

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 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, August 24, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

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

Guest: Harold Bayonne – Natchitoches community improvement foundation

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 August 10, 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 Nielsen

A roll call vote was as follows:

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

Harold Bayonne -Natchitoches Community Improvement Foundation

NATCHITOCHES HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION -APPEAL

APPLICANT/OWNER: **Lee Cook, LLC and its members, Mr. Henry Cook, Jr. and Mrs. Debbie Lee Taylor**

The purpose of the hearing is for the City Council to review a decision of the Natchitoches Historic Commission at the July 28, 2026, meeting regarding the artwork installed at 123 St. Denis Street, Natchitoches, LA.

Mayor Williams opened the floor for public comments in reference to the appeal.

Public Comments were heard and recorded.

Councilman Harrington then made a motion to move that the City Council pursuant to this authority on appeal to reverse, change or modify decision of the Historic District Commission affirm in part reverse in part and modify the decision as follows:

I move that we modify the commission’s decision of the \$50.00 per day fine beginning after a 60-day period and instead based on our Ordinances have it begin from July 29, 2026, which was the day after their meeting today end at \$50.00 a day for a total of fine of \$1,1350.00.

Also, I move that we reverse the portion of the commission’s decision requiring the mural to be removed.

Furthermore, we modify the commission’s decision to approve this mural in its present form, at present location, and allow it to remain.

Mrs. Smith-Kirkendoll seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Ayes:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith-Kirkendoll, Harrington, Petite
Nays:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the motion passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 24th day of August 2026.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 058 OF 2026

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2026 AS NATIONAL SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES

WHEREAS, September is National Sickle Cell Awareness Month. The observance, unanimously passed by Congressional resolution in 1983, was endorsed through presidential proclamation, which spoke to the national progress that had been made to diagnose and treat sickle cell disease (SCD).

WHEREAS, the proclamation also cited the success of Comprehensive Sickle-Cell Centers across the United States in establishing programs of research, training, and community service to address SCD, a blood disorder causing abnormalities in hemoglobin, leading to the telltale sickle shape in sufferers' red-blood cells.

WHEREAS, In the past decade, there has been substantial progress in research on sickle-cell disease. Diagnostic procedures have been greatly improved. Measures to ameliorate excruciatingly painful sickle-cell crises have been introduced for those afflicted with the disease.

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease (SCD) presents grave health challenges for an estimated 100,000 Americans. For some, it triggers intermittent episodes of pain, difficulty with vision, and serious fatigue. Other survivors experience this disease more acutely—SCD can cause infections, strokes, and even organ failure.

WHEREAS, for almost everyone impacted, coping with inherited red blood cell disorders means putting plans on pause, living with excruciating pain, paying for expensive treatments, and hoping for a day when medications and doctor visits no longer interrupt life.

WHEREAS, during National Sickle Cell Awareness Month, we recognize the perseverance of SCD patients, and we recommit to working with our partners in State and local government, the nonprofit space, and the private sector to develop treatments and cures for this debilitating disease.

WHEREAS, SCD affects our population unevenly. Black and Brown Americans are disproportionately affected. About 1 in 13 Black children tests positive for the sickle cell trait, and about 1 in 365 Black Americans develops the disease over the course of their lifetime. Due to persistent systemic inequities in our health care system, these same patients are also often the last to get help.

WHEREAS, as we continue research to find a cure for sickle cell disease, let us celebrate the strides our health experts have made in understanding and treating this condition. Let us continue to offer support to those battling its effects today.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, and the Natchitoches City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as:

NATIONAL SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Natchitoches, and call upon the residents of Natchitoches, Louisiana to learn more about the progress we are making to reduce the burden of this disease on our fellow residents.

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 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 061 OF 2026

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 18 AND 19, 2026 AS
NATCHITOCHES MEAT PIE FESTIVAL DAY’S**

IN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES

WHEREAS, Records show that the concept of the meat pie took shape in the mid-1700's in Louisiana by Native Americans and later enhanced by the Spanish; and

WHEREAS, 56 years ago, James Lasyone’s - opened his meat pie kitchen which is still in operation today in Historic Downtown Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS, the recipe of the meat pie has changed slightly from its inception and has been handed down from generation to generation; however, the basic ingredients and the process for creating a meat pie remains the same; and

WHEREAS, with an abundance of excitement in 2002, the Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival was formed to celebrate the noted culinary staple in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, the Natchitoches meat pie was named Louisiana 's official meat pie, and Natchitoches was one of the last cities to not have an identified food festival until 2002; and

WHEREAS, the annual Festival attracts visitors from throughout the state and over a dozen of other states as well each year; and

WHEREAS, the festival has always been a family-oriented, non-admission required event over a two-day period in Downtown Natchitoches, helping to enhance the area's economy with individual activities that can be enjoyed at a small fee; and

WHEREAS, the organizing committee for the Festival is a complete volunteer committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, and the Natchitoches City Council, do hereby proclaim September 18 and 19, 2026 as:

NATCHITOCHES MEAT PIE FESTIVAL DAY’S

in the City of Natchitoches, and invite all residents to participate and enjoy the two-day Festival, that will include various bands, fireworks, vendors, children’s performances and play area, and a “how to” workshop will encompass this year’s celebration.

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 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

ORDINANCE NO. 028 OF 2026

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF NATCHITOCHES TO AWARD
THE BID FOR HANGAR DOOR REPLACEMENT AT THE NATCHITOCHES REGIONAL
AIRPORT
(BID NO. 0683)**

WHEREAS, Resolution No.045 of 2026 was passed by the Natchitoches City Council on June 8, 2026 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for Hangar Door Replacement at the Natchitoches Regional Airport (Bid No. 0683); and

WHEREAS, this bid was advertised in the *Natchitoches Times* on, June 18, June 25 and July 2, 2026 in accordance with law; and

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

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| (1) | Hesnor Contractor, Inc.
Ville Platte, LA..... | \$193,728.00 |
| (2) | Martin Metal Construction.
Natchitoches, LA | \$380,210.00 |
| (3) | GDC Industrial, Inc.
Sulphur Springs, TX | \$468,868.00 |

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2026 the appointed committee of, Clarissa Brown-Smith, Finance Director; Edd Lee, Director of Purchasing; Justin Foshee, Airport Manager and Christopher Petite, Councilman, reviewed the bid proposals for Hangar Door Replacement at the Natchitoches Regional Airport (Bid No. 0683); and

WHEREAS, the above appointed committee members unanimously recommend the City award the bid to the lowest bidder **Hesnor Contractor, Inc.**, in the amount of **\$193,728.00**.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on August 10, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on August 20, 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 on this 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 25th day of August 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. 029 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE REVOKING THE DEDICATION OF A PORTION OF THIRD STREET WHICH IS SITUATED IN SECTION 139, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, CITY AND PARISH OF NATCHITOCHES AND BEING THAT PORTION OF THIRD STREET LOCATED SOUTH OF CHURCH STREET, DECLARING THAT SAID PORTION OF THIRD STREET IS ABANDONED AND THE DEDICATION REVOKED, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ORDINANCE, AND SAVINGS CLAUSE

WHEREAS, an application has been made to the City of Natchitoches by The First Baptist Church of Natchitoches and Fair Legacy III, L.L.C., requesting the revocation of the dedication of a portion of a street known as Third Street, but limited to that portion of Third Street which is located South of the intersection of Third Street and Church Street, as shown and depicted in “yellow” on the attached copy of assessor’s map; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the portion of Third Street to be abandoned is more fully shown and depicted on the above referenced copy of assessor’s map, and is more fully described as follows, to-wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land, in the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, located in Section 139, Township 9 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at the Southwest corner of the intersection of Church Street and Third Street, thence in a southerly direction along the western right of way a distance of 120 feet, more or less, to the southerly terminus of Third Street, thence in an easterly direction a distance of 60 feet, more or less, to the easterly right of way of Third Street, thence in a northerly direction along the eastern right of way of Third Street to the southerly right of way of Church Street (also being the southeasterly intersection of Church Street and Third Street), thence in a westerly direction along the southerly right of way of Church Street a distance of 60 feet, more or less to the point of beginning, also being described as all that portion of Third Street which is situated and located South of Church Street.

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City has made an examination of the matter and has determined that the portion of Third Street, described above, is not used by the public, has not been used by the public for many years, and is not needed by the public for any public

purpose; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that the property will not be needed for any public purposes in the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the right of way which will be abandoned is of no value to anyone except the adjoining property owners; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the above described right of way is not being used for public access and the City Council is of the opinion that above described right of way, should be abandoned and the dedication revoked; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the portion of Third Street to be abandoned is adjoined by property of The First Baptist Church of Natchitoches on the South and East and by property of Fair Legacy, III, L.L.C. on the West; and

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

SECTION I: That the portion of Third Street located South of Church Street, as shown and depicted on the assessor's map in "yellow", is hereby declared to be abandoned and no longer needed for public purposes whatsoever, and it is further declared that said portion of Third Street has not been used by the public and there is no necessity for its use by the public in the foreseeable future, said portion of Third Street being more fully described as follows, to-wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land, in the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, located in Section 139, Township 9 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at the Southwest corner of the intersection of Church Street and Third Street, thence in a southerly direction along the western right of way a distance of 120 feet, more or less, to the southerly terminus of Third Street, thence in an easterly direction a distance of 60 feet, more or less, to the easterly right of way of Third Street, thence in a northerly direction along the eastern right of way of Third Street to the southerly right of way of Church Street (also being the southeasterly intersection of Church Street and Third Street), thence in a westerly direction along the southerly right of

way of Church Street a distance of 60 feet, more or less to the point of beginning, also being described as all that portion of Third Street which is situated and located South of Church Street.

SECTION II: That the above described portion of Third Street is to be abandoned.

SECTION III: The right of way associated with above described portion of Third Street is hereby declared to be abandoned, and insofar as same may have been dedicated as a public way, said dedication is hereby declared revoked.

SECTION IV: Under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 48:701, the City Council declares that the soil embracing the former right-of-way of the above described right of way of Third Street shall, and do hereby revert to the present owners of the land contiguous thereto, in accordance with law.

SECTION V: It is understood that this Revocation applies only to the portion of Third Street above described.

SECTION VI: That a copy of this Ordinance be recorded in the Conveyance Records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana.

SECTION VII: That all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict are hereby revoked.

SECTION VIII: THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect after publication in accordance with law.

SECTION IX: That if any portion of this Ordinance is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional in any manner, the invalidity shall be limited to that particular section or provision and shall not effect 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 provision herein.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on August 10, 2026, and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on August 20, 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 on this 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

BETTY SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE

Delivered to the Mayor on the 25th day of August 2026 at 10:00 A.M

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Petite at the August 24, 2026 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 030 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, TO EXECUTE A LEASE IN FAVOR OF J L AVIATION, INC., OF THAT 24,500 SQUARE FOOT AREAS SHOWN AND DEPICTED ON A MAY 21, 2026 SURVEY BRANDON C. THORNTON, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING OF THE LEASE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches is the owner of the property known as the Natchitoches Regional Airport, and lots within that Airport are available for lease, and more particularly the City of Natchitoches is the owner of a 24,500 square foot area, more fully shown on the attached survey by Brandon Thornton, dated May 21, 2026; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Airport Director, Justin Foshee, has negotiated the terms of a lease to J L Aviation, Inc., of that property described as a 24,500 square foot area, more fully shown on the attached survey by Brandon Thornton, dated May 21, 2026; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the 24,500 square foot area is located to the North of Service hanger Number 2 and is more fully described on the survey by Thornton as follows, to-wit:

That certain piece, parcel or tract of land containing 0.562 acre, 24,500 square feet, more or less, located at the Natchitoches Regional Airport in Section 76, T9N, R7W, City of Natchitoches, Parish of Natchitoches, Northwestern Land District, Louisiana Principal Meridian, State of Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a NGS concrete monument having a Point ID of BX3075, know locally as “Mayeaux” having a Latitude of North 31 degrees 44 minutes 18.963 seconds and a Longitude of West 93 degrees 5 minutes 58.159 seconds; thence run North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 1,022.8 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 767.1 feet to a set ½ inch iron rod being the Point of Beginning of the herein described tract; thence run North 77 degrees 1 minutes 24 seconds East a distance of 175 feet to a set ½ inch iron rod; thence run South 12 degrees 58 minutes 36 seconds East a distance of 140 feet to a set ½ inch iron rod; thence run South 77 degrees 1 minute 24 seconds West a distance of 175 feet to a set ½ inch iron rod; thence run North 12 degrees 58 minutes 36 seconds West a distance of 140 feet to the Point of Beginning. (Sometimes hereinafter described as “Leased Property”)

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Leased Property is currently vacant and the proposed tenant intends to construct a hanger on the lease, which hanger will expand the services of the airport; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, under the authority of Louisiana Revised Statute 2:135.1 (D), the City has offered a lease with a term of twenty five (25) years with consideration \$0.12 per square foot or Two Thousand Nine Hundred Forty and 00/100 (\$2,940.00)

Dollars per year, all as set forth in the attached Lease Agreement by and between the City of Natchitoches, and J L Aviation, Inc., together with an option to renew for an additional twenty five year period; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City desires to lease that property described as a 24,500 square foot area, more fully shown on a survey by Brandon Thornton, dated May 21, 2026, under the terms set forth above and more particularly set forth in the lease attached hereto.

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

(1) That after due proceedings and advertisement, the said City does lease that property described as a 24,500 square foot area, more fully shown on a survey by Brandon Thornton, dated May 21, 2026, to J L Aviation, Inc., for the term of twenty five (25) years with an initial annual consideration of \$2,940, with an option to extend the lease for an additional twenty five (25) year term.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

(4) That the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, be and he is hereby authorized, after due proceedings had, and after the legal delays have run, to execute a lease in favor of J L Aviation, Inc., leasing that property described as a 24,500 square foot area, more fully shown on a survey by Brandon Thornton, dated May 21, 2026, for the term of Twenty five (25) years, with an option to extend for an additional twenty five (25) year term.

(5) 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.

(6) That the City takes cognizance of the fact that the property described above is not needed for public purposes by the City.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Harrington at the August 24, 2026 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 031 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SIX (6) MONTH MORATORIUM UPON THE CONSIDERATION, RECEIPT AND/OR PROCESSING OF ALL FUTURE AND PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR PLACEMENT OF A MURAL IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches finds it necessary to impose an immediate moratorium on the consideration, receipt and/or processing of all applications for any license or permit for the placement of murals in the Historic District of the City of Natchitoches, in order to provide time for research and possibly the development of and implementation of an ordinance that will provide clarification for the regulation and permitting of murals in the Natchitoches Historic District; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, an issue has recently come before the Natchitoches Historic District Commission regarding the placement of a mural within the Natchitoches Historic District, and questions have been raised regarding the regulation of murals under the current Historic District Ordinance and the possible impact that a mural may have to the character of the district and possible impact to the current designation of the Natchitoches Historic District as a National Landmark; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, for the purposes of this ordinance, a mural shall have the same meaning as the definition of “Sign” as is set forth in Section 16.1-40 of the Code of Ordinances, but shall also apply if there is **no** advertising purpose; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council is of the opinion that it is in the interest of the citizens of the City of Natchitoches, as well as the Natchitoches Historic District, to undertake research aimed at the possible development of an ordinance that will provide for clear and objective standards and regulations that protect the historic character of the Natchitoches Historic District which ensuring that any regulations comply with applicable constitutional requirements; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches would like to research and study how other historic districts regulate and enforce murals and review guidelines from the United States Department of the Interior in order to determine what guidelines, standards, criteria and procedures are necessary to regulate murals in the Natchitoches Historic District; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches has the authority to adopt a moratorium for the purpose of preserving the status quo while guidelines, standards, criteria and procedures are considered, prepared and adopted; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City of Natchitoches hereby imposes a moratorium upon the consideration, receipt and/or processing of all applications or permits for placement of murals in the Natchitoches Historic District for six (6) months from the effective date of this Ordinance until the City has completed its study and implemented any changes deemed necessary.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a Public Hearing is hereby called for on this 14th day of September, 2026, to consider this moratorium.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 059 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A TEMPORARY SITE LICENSE WITH NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO EXECUTE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches has negotiated a Temporary Site License (sometimes hereinafter “Agreement”) with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (sometimes hereinafter “Cingular”), which will allow Cingular to temporarily locate communications transmitting and receiving equipment on property of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Agreement would provide for improved communications for citizens of and visitors to the City of Natchitoches during a period of increased tourism from October 3, 2026 through January 9, 2027; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that the Agreement will be beneficial to the citizens of the City of Natchitoches as well as visitors to the City as the increase in effective cellular communication will result in an increase safety of citizens and visitors as well as convenience to citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana has reviewed and approved the attached Temporary Site License, has approved same and desires to authorize the Mayor, Ronnie Williams, Jr., to execute same; and

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, that the attached Temporary Site License is approved and that the Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to execute the attached Temporary Site License.

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 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

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

RESOLUTION NO. 060 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BLAKE DODSON
AS THE RECREATION DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

WHEREAS, Section 408 of the Home Rule Charter provides that the head of the Recreation Department shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Council, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the position for Recreation Director is vacant; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, The City Council desires to confirm the appointment of Blake Dodson as Recreation Director upon the recommendation of the Mayor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council in legal session convened, that the appointment of Blake Dodson to the position of Recreation Director is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the duties of the Recreation Director shall be those duties as set forth in Section 4.08 of the Home Rule Charter.

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 24th day of August 2026.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next scheduled City Council meeting will be Monday, September 14, 2026.
- The City of Natchitoches offices will be closed on Friday, September 4th, 2026, for Employee Appreciation Day and Monday, September 7, 2026, in honor of Labor Day.

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment, and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

MRS. SMITH-KIRKENDOLL, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE