

TOWN OF MANY
Regular Council Meeting
August 22, 2023 – Tuesday

Postponed from August 15,2023 due to the COVID illness being within the office personnel

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order at 5:01 p.m. by Mayor Hable
2. Prayer by Mary Perry
3. Pledge by Mayor Hable
4. Roll Call: Present: Councilwomen: Mary Perry, Bobbie Jackson, Cherry Williams, Mary Brocato; Absent: Anita Darwin. Also present: Town Clerk Amie Brown, Deputy Clerk Valisa King, Town Attorney Chris Sylvia, Police Chief Cheryl Wooley, Asst. Police Chief Mason Wiley; Operations Manager Jeremy Koss, Events Committee Secretary Lauren Gentry, Consultant Corwin Washington .
5. Approve Minutes: July 25, 2023 – Regular Session on motion by Brocato, second by Perry. Motion Passes.
6. Amend Agenda: None
7. Open for Public Comment relating to any item on agenda which requires council vote. None
8. Guests: Linda Smith, Roderick Davis, Chris Abrahams, Cedrick Campbell, Tark Holden

Old Business

None

Departments

1. Water-Chlorine cleanse starting September 11th; working on leaks; 2 water thefts are being worked on with the police department
2. Sewer-Working on sewer line replacement on Dillon; sewer smoke tests this fall; Corwin Washington, Sewer Consultant-talked to Jeremy Braster with Vicksburg office of Army Corps of Engineers-they typically don't deal with private properties but would come out and look at the creek itself; working on asset management plan; plans are to go to Baton Rouge to lobby to get the intake plant moved.
3. Street-Working on sign at High School for State Champions; overlaid Lee and Fraser; Bruce Taylor tore down 4 houses and another homeowner tore a house down; got a new dump trailer last week; starting a list for junk cars; waiting on list from Councilwomen for street overlays
4. Animal Control-3 dogs and 6 cats picked up; working on a dead dog case; will be doing animal welfare checks
5. Grants-Suzanne out sick; no report
6. Chief's Report-14 arrests last month; Josh Corley going to POST on August 28th, all other officers are now POST certified; SRO grant was renewed; officers made a substantial drug bust in a recent traffic stop; extra patrols looking for signs of fire; Chief's recommendation to move Josh Corley from Part Time to Full time beginning 8-16-23. Motion by Brocato, second by Jackson, motion passed.

New Business

1. Ordinance #7 of 2023 – All Elected Officials and Contract Labor Employees are to be Paid by the Approved Mileage Rate Listed in the Louisiana State Travel Guide which is Adopted by the Town, and not an Hourly Rate, when Traveling for Business for the Town of Many. Motion by Brocato, second by Jackson, motion passes.
2. Ordinance #8 of 2023 – Annexation of 101 Zachary Taylor Road into the City Limits of Many for Chris Abrahams; motion by Brocato, second by Perry, motion passes. Abrahams spoke saying he may be running for Chief of Police; Hable stated he has a very cordial relationship with Chief Wooley; he visited homes or homeowners between city limits and Abrahams home yesterday; majority said they would not want to be annexed in. Councilwoman Brocato asked Asst. Chief Wiley if he did move into the city limits to which he said yes; Williams said this is her district by the substation and we just spent thousands of dollars on redistricting, if it passes will it affect her district? Hable said no, and that no council person has equal numbers as it has to be a 5% variance.
3. Resolution #6 of 2023 - To deem 50kW Baldor Brand Generator as Surplus Property and List Online through LAMATS with a Minimum Bid of \$5,000. Motion by Williams, second by Perry. Motion passes.
4. Resolution #7 of 2023 – Adopt the millage rate for 2023 Tax Year – 5.34 Mills; motion by Williams, second by Jackson. Motion passes.
5. To enter into a 50-year lease agreement with Rook Properties, LLC to place a sign at Hill Street and pay to the Town of Many a one-time lump sum payment of \$10,000.00 with \$450/month of free advertising. Motion to Table decision by Perry, second by Jackson. Motion passes.
6. Appoint Kenneth D. Folden & Co. as the auditing firm for our FY 2022-2023 Audit and approve Mayor to sign agreement letter. Motion by Jackson, second by Perry. Motion passes.
7. Zoning: a. Linda Smith – To place a 16x84 mobile home on the vacant lot at 1530 E. Louisiana Ave. Zoning Commission recommends approval. Motion to approve by Brocato, second by Perry. Motion passes.
b. Roderick Davis – To place a 16x80 mobile home on the vacant lot at 215 Taylor Street. Zoning Commission recommends approval. Motion to approve by Perry, second by Brocato. Motion passes.
c. Danny Manuel – To place a single-wide mobile home on the lot at 425 S. Byles Street. Zoning Commission recommendation is to deny. Motion by Williams to deny, second by Perry. Motion passes.

Reports

1. Financial: a. Budget (June was tabled from last month) Motion to table July by Williams, second by Brocato. Motion passes.
 - b. Payables
 - c. Bank Statements
 - d. Overtime
 - e. Verification of Taxes Paid
 - f. Verification of Insurance Paid

Motion to accept reports by Perry, second by Jackson. Motion passes.

2. Sales Tax: Increase of 12.92% over July 2022 reported by Mayor Hable.
3. Tourism-Report by Jackson
4. Cultural, Events & Beautification Committee Report by Lauren Gentry. She's been talking to Johathan Williams with Chef's Cuisines for all food trucks to get together for one day to raise money for the fire victims. Williams said they could do it the old Williams Bros. building but they would need to have their own generators; supplied minutes from the Aug 10, 2023 Events meeting and the August through December schedule of events.
5. Fire Board-Report by Mayor Hable; Keep First Responders in your prayers
6. Airport-Lee Woods will be entering his final month of managing the airport and Miles Greer will take over.
7. Remarks from Council Members-Perry, none; Jackson, thank you for tearing down house on Trace Street, it looks much better. Need rip rap on Key, Kelly, and Godfrey; Williams turned in 10 addresses with abandoned vehicles and urges other council members to do the same; start another list of condemned homes; check on iPads for Council packets; Brocato-Political Forum on Sept 21st, 6:30 pm at Many Community Center; will live-stream on our Town FB page.

Adjourn at 6:39 p.m. on motion by Jackson, second by Perry. Motion passes.

Robert H. Hable, Jr., Mayor



Amie Brown, Clerk