

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
MARCH 28, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of Morgan City, Louisiana, met at 6:00 pm (local time) in regular session, this date, in the City Court Building, Highway 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana.

There were present: Honorable Frank P. Grizzaffi, III Mayor; and Council Members Ron Bias, James Fontenot, Tim Hymel, Mark Stephens and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Marcus Folse, Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Terry Bunner.

The Morgan City 9 & 10 Year Old Biddy Basketball Single A National Runner Ups and the Morgan City High School Fancy Dancers each received a Positive Image Award for March, 2017.

Mrs. Cecelia "Beanie" Bonin, Public Defender for the 16th Judicial District, addressed the Council regarding her office and what a district defender and a public defender does. She asked that they Mayor and Council support her office and do everything in their power to fight any potential budget cuts.

Mrs. Tammy Rogers with Chez Hope invited the Mayor and Council as well as the public to participate in their second annual Trivia Night on Saturday, April 1, 2017. She stated she currently had 29 tables and her goal was 35. She said that tables were still available for purchase through Chez Hope.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that Dr. F. Scott Sicard had requested that the Porch Fest event date be changed to May 6, 2017 because of porch availability. A motion to change the Porch Fest date to May 6, 2017 was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Reverend Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

The minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Reverend Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending February 28, 2017.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: March 28, 2017
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended February 28, 2017.

Attached is a summary that compares our actual revenues and expenses to our operational budget for our major funds subject to budgetary control for the period ending February 28, 2017. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Actual total revenues are under budget by \$121,657. Sales taxes in General Fund were over budget by \$3,000 only due to the City-wide 3/10 sales tax which was over budget by \$11,000 in January. Occupational licenses was under budget by \$162,000. Operating expense are below budget by \$122,800. The next loss, after transfers, of \$247,500 is a favorable variance of \$1,200 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are under budget by \$167,600, with operational expenses also under budget by \$497,800. Energy and gas costs are \$319,700 under budget. The net income, after transfers, of \$145,700 creates another favorable variance of \$347,300.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating expenses are \$6,900 under budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$48,500. The net income, after transfers, of \$73,000 leaves another favorable variance of \$41,600.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Deborah Garber
 Deborah Garber
 Finance Director

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
 Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
 Period Ended February 28, 2017

GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	2017	2017	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			
General Fund Recreation Fund	1,010,590	1,145,630	(135,040)
Library Fund Auditorium Fund	10,001	8,950	1,051
	4,276	2,350	1,926
Lake End Park Fund	15,631	12,317	3,314
	97,670	90,578	7,092
Total Revenues	1,138,168	1,259,825	(121,657)
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund Recreation Fund	1,733,355	1,758,343	(24,988)
	46,099	83,521	(37,422)
Library Fund Auditorium Fund	22,027	24,322	(2,295)
	79,470	97,546	(18,076)
Lake End Park Fund	118,126	158,162	(40,036)
Total Expenses	1,999,077	2,121,894	(122,817)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	633,333	633,340	(7)
Transfers to Funds	(20,000)	(20,000)	0
Net Transfers	613,333	613,340	(7)
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	(247,576)	(248,729)	1,153
UTILITY FUND			
Total Revenues	2,840,561	3,008,183	(167,622)
Total Expenditures	2,155,743	2,653,598	(497,855)
Net Excess	684,818	354,585	330,233
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(539,078)	(556,170)	17,092
Excess net of transfers	145,740	(201,585)	347,325
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total Revenues	439,261	446,167	(6,906)
Total Expenses	507,371	555,894	(48,523)
Net Excess	(68,110)	(109,727)	41,617

Net Transfers/non- operating expenses	141,179	141,170	9
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	<u>73,069</u>	<u>31,443</u>	<u>41,626</u>

A motion to accept the financial statement was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the Finance Committee Recommendations, whereupon,

Mr. Hymel offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-19

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the following Finance Committee recommendations be and the same are hereby approved:

1. Allocate up to \$20,000 from Lake End Park Building & Maintenance account to purchase felt and limestone for the Lake End Parkway area and to make any necessary repairs at the extended stay section of the Parkway.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Hymel, Tamporello, Bias, Fontenot, Stephens
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 28th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
 Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
 Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
 Debbie Harrington
 Clerk

In the matter of the LEPA report, Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he had been receiving calls regarding the noise that the plant was making around 4 in the morning. He said that Cordell Grand, the General Manager of LEPA stated that there would be some sound dampening insulation installed on April 4 that should help with the noise. The plant was expected to move into 24 hour operation mode over the summer months. Mr. Patrick Cloutier asked the Mayor for a more detailed LEPA report. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that during the last LEPA meeting, they had entered executive session and LEPA was currently on the defending end of a lawsuit with a contractor. LEPA says that there was 11.8 million dollars in liquidated damages. A Louisiana attorney had been hired by LEPA for \$25,000 to represent them in Federal Court. Mr. Cloutier asked if LEPA #1 was making money whether it generated electricity or not. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he would have to get with Mr. Grand and get an answer to that question. He asked where Morgan City's rates for power were currently compared to other cities. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the City was in the top 5 of all power companies in Louisiana. Mr. Cloutier questioned how the rates were determined. Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director stated that there was a computation each month and the only thing that changed was the energy adjustment and the gas adjustment. She told him to give her a call at City Hall and she would give him a more detailed explanation of the computation and answer any question he may have.

The next matter on the agenda was the Fair Housing Month resolution, whereupon,

Reverend Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-20

WHEREAS, the strength of our nation flows from the promise of individual equality and freedom of choice; and

WHEREAS, the 49th Anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month April, is an occasion of all Americans, individually and collectively, to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination, whenever it exists. This law guarantees for each citizen that critical, personal element of freedom of choice-selection of the home; and

WHEREAS, a fair housing law has been passed by the State of Louisiana; and implementation of that law requires the positive commitment, involvement and support of all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the department and agencies of the State of Louisiana are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea, but an ideal for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the month of April, 2017 be proclaimed as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

In Morgan City, Louisiana and do hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of Morgan City to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

Mr. Fontenot seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Fontenot, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 28th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he had been approached by Aqua Metric to participate in a Pilot Program for water and electricity automated meter readings. He said the City would have to purchase radio dials that would screw into the existing water meters at a cost of \$6,000. Marquis Manor subdivision would be the test subdivision because of the 34 homes in it. The remaining radio dials would be placed at various locations throughout the City to check for antenna strength and efficiency. He stated that after four months, the Council would then make a decision to move forward with the automation or not. The estimated cost would be \$1.5 million for the entire City, whereupon,

Reverend Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-21

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of participating in the Flex Net Pilot Program that provides remote reading of water and electric meters, and

WHEREAS, the firm of Thirkettle Corporation d/b/a Aqua Metric has submitted a proposal to accomplish this,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute a contract with said Thirkettle Corporation d/b/a Aqua Metric.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Stephens, Fontenot, Hymel, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 28th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Avoca Island Ferry. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he had received a call from the Parish for the City to participate to keep the ferry running. Almost all of the property owners on the Island were willing to participate in the endeavor. The City had an electric feeder on the island that it needed to be able to access, so the City would commit \$5,000 to keep the ferry running, whereupon,

Mr. Stephens offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-22

WHEREAS, the St. Mary Parish Government was scheduled to cease operation of the Avoca Island Ferry due to budget constraints; and

WHEREAS, the City has utility feeder on Avoca Island that operates the locks and businesses on the South side of the railroad tracks and needs to be accessible to City crews; and

WHEREAS, an agreement has been made between St. Mary Parish Government, the St. Mary Levee District, the Terrebonne Parish Levee District, Avoca, Inc., the Avoca Island Duck Club, Cleco and the City to fund a portion of the operations of the ferry; and

WHEREAS the City has agreed to donate \$5,000 towards the operation of the Avoca Island Ferry; and

WHEREAS, the City and St. Mary Parish Government are desirous of entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement relative to the Avoca Island Ferry.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Mayor, Frank P. Grizzaffi, III be, and he is hereby authorized to sign any and all documents relative to the Avoca Island Ferry.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Stephens, Hymel, Bias, Fontenot, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 28th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

A motion to discuss the Property Sale ordinance that was tabled at the February meeting was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

The public hearing on the Property Sale Ordinances was opened. No one appeared for or against said ordinance, whereupon,

This ordinance was introduced with a first reading on January 24, 2017 and a second reading on February 21, 2017. Published by title on January 26, 2017 and February 24, 2017.

Mr. Tamporello offered the following ordinance, who moved for its adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-03

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council, the governing body of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, in regular session convened this 21st day of February, 2017 that:

SECTION 1:

Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712, the Mayor and Council of the City of Morgan City hereby declares the below described real property to be not needed for public purposed and shall therefore be sold at private or public sale in accordance with the law.

SECTION 2:

The said property lies in part within the servitude of the Atchafalaya Basin Levee District, and partly on the unprotected side of the levee, subject to flooding, and without use to the City; its sale will place the property back in commerce and be subject to taxation in accordance with the law.

SECTION 3:

The sale shall be for a price not less than that established by appraisal by a certified appraiser, payable in cash at the closing of this act of sale.

SECTION 4:

The property is described as follows:

Those parcels of land shown on the PLAN OF LAND by Ernest E. Optiz, Registered Land Surveyor, dated February 25, 1987, and recorded in book 30W, Entry No. 221,145, Page 296 of the conveyance records of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, beginning at a point which is 20' ± west of point D (the East bank of the Atchafalaya River), thence northerly along said east bank to a point which is an extension of point J, thence east 20 ± to point J. thence east to pointes H, N, O, P and continuing east to intersect with a point which is indicated on the said Plan of Land as Steel Sheeting On Levee, thence southerly along said Steel Sheeting on Levee to a point which is the extension of points D and C, thence west to points C and D and to the point of the beginning; LESS AND EXCEPT that parcel of land designated by the letters D, J, G, C, D.

SECTION 5:

The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary in carrying out the intent and purpose of this ordinance.

SECTION 6:

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional or repealed for any reason, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected hereby. That all laws or parts of law in conflict with this ordinance be and the same are repealed. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage within the time prescribed by law.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Tamporello, Hymel, Bias, Fontenot, Stephens
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Certified approved and adopted this 28th day of March, 2017.

Delivered to Mayor Grizzaffi at 3:00 pm, this 29th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Approved this 29th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III, Mayor

Received from Mayor at 3:15 pm on March 29, 2017.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Published: April 3, 2017

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Hymel and voted unanimously in favor of.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

/s/ Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor