

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, JULY 13, 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, July 13, 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: Steve Stinger, Employee of the Month

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 June 22, 2026, meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith-Kirkendoll moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of the same. Seconded by Councilman Petite.

A roll call vote was as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith-Kirkendoll, Harrington
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

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

ORDINANCE NO. 021 OF 2026

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

To rezone the following: Lot Containing 3 ½ Acres in sections 56 & 57 Township 9 North-Range 7 West on the North Side of Keyser Ave. Shown on Plat in conveyance Book 443, Page 67 and A ½ Interest in a Strip 50 By 195 Feet Between Lot 3 of Block “O” and Lot 4 of Block “N”, **Blanchard Road Subdivision.**

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **June 9, 2026**, that the application of **Erick Wynn dba Southern Oaks Construction**, to rezone the property described above from **R-1 to R-2**, Development of Multifamily Development Duplex be **APPROVED**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on June 22, 2026 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on July 2, 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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 14th day of July 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Ms. Elie and Seconded by Ms. Smith-Kirkendoll as follows, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 022 OF 2026

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

To rezone the following: Lot Cont. 2 Ac Located on The NW Cor. Of The Intersection Of I-49 And Ia. Hwy. 6 In Sec. 40-9-8, As Shown on Plat in CB 529, Pg. 625 And Described as Follows: Beg. At The NE Cor. of Lot 4 Of Westwood Estates - I-49 Commercial lots, As Shown on A Plat of Survey by Jack E. Farmer, Dated June 16, 1992and Recorded at Map Slide 334-B, Thence N 46 Deg. 47 Min. East 411.18 Ft.to the Pt. Of Beg., Said Point of Beg. N 13 Deg. 02 Min. 10 Secs. West 196.7 Ft., Thence N 76 Deg. 57 Min. 50 Secs. East 200 Ft., Thence 09 Deg. 34 Min. 49 Secs. East 85.82 Ft., Thence S 09 Deg. 17 Min. 49 Secs. East 335.29 Ft., Thence S 46 Deg. 49 Min. 29 Secs. West 200 Ft., Thence N 13 Deg. 02 Min. 10 Secs. West 69.38 Ft., Thence N 13 Deg. 02 Min. 10 Secs. West 254.57 Ft. To Pt. Of Beg., Less 24,750 Sq. Ft. To Radiance by Renee, Inc. **(5300 University Parkway)**

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **June 9, 2026**, that the application of **Shree Enterprises LLC DBA Hampton Inn**, to rezone the property described above from **B-3 to B-3 with additional B-A zoning**, for Consumption on Premises, be **APPROVED**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on June 22, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on July 2, 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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 14th day of July 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 023 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA, TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE NATCHITOCHES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE, WHICH SAID MEMORANDUM PROVIDES FOR SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE NATCHITOCHES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE., PROVIDING FOR A ONE YEAR TERM, 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 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 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 Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Development Alliance”) is a Louisiana not for profit corporation and has been designated as a 501C-3 entity by the IRS; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the city and the Development Alliance both have an interest in promoting economic growth, commerce and tourism in the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Development Alliance is strategically positioned to support the city in its efforts to grow its tax base by aligning resources and tools to foster an expanding and growing business and industrial sector, and the city desires to assist the Development Alliance in its goal to become the voice of economic development for Natchitoches Parish; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Development Alliance is in need of funds to move forward in its plan to promote economic development in the City and Parish of Natchitoches, and the City desires to provide funds in exchange for the services to be provided by Development Alliance; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Development Alliance has presented a Memorandum of Understanding between City of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance (sometimes hereinafter “Agreement”) a copy of which is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, under the terms of the Agreement, the Development Alliance will provide to following services to the City:

- 1) Maintain updated, professional, and useful economic development website for one-stop information
- 2) Be the lead contact for economic development request for proposals and information
- 3) Lead the evaluation and development of business and industrial sites
- 4) Serve as local liaison for business retention and expansion visits in conjunction with LED and NLEP
- 5) Provide expertise, experience, and leadership for special projects and initiatives of the administration

WHEREAS FURTHER, in exchange for the above services the city agrees to the

following pay schedule:

- 1) \$45,000 for FY June 2026 by May 2027

WHEREAS FURTHER, the term of this Agreement is one (1) years; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Agreement further provides that either party may terminate the Agreement with written notice within 60 days of the date of execution of the Agreement; 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 has reviewed the proposed Agreement, attached hereto, and is of the opinion that the Agreement with the Development Alliance will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and Parish of Natchitoches, Louisiana and the City Council desires to authorize the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches to execute same; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to enter into this Agreement to help encourage and promote economic development in the City and Parish of Natchitoches; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED 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 Memorandum of Understanding Between City of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance, and in the event that the Mayor determines that the agreement should be terminated at the end of the any one year term, the Mayor is further authorized to provide the required notice to terminate the Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between City of Natchitoches and the Natchitoches Economic Development Alliance, attached hereto, are approved and accepted by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on June 22, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on July 2, 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:	Nielsen, Smith-Kirkendoll, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	Elie
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 0 Nays this 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 14th day of July 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

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

ORDINANCE NUMBER 024 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE TO AM END AND REENACT SECTIONS 30-18 (b), 30-34 (11) AND 30-42 (P) WHICH ARE LOCATED IN ARTICLES II, III AND IV, RESPECTIVELY OF SECTION 30 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, ENTITLED "UTILITIES" SAID AMENDMENT BEING MADE TO IMPLEMENT A CHANGE FOR ELECTRIC, SEWER AND WATER SERVICE RATES, PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches provides for electric rates in Section 30-18 of the Code of Ordinances which is located in Chapter 30, entitled, Utilities, all of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches provides for sewer rates in Section 30-34 of the Code of Ordinances which is located in Chapter 30, entitled, Utilities, all of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches provides for water rates in Section 30-18 of the Code of Ordinances which is located in Chapter 30, entitled, Utilities, all of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-18 (b) provides for an automatic annual adjustment in electric rates based upon the change in the Consumer Price Index; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-34 (11) provides for an automatic annual adjustment in sewer rates based upon the change in the Consumer Price Index; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-42 (p) provides for an automatic annual adjustment in water rates based upon the change in the Consumer Price Index; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, this automatic increase in electric, sewer and water rates will lead to harsh consequences for citizens of the City of Natchitoches and it is the desire of the City Council of the City of Natchitoches to take steps to reduce the impact; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-18(b) currently provides as follows:

“(b) After April 30, 2025 the City shall adjust electric rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it has been proposed that Section 30-18 (b) be amended to provide as follows:

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust electric rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-34 (11) currently provides as follows:

“(11) After April 30, 2025 the City shall adjust sewer rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for sewer maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it has been proposed that Section 30-34 (11) be amended to provide as follows:

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust sewer rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 30-42(p) currently provides as follows:

“(b) After April 30, 2025 the City shall adjust water rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for water maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it has been proposed that Section 30-34 (p) be amended to provide as follows:

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust electric rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for water maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches has reviewed the proposed changes and agrees that the amendments to Sections 30-18 (b), 30-34 (11) and 30-42 (p) of the Code of Ordinances is in the best interest of the City of Natchitoches and its citizens and will help alleviate the possibility of an unexpected large rate increase in electric, sewer and water rates; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, desires to amend and reenact Sections 30-18 (b), 30-34 (11) and 30-42 (p) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, to provide for a change in electric, sewer and water rate increases based upon the CPI; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 30-18 (b) of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches is hereby amended and reenacted to amend subsection 30-18 (b) which shall read as follows:

“Section 30-18 (b).

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust electric rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”

SECTION 2. Section 30-34 (11) of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches is hereby amended and reenacted to amend subsection 30-34 (11) which shall read as follows:

“Section 30-34 (11).

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust sewer rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”

SECTION 3. Section 30-42 (p) of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Natchitoches is hereby amended and reenacted to amend subsection 30-42 (p) which shall read as follows:

“Section 30-42 (p).

“(b) After April 30, 2026 the City shall adjust water rates annually on May 1 of each calendar year **not to exceed** the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for electric maintenance for the 12 month period ending in December of the previous calendar year as detailed in Table 2-Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by detailed expenditure category published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).”

SECTION 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. 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.

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SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall go into effect upon publication and in accordance with law.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on June 22, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on July 2, 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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 14th day of July 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the July 13, 2026 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 025 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA, AMENDING THE
BASE HOURLY RATE OF COMPENSATION FOR POLICE OFFICERS; AND
OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches employs police officers who serve and protect the citizens and property of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council recognize the important role that police officers play in maintaining public safety and the general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that it is in the best interest of the City to adjust the base hourly rate of compensation for police officers to attract and retain qualified personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council find that increasing the base hourly rate from sixteen dollars (\$16.00) per hour to eighteen dollars (\$18.00) per hour for police officers is necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that this increase shall apply to all sworn police officers but shall not apply to police dispatchers or records personnel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, in legal session convened, that:

SECTION 1: AUTHORITY

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to the City of Natchitoches under the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, including Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 33, and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches.

SECTION 2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a new base hourly rate of compensation for police officers employed by the City of Natchitoches Police Department in order to ensure competitive compensation, maintain adequate staffing levels, and promote the retention of qualified law enforcement personnel.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them:

A. Police Officer: Any sworn law enforcement officer employed by the City of Natchitoches Police Department who holds a valid peace officer certification issued by the Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.) and whose primary duties include law enforcement, crime prevention, criminal investigation, patrol, or other public safety functions requiring peace officer authority.

B. Police Dispatcher: Any employee of the City of Natchitoches Police Department whose primary duties involve receiving emergency and non-emergency calls, dispatching police units, and operating communications equipment.

C. Records Personnel: Any employee of the City of Natchitoches Police Department whose primary duties involve maintaining, processing, filing, or managing police records, reports, evidence logs, or administrative documentation.

D. Base Hourly Rate: The minimum hourly wage paid to an employee in a particular classification, exclusive of overtime, shift differential, special assignment pay, longevity pay, or any other supplemental compensation.

SECTION 4: BASE HOURLY RATE ESTABLISHED

The base hourly rate of compensation for all Police Officers, as defined in Section 3(A) of this ordinance, is hereby established at eighteen dollars (\$18.00) per hour.

SECTION 5: SCOPE OF APPLICATION

A. This base hourly rate shall apply to all Police Officers employed by the City of Natchitoches Police Department, regardless of rank, assignment, shift, or years of service, subject to any applicable collective bargaining agreements or personnel policies that provide for higher rates of compensation based on rank, experience, or other factors.

B. This base hourly rate shall not apply to Police Dispatchers or Records Personnel as defined in Sections 3(B) and 3(C) of this ordinance. The compensation for such positions shall remain governed by existing salary schedules and personnel policies.

C. Nothing in this ordinance shall prohibit the payment of overtime, shift differential, special assignment pay, longevity pay, or other supplemental compensation in addition to the base hourly rate established herein, as authorized by applicable law, personnel policies, or collective bargaining agreements.

SECTION 6: AMENDMENT OF PRIOR ORDINANCES

All prior ordinances, resolutions, salary schedules, and compensation plans that establish a base hourly rate for Police Officers inconsistent with the rate set forth in Section 4 of this ordinance are hereby amended to the extent necessary to give effect to the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 7: BUDGET APPROPRIATION

The Chief Administrative Officer and Finance Director are hereby authorized and directed to make such adjustments to the current fiscal year budget as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this ordinance, and to include appropriate funding in all future budget proposals to provide for the compensation established herein.

SECTION 8: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect on [EFFECTIVE DATE], and shall apply to all work performed by Police Officers on or after that date.

SECTION 9: SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 10: PUBLICATION AND RECORDATION

This ordinance shall be published in accordance with the Home Rule Charter of the City of Natchitoches and the laws of the State of Louisiana. The City Clerk is hereby directed to record this ordinance in the official records of the City.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED in legal session convened on this _____ day of _____, 2026, at Natchitoches, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

_____ Stacy McQueary, City Clerk City of Natchitoches,
Louisiana

APPROVED:

_____ Ronnie Williams Jr., Mayor City of Natchitoches,
Louisiana

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Ms. Smith-Kirkendoll at the July 13, 2026 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 026 OF 2026

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH NSU ATHLETICS AND THE DEMONS UNLIMITED FOUNDATION (DUF), RELATING TO A DREAM HOME GIVEAWAY, BENEFITING NSU AND THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, PROVIDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS

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 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, Article VII, Section 14(C) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 authorizes the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions to engage in cooperative endeavors with each other and with public or private entities for a public purpose;

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Northwestern State University's Athletics Department and the Demons Unlimited Foundation are partnering with Rhodes Properties & Development on a Dream Home Giveaway fundraising project (the "Project") to raise funds that will benefit the University's athletics programs; and

WHEREAS, the Project involves the construction and promotion of a residential property located at 107 Hidden Oaks Court, Natchitoches, Louisiana (the "Property"), which will be given away through a raffle drawing to be held on November 6, 2026, with tickets priced at \$100 each going on sale beginning May 4, 2026;

WHEREAS, the University and Foundation have requested the City's participation in the Project through the donation of certain building permits and utility connection costs associated with the Property;

WHEREAS, the City has determined that supporting the University's athletics programs serves a public purpose by enhancing the economic development of the City of Natchitoches through increased tourism, visitor spending on lodging, food, gasoline, and other goods and services, and associated sales tax revenue generated by more successful University athletic programs that attract larger crowds and more competitive events to the City;

WHEREAS, the City has further determined that the Project will serve a public purpose by strengthening the relationship between the City and the University, promoting positive publicity for the City, and supporting the educational mission of the University by enhancing its ability to recruit and retain talented student-athletes;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to memorialize the terms and conditions of their cooperative endeavor in accordance with Louisiana law;

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to approve the attached Cooperative Agreement, and further desires to authorize the Mayor, Ronnie Williams Jr., to execute same on behalf of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council in legal session convened that it does hereby approve the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the Northwestern University and Demon Unlimited Foundation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor, Ronnie Williams Jr., is hereby authorized to execute the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the Northwestern University and Demon Unlimited Foundation.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 047 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE
CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
NATCHITOCHES AND PAT WILLIAMS CONSTRUCTION, LLC., FOR THE NEW
FIRE STATION NO. 3 ON UNIVERSITY PARKWAY, NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

(BID NO. 0678)**

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches (CITY) awarded the bid to **PAT WILLIAMS CONSTRUCTION, LLC.**, (CONTRACTOR) on January 12, 2026, by Ordinance No. 043 of 2026 in the amount of **\$3,253,000.00** for the New Fire Station No. 3 University Parkway, Natchitoches, Louisiana (Bid No. 0678) and;

WHEREAS, the contract amount was increased to **\$3,304,143.86** by previously-approved Change Order No. 1; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2026, Stantec (ARCHITECT) issued **Change Order No. 2** fully described in Attachment “A”; and

WHEREAS, the contract sum will be **Increased by Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$29,551.50** and the revised contract total will be **\$3,333,695.36**; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer has reviewed this change order and recommended approval of same as being in the best interest of the CITY;

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 execute the referenced Change Order No. 2 to the agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the contractor, Pat Williams Construction, LLC.

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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 048 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING JENNA SEVERANCE TO SERVE ON THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES AND DESIGNATING THE STAGGERED TERMS OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS FURTHER, Section 2-32 of the Natchitoches Code of Ordinances provides that the members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, with confirmation of the Natchitoches City Council.

WHEREAS, the term of Jenna Severance will expire July 28, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Natchitoches City Council wishes to re-appoint Jenna Severance to serve on the Grievance Committee for the City of Natchitoches for a period of (5) years; and

WHEREAS, the Natchitoches City Council is authorized under Section 2-32 of the Natchitoches Code of Ordinance which provides that the members of the Committee are to serve staggered terms to ensure continuity and stability in governance; and

WHEREAS, the committee shall consist of five (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be employees of the city and three (3) of whom shall be men or women who are not employed by the city but may be anyone who is residing within the limits of the city. The five (5) members of the grievance committee shall be selected by the mayor subject to confirmation by the council and shall serve staggered terms, the first five (5) members being appointed for a period of one, two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) years, and all appointments thereafter, when vacancies occur, shall be for a period of five (5) years.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined it is in the best interest of the City of Natchitoches to maintain a staggered schedule as follows;

- 1. Jenna Severance – 1 year, term expiring July, 2026 – re-appointed 5 years to expire in July, 2031
- 2. Donna Williams – 2 years, term expiring July, 2027
- 3. Charles Hall - 3 years, term to expiring in July, 2028
- 4. John Dunn – 4 years, term expiring in July, 2029
- 5. Joe Hamilton – 5 years, term expiring in July, 2030

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches that they hereby acknowledge the appointment of the above individuals to the Grievance Committee and hereby approve and consent to same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Grievance Committee shall have such powers and duties as outlined in Section 2 of the Natchitoches Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby reappoints the following individuals to serve as commissioners for the terms indicated, in accordance with the staggered terms.

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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 049 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE
CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
NATCHITOCHES AND DAVID LAWLER, CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR THE SOUTH
WILLIAMS WATER LINE PROJECT**

(BID NO. 0675)

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches (CITY) awarded the bid to David Lawler Construction, LLC (CONTRACTOR) on June 23, 2025 by Ordinance No. 019 of 2025 in the amount of \$837,860.00 for the South Williams Water Line Project (Bid No. 0675); and

WHEREAS, on **April 13, 2026**, the City Council approved **Change Order No. 1 (decrease)** in the amount of \$2,010.00 making the revised contact total \$835,851.00; and

WHEREAS, on **April 13, 2026**, the City Council approved **Change Order No. 2** in the amount of \$64,728.00 making the revised contact total \$900,579.00; and

WHEREAS, on **July 8, 2026**, CONTRACTOR issued **Change Order No. 3**, fully described in Attachment “A”; and

WHEREAS, the contract sum will be **decrease** by this **Change Order No. 3** in the amount of \$28,739.49 and the revised contract total will be \$871,840.51; and

WHEREAS, the project Engineer, James Hagan with EJES, Inc/BALAR Associates, Inc., has recommended this change order; and

WHEREAS, the CITY is of the opinion that Change Order No. 3 is in the best interest of the CITY.

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 execute the referenced Change Order No. 3 to the agreement between the City of Natchitoches and the contractor, David Lawler Construction, LLC.

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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 050 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES AND DAVID LAWLER, CONSTRUCTION. LLC FOR THE SOUTH WILLIAMS WATER LINE PROJECT (BID NO. 0675)

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches has contracted with David Lawler, Construction, LLC for the South Williams Water Line Project (Bid No. 0675); and

WHEREAS, this work has been completed; and

WHEREAS, a substantial completion inspection has been performed by the Engineer and a representative of the City of Natchitoches, and they find the project to be complete.

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 execute the referenced Certificate of Substantial Completion for David Lawler, Construction, LLC.

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 13th day of July 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be **July 27, 2026**.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment, and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

/S/
RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

/S/

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE