

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
DECEMBER 20, 2022

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 Lee Dragna, Mayor; and Council Members Ron Bias, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: Mark Stephens.

Also present were Mr. Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Wendell Howse.

Mr. Raymond "Mac" Wade, Port of Morgan City President, gave a brief update to the Council. He stated that currently we had the best channel in history and the whole channel was currently open. This was great for businesses in the area. There were currently three quarter boats being built for the US Navy at Conrad Shipyards, with the possibility of ten more after those were complete. There were Defense Department contracts, with Swiftships currently building US Army landing craft. This was all great for hotels and restaurants in the area. There were three dredges under contract, one of which was currently underway. Two more were scheduled to begin in the first two weeks of January. Thirty-five million dollars was being invested at the Port on the East dock, ninety percent of which was being funded by the Department of Transportation and Development. Another fifteen million dollars was scheduled to be invested into the West Dock. After completion this would give 1,900' of waterfront.

Mr. Clarence Robinson with the Morgan City Housing Authority presented the Council with the annual PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) check. He also submitted a copy of the October 2021 – September 2022 Fiscal Report (copy on file).

Mayor Dragna read the following statement into record: "Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM at its regular meeting place, City Court Building, 7261 Hwy 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana, the Morgan City Council plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein."

Mayor Dragna asked the Council for permission to have a small fireworks show in conjunction with the Krewe of Galatea King & Queens Party/New Year's Eve Party at the Municipal Auditorium on December 31, 2022. A motion to approve the fireworks was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

The minutes of the November 15, 2022 and December 8, 2022 meetings were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending November 30, 2022.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: December 20, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended November 30, 2022.

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 November 30, 2022. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: These funds look very similar to prior month. The actual total revenues continue to come in over budget by \$1,108,905. Sales taxes in General Fund were over budget by \$533,000, Fines by \$145,000, and Parkway and Lake End Park by 178,000. Operating expenses are below budget by \$679,500. The net income, after transfers, of \$623,650 is a favorable variance of \$1,763,422 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are now over budget by \$1,634,728. The operational expenses are currently over budget by \$1,877,468. The purchased power cost is \$1,747,320 over budget and natural gas is over by \$260,000. The net loss, after transfers, of \$525,463 creates an unfavorable variance of \$193,715.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues remain under budget by \$51,103, with total operating expenses over budget by \$4,876. The net income, after transfers, of \$931,872 leaves a favorable variance this month of \$432,230.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Deborah Garber
Deborah Garber

**CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT**

Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended November 30, 2022

	NOVEMBER 2022	NOVEMBER 2022	
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			
General Fund	7,616,924	6,590,061	1,026,863
Recreation Fund	94,123	58,702	35,421
Library Fund	11,114	13,306	(2,192)
Auditorium Fund	341,327	321,876	19,451
Lake End Park Fund	882,269	704,226	178,043
State Prisoner Fund	201,946	350,627	(148,681)
Total Revenues	9,147,703	8,038,798	1,108,905
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	9,192,045	9,587,084	(395,039)
Recreation Fund	363,306	432,361	(69,055)
Library Fund	73,530	135,247	(61,717)
Auditorium Fund	460,587	441,537	19,050
Lake End Park Fund	773,095	907,624	(134,529)
State Prisoner Fund	739,157	777,384	(38,227)
Total Expenses	11,601,720	12,281,237	(679,517)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	4,082,667	3,933,667	149,000
Transfers to Funds	(1,005,000)	(831,000)	(174,000)
Net Transfers	3,077,667	3,102,667	(25,000)
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	623,650	(1,139,772)	1,763,422
UTILITY FUND			
Total			
Revenues	21,984,373	20,349,645	1,634,728
Total Expenditures	19,379,966	17,502,498	1,877,468
Net			
Excess	2,604,407	2,847,147	(242,740)
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(3,129,870)	(3,178,895)	49,025
Excess net of transfers	(525,463)	(331,748)	(193,715)
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total	2,727,277	2,778,380	(51,103)

Revenues			
Total			
Expenses	3,254,752	3,249,876	4,876
Net			
Excess	(527,475)	(471,496)	(55,979)
Net Transfers/non-			
operating expenses	1,459,347	971,138	488,209
Excess net of transfers			
and non-operating	931,872	499,642	432,230

A motion to accept the financial statement was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the canvassing of the election returns; whereupon,

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Hymel and seconded by Mr. Tamporello:

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-47

A resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, to authorize the renewal of a sales and use tax therein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Morgan City Council (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022 (the "Election"), to authorize the renewal of a sales and use tax therein pursuant to the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

SALES TAX RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), be authorized to continue to levy a tax of three tenths of one percent (3/10 %) (the "Tax") (an estimated \$790,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of twelve (12) years, beginning January 1, 2024, upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the City, as defined by law, with the avails or proceeds of the Tax, after paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of administering and collecting the Tax, to be dedicated and used for the purpose of paying the cost of constructing, improving, resurfacing, maintaining and providing street drainage for public streets, alleys, sidewalks and public wharves, and acquiring equipment therefor?

This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **1,932** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition and a total of **1,146** votes cast **AGAINST** the Proposition, resulting in a majority of **786** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by Act 205 of the Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana for the year 2019.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of St. Mary, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Hymel, Tamporello, Bias, Domangue
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Stephens

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 20th day of December, 2022.

Clerk

Mayor

PROCÈS VERBAL OF THE CANVASS OF THE VOTES CAST AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the City Court Building, 7261 Hwy. 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana, the Morgan City Council, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), and being the authority ordering the special election held therein on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, with the following members present:

Pastor Bias, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel, Lou Tamporello;

There being absent: Mark Stephens;

did, in open and public session, examine the official certified tabulations of votes cast at the said election, and did examine and canvass the returns of the said election, there having been submitted at said election the following proposition, to wit:

SALES TAX RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), be authorized to continue to levy a tax of three tenths of one percent (3/10 %) (the "Tax") (an estimated \$790,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of twelve (12) years, beginning January 1, 2024, upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the City, as defined by law, with the avails or proceeds of the Tax, after paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of administering and collecting the Tax, to be dedicated and used for the purpose of paying the cost of constructing, improving, resurfacing, maintaining and providing street drainage for public streets, alleys, sidewalks and public wharves, and acquiring equipment therefor?

There was found by said count and canvass that there was a total of **1,932** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition and a total of **1,146** votes cast **AGAINST** Proposition, as hereinabove set forth, and it was further found and determined that there was a majority of **786** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** Proposition as hereinabove set forth.

Therefore, the Governing Authority did declare and proclaim and does hereby declare and proclaim in open and public session that the Proposition as hereinabove set forth was duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the said special election held in the City on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

Results by precinct are available from the Clerk of this Governing Authority during regular business hours or via the Louisiana Secretary of State's website (voterportal.sos.la.gov).

Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part of this *Procès Verbal* is a copy of the Notice of Special Election and proof of publication thereof.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Morgan City, Louisiana, on this, the 20th day of December, 2022.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of a resolution adopted by the Morgan City Council (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), on May 24, 2022, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election will be held within the City on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022**, and that at the said election there will be submitted to all registered voters in the City qualified and entitled to vote at the said election under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Louisiana and the Constitution of the United States, the following proposition, to-wit:

SALES TAX RENEWAL PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), be authorized to continue to levy a tax of three tenths of one percent (3/10 %) (the "Tax") (an estimated \$790,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of twelve (12) years, beginning January 1, 2024, upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption, and the storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and on sales of services in the City, as defined by law, with the avails or proceeds of the Tax, after paying the reasonable and necessary expenses of administering and collecting the Tax, to be dedicated and used for the purpose of paying the cost of constructing, improving, resurfacing, maintaining and providing street drainage for public streets, alleys, sidewalks and public wharves, and acquiring equipment therefor?

The said special election shall be held at the polling places for the following precincts, which polls will open at six o'clock (6:00) a.m. and close at eight o'clock (8:00) p.m., in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 18:541, to wit:

PRECINCTS

- 35
- 36
- 37
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42(PART)
- 43(PART)

The polling places for the precincts set forth above are hereby designated as the polling places at which to hold the said election, and the Commissioners-in-Charge and Commissioners, respectively, shall be those persons designated according to law.

The estimated cost of this election as determined by the Secretary of State based upon the provisions of Chapter 8-A of Title 18 and actual costs of similar elections is \$3,700.

The said special election will be held in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 5, Chapter 6-A and Chapter 6-B of Title 18 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional and statutory authority, and the officers appointed to hold the said election, as provided in this Notice of Special Election, or such substitutes therefor as may be selected and designated in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1287, will make due returns thereof to said Governing Authority, and NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Governing Authority will meet at its regular meeting place, the City Court Building, 7261 Hwy. 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**, at **SIX O'CLOCK (6:00) P.M.**, and shall then and there in open and public session proceed to examine and canvass the returns and declare the result of the said special election. All registered voters of the City are entitled to vote at said special election and voting machines will be used.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Morgan City, Louisiana, on this, the 24th day of May, 2022.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Clerk

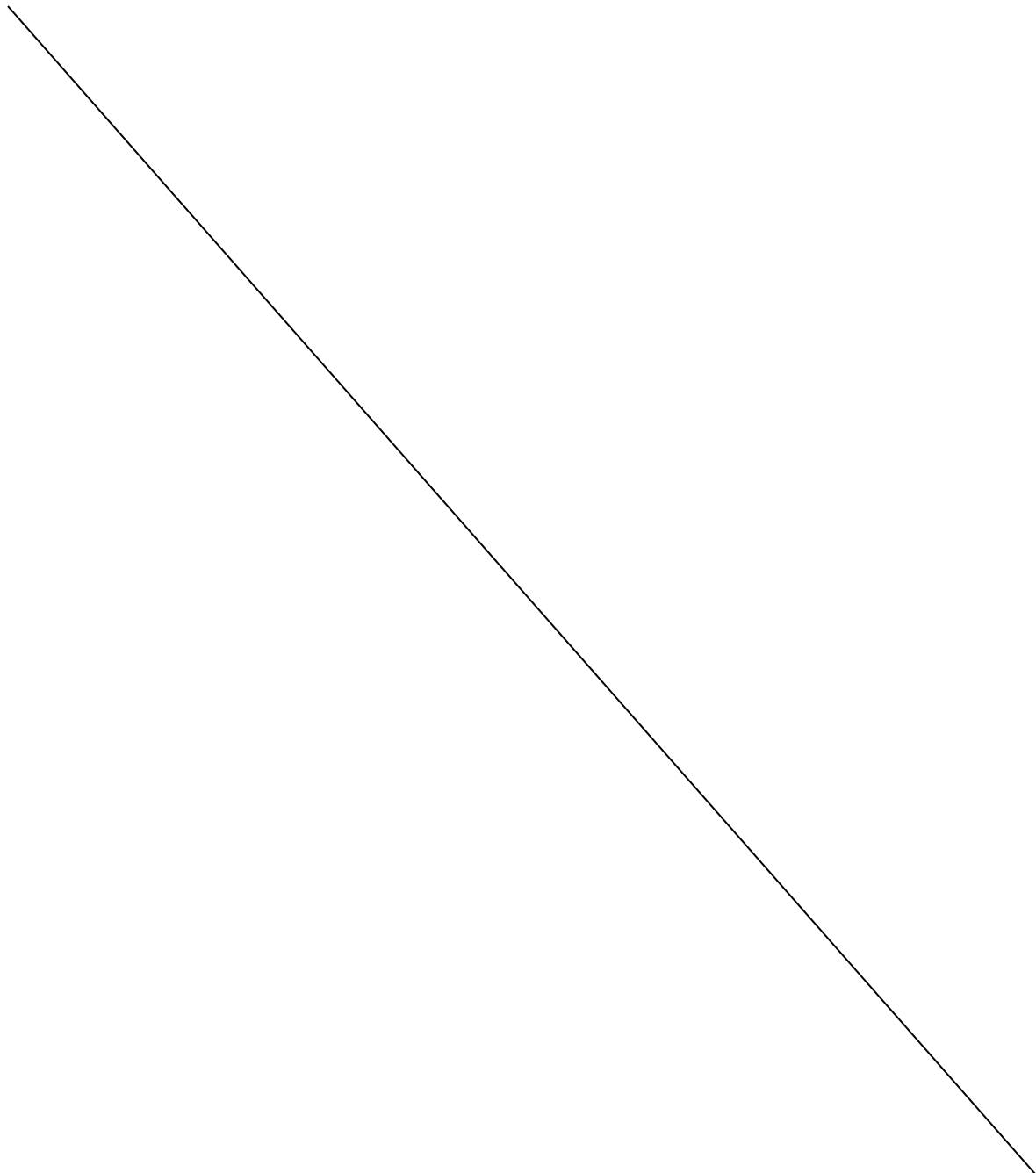
PROCLAMATION

I, the undersigned Mayor of the Morgan City Council, State of Louisiana, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "City"), do hereby declare, proclaim and announce that the proposition submitted at the special election held in the City on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, was CARRIED by a majority of the votes cast at the said special election, all as described and set out in the above *Procès Verbal*.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Morgan City, Louisiana, on this, the 20th day of December, 2022.

Mayor

The public hearing for the Sales Tax Renewal Ordinance was opened. No one appeared for or against said ordinance; whereupon,



Mayor Dragna stated that Finance Director Deborah Garber had asked that the 2022 Budget Amendment be adopted at the January meeting when numbers could be closer to actual.

Mayor Dragna notified the public that the new fire truck had come in. He stated that the money from the Federal Government was for tangible things and this is one of the things it was used for.

Pastor Bias wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Lee Dragna
Mayor