

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
MARCH 24, 2020

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, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel, Mark Stephens, and present by live video was Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

The invocation was given by Pastor Bias.

There was no Positive Image for the Month of March.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that due to the quarantine imposed by Governor Edwards in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the public was not allowed at the meeting. The meeting would be live streamed and he would give fifteen minutes for public comments regarding the agenda to be emailed to [info@cityofmc.com](mailto:info@cityofmc.com). He read the agenda into record and stated the meeting would be reconvened in fifteen minutes. The meeting was paused at 6:03 PM. Mayor Grizzaffi reconvened the meeting at 6:18 PM.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that during the time allotted, two questions were received by email. The first was regarding what a person should do if they contracted COVID-19. He stated that it was advised that you self-quarantine and contact your doctor for further instructions. The second question was regarding the late fees and disconnects on utility bills. He stated that those items were scheduled to be discussed at length later in the meeting.

The minutes of the February 18, 2020 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that Mrs. Garber had submitted the following financial statement for the period ending February 29, 2020.

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**MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**DATE:** March 24, 2020  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Deborah Garber  
**RE:** Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended February 29, 2020.

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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 29, 2020. The following comments are related thereto:

**General and Ancillary Funds:** Actual total revenues remain over budget by \$46,363. Sales taxes in General Fund were under budget by \$1,625. Operating expenses are below budget by \$89,200. The net loss, after transfers, of \$55,505 is a favorable variance of \$135,500 compared to the budget.

**Utility Fund:** Actual revenues are under budget by \$259,700, with operational expenses also under budget by \$424,200. The net income, after transfers, of \$193,800 creates a favorable variance this month of \$165,000.

**Sanitation and Sewer Fund:** The operating revenues are \$16,800 under budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$41,400. The net income, after transfers, of \$139,800 leaves another favorable variance of \$24,700.

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 29, 2020

	<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b>	
<b>GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
General Fund	1,093,849	1,055,012	38,837
Recreation Fund	13,937	12,008	1,929
Library Fund	2,623	2,603	20
Auditorium Fund	20,549	20,025	524
Lake End Park Fund	99,433	94,380	5,053
Total Revenues	1,230,391	1,184,028	46,363
<b>EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL</b>			
General Fund	1,581,709	1,637,521	(55,812)
Recreation Fund	52,984	59,830	(6,845)
Library Fund	15,468	19,358	(3,890)
Auditorium Fund	67,264	78,702	(11,438)
Lake End Park Fund	122,137	133,360	(11,223)
Total Expenses	1,839,562	1,928,770	(89,208)
<b>TRANSFERS</b>			
Transfers from Funds	601,666	601,666	0
Transfers to Funds	(48,000)	(48,000)	0
Net Transfers	553,666	553,666	0
<b>EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS</b>	(55,505)	(191,076)	135,571
<b>UTILITY FUND</b>			
Total			
Revenues	3,198,240	3,458,005	(259,765)
Total Expenditures	2,438,903	2,863,115	(424,212)
Net			
Excess	759,337	594,890	164,448
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(565,520)	(566,167)	647
Excess net of transfers	193,818	28,723	165,095
<b>SANITATION AND SEWER FUND</b>			
Total			
Revenues	498,335	515,117	(16,782)
Total Expenses	479,859	521,253	(41,394)
Net			
Excess	18,476	(6,135)	24,611
Net Transfers/non-operating expenses	121,281	121,200	81
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	139,757	115,065	24,692

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

The next matter on the agenda was the discussion about the utility bills. Mayor Grizzaffi offered a plan for consideration of the council. He suggested that effective March 20, 2020, the start of the new billing cycle, all disconnects be suspended. All late charges and convenience fees for online payment of bills would also be suspended. Payments could be made by credit card over the phone by calling City Hall. There was a drop box that could be used to pay utility bills and taxes by check or money order. He stated that no utility bills would be forgiven, and highly encouraged all citizens to pay something towards their bill. He advised that all situations would be taken on a case by case basis as we moved through this pandemic. Mr. Stephens questioned how new connects were going to be handled. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that they could call City Hall and they would use email or the drop box to get the forms filled out and the deposits paid. Pastor Bias asked if this would be for the duration of the pandemic. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that it was being proposed for thirty days at this time, but would be reassessed if needed. He also cautioned the public that with additional people being home due to the quarantine additional electricity could be used. This was the time of year when the bills typically began to rise. A motion to approve the recommendations was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Domangue and voted unanimously in favor.

The Intergovernmental Agreement with the St. Mary Parish School Board for the use of Shannon Gym was the next matter on the agenda; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-16

WHEREAS, THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY, is a municipal corporation of the State of Louisiana, ("CITY") represented herein by Frank P. Grizzaffi, its duly authorized Mayor, and

WHEREAS, THE ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL BOARD, ("SCHOOL BOARD") a public entity represented herein by Teresa Bagwell, its duly authorized Superintendent or Michael Taylor, the President of the School Board; and

WHEREAS, the CITY and the SCHOOL BOARD have the authority to provide recreation programs for children and residents of St. Mary Parish; and

WHEREAS, the CITY operates programs, under its supervision and control, to provide for such recreation opportunities for children and residents; and

WHEREAS, the SCHOOL BOARD owns a facility which includes a gymnasium capable for use of such recreation programs; and

WHEREAS, the CITY and the SCHOOL BOARD wish to cooperate to provide the opportunity for such recreational activity to be conducted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that Frank P. Grizzaffi, III, Mayor, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to enter into any agreements and sign any documents necessary for the Intergovernmental Agreement with the SCHOOL BOARD for use of what is commonly known as Shannon Elementary School facility.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Domangue, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the area between First Street and Industrial Road was currently a shell road. He stated that it was utilized by several local companies and a decision was made to pave it. Informal bids had been received and the low bidder was Gray Construction; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-17

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City plans to complete a First Street Roadway Extension; and

WHEREAS, informal bids were received; and

WHEREAS, Gray Construction of Corp. of Morgan City submitted the low bid.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that Mayor Grizzaffi be, and that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute the contract between the City and Gray Construction, Corp. for the First Street Roadway Extension.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Stephens, Domangue, Bias, Hymel, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that in order to spend any funds not budgeted and in order to receive any possible help from the Federal Government to recoup any expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an emergency ordinance must be enacted; whereupon,

This emergency ordinance was introduced on March 24, 2020.

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

ORDINANCE NUMBER 20 - 02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY DECLARING A "STATE OF EMERGENCY" AND AUTHORIZING ANY EXPENDITURES AND/OR CONTRACTS DEEMED NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY – COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C 1601, et seq., has declared that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) constitutes a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 regarding the Public Health Emergency – COVID-19, declaring an imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by the virus, creating emergency conditions that threaten the lives and health of the citizens of the State of Louisiana, pursuant to La. R.S. 29:766; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City may activate any necessary emergency plans and activities in response to this event and may that this may exceed the City of Morgan City's capability to respond to this possibly life threatening crisis, and as such the City of Morgan City takes this measure in order to participate in any response and recovery plan administered by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and their power to act as administrator, as per La. R.S. 29:767 and pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance Act as amended, La. R.S. 29:721, et seq.

SECTION 1

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that beginning on March 24, 2020 and continuing until April 23, 2020, pursuant to the authority granted in La. R.S. 29:737, a State of Public Health Emergency is hereby declared for the City of Morgan City.

SECTION 2

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 laws in conflict with this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after its passage within the time prescribed by law.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

Certified approved and adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

Delivered to Mayor Grizzaffi at 3:00, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Approved this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

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

Received from Mayor Grizzaffi at 9:30 am on March 26, 2020.

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Published: March 31, 2020

Mr. Tamporello asked if Mayor Grizzaffi could give the public an update on what City Departments were closed. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that there was a telephone number for small businesses to contact with any questions. City Hall, the Police Department and Jail, City Court, Juvenile Services, the Fire Department; Planning & Zoning, the Recreation Department, Lake End Park, the Auditorium and the Library had all been closed to the public. There were still employees on hand to help by telephone. He stated that there was no public access to any ball parks, batting cages, playgrounds, skate parks, tennis courts or Brownell Carilion Tower. Lake End Park would take no new arrivals in both the Cabins and the RV Park until April 13, 2020. The grounds of Lake End Park and Lawrence Park, the Dog Park, Cemetery and the boat launch at Lake End Park were all still available for use as long as the rules were followed. There would be no committee or commission meetings during this time as well. He stated that the City was complying with all Federal and State guidelines.

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

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