harris met with the Divine 9 Council of Presidents in the Oval Office in a historic occasion for strategic consultation lead by AKA’s President Danette Anthony Reed in the Fall of 2024 where the president commended the council for the success of HBCU’s, and

WHEREAS, the designation of a day is fitting to commemorate the early days of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority advocacy and the continued impact that Alpha Kappa Alpha advocacy can have on our communities, especially Black communities; and

WHEREAS, the Rho Beta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated was officially chartered August 29, 1987 in Natchitoches, LA and established a wide range of service programs in the community addressing education, health, social justice, economic wealth, voter mobilization, youth initiatives such as Childhood Hunger and Youth Leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr. recognize the contributions of the graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Incorporated, and further extend appreciation to Fannie Holden, President, for her extraordinary leadership and to all chapter members for their exemplary dedication to Natchitoches and the surrounding areas and to public service by designating February 9, annually as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day in

the City of Natchitoches and urge all residents to explore and participate in social advocacy and dynamic service to all to better our communities
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 9th day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 007 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026
AS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF
NATCHITOCHES**

WHEREAS, the history of our great country has been written by men and women of every race, religion and ethnic background and African American History Month gives us the opportunity to recognize the extraordinary contributions African Americans have made to the rich cultural history of our nation; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize the courage and tenacity of so many hard-working African Americans whose legacies are woven into the fabric of our country; and

WHEREAS, we as a country must continue to encourage and demand our children to reach for the full measure of their potential and ambitions through education; and

WHEREAS, each February we recognize African American History Month to reflect upon how far we have come as a Nation and community and what challenges remain; and

WHEREAS, each year a national theme is chosen by The Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

WHEREAS the 2026 Black History month theme is, **“Civil Rights March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom”** and

WHEREAS, the theme, “Civil Rights March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom,” honors the significant civil rights movement and reflects the ongoing struggle for equality and justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., Mayor of the City of Natchitoches hereby proclaim February 2026 as

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

in the City of Natchitoches and call upon all the citizens of Natchitoches to honor and respect the significant contributions African Americans have made to our City and Nation.

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 9th day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

ORDINANCE NO. 006 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

RESCINDING ORDINANCE NO. 041 OF 2022 OF WHICH DECLARED THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 1203 RUSBO STREET, NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA UNSAFE AND UNFIT FOR OCCUPANCY; FINDING THAT SAID STRUCTURE HAS BEEN REHABILITATED AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODES; AUTHORIZING REMOVAL OF CONDEMNATION STATUS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, On **August 22, 2022**, the City of Natchitoches City Council adopted **Ordinance No. 041 of 2022** declaring the structure located at **1203 Rusbo St.** unsafe and unfit for human occupancy due to violations of applicable building, housing, and safety codes; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance resulted in the condemnation of the property and its removal from lawful occupancy and commerce; and

WHEREAS, the owner of record, Superior Properties Management Group, LLC has since completed rehabilitation of the structure pursuant to permits issued by the City of Natchitoches Building Department/Code Enforcement Division; and

WHEREAS, the structure has been inspected by the City Building officials and has been found to be in substantial compliance with all applicable buildings, fire, health, and zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches City Council finds that the conditions which formed the basis for condemnation no longer exist and that rescission of the prior ordinance is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on January 28, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on February 5, 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 9th day of February 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

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

RESOLUTION NO. 008 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED 35% LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$203,216 FOR STATE PROJECT NO. H.016751 KNOWN AS “SIBLEY LAKE DAM REHABILITATION”

WHEREAS, the Sibley Lake Dam is classified as a “High Impact” dam under the State of Louisiana Dam Safety Program; and

WHEREAS, issues requiring repairs have been identified with the Sibley Lake Dam concrete outfall structure and a short section of the levee embankment; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development Dam Safety Section, in behalf of the City of Natchitoches, submitted an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA] for funding for the needed repairs to Sibley Lake Dam; and

WHEREAS, Federal funding in the maximum amount of \$377,400 was awarded for the required preconstruction engineering for the needed repairs to Sibley Lake Dam under FEMA Grant No. EMT-2024-GR-05003; and

WHEREAS, this grant program requires 35% local matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the preconstruction engineering for the needed repairs to Sibley Lake Dam is \$580,616; and

WHEREAS, 35% of the total estimated cost for preconstruction engineering for the needed repairs to Sibley Lake Dam equals an amount of \$203,216;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., of the City of Natchitoches does hereby agree to provide the required 35% local matching funds in the estimated amount of \$203,216 for preconstruction engineering for State Project No. H.016751, Sibley Lake Dam Rehabilitation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Natchitoches City Council authorizes Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute the required Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for this project.

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 9th day of February,2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **Monday, February 23, 2026**.
- The offices of the City of Natchitoches will be closed **Monday, February 16, 2026**, in honor of President's Day.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams 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-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE