

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
OCTOBER 24, 2023

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, Mark Stephens and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

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

The invocation was given by Reverend Tracey Smith.

There was no Positive Image recipient for the month of October.

Mayor Dragna stated that Mr. Calvin Aucoin had submitted a request to hold a Party in the Park on Saturday February 24, 2024, from Noon until 9 PM at Lake End Park (copy on file). A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Lee Price submitted a new request to hold the Christmas Bonfires on Lake End Parkway (copy on file). The Mayor said that he and Mr. Price had met with the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Dwayne Barbier and Charlie Solar, and they decided it would be best to hold the event on the peninsula by the judge's stand. There would be restrictions on height, diameter, and materials used for the bonfire. Mr. Price said he had three people already committed to build bonfires and expected there to be a lot more interest. Mayor Dragna suggested that they limit it to three bonfires for the first year and allow more in the following years. Mr. Price requested that it be held on the evening of Saturday, December 23, 2023. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Beverly Domengeaux with the St. Mary Council on Aging presented her annual report to the Mayor and Council. She thanked the City for their yearly contributions and stated that they had some big plans for the upcoming year.

Mr. Patrick Haller with the Morgan City Fire Department request permission to change the date for the annual 5K run. He stated everything would remain the same as far as times and the route, but the new date would be on November 11, 2023. A motion to approve the date change was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Tammy Quick addressed the Council regarding an event she would like to hold at Lake End Park on April 6, 2024. She said it would be in honor of one of the Naked and Afraid cast members that was on the show that was filmed here. It would be a fundraiser for PTSD, and to date she had thirteen cast members committed to attend the event. They would demonstrate skills they used on the show for the attendees. The event was tentatively set for 8AM to 5PM. Since they had already received approval from the Recreation and Parks Commission, Pastor Bias made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Patrina Coulon submitted pictures of the situation with the property on Eleventh Street. She stated it had been nine months and nothing had been done. Pastor Bias stated that originally there were nineteen cars at the property, it had gone down to twelve, then two weeks later was back to nineteen. Mayor Dragna stated that it may be time to bring the property owner to court. Pastor Bias stated that the property on Headland and Railroad had been cleaned up, but the property across the street needed to be addressed. He stated that Ray's Repair placed a building in the back of their shop but had not cleaned any of the mess up. Mr. Domangue stated that the cars on Fig Street had not been towed. Mayor Dragna asked Mr. Solar to look into these issues and see why the work had not been completed.

Pastor Bias wanted to remind everyone that it was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and that not only females could get breast cancer.

Mayor Dragna stated that the Christmas lights would be going up early this year in the park if anyone saw manlifts around Lawrence Park. He also stated that the new trash cans were being delivered, but were not to be used until November 1, 2024. He stated that it had been advertised on Facebook and there was also a notice on the new can.

Mr. Stephens asked about the sewer lift stations and if there were generators at all of them. Mayor Dragna stated that there was one near Cannata's that needed to be completed and the last one was in Lakeside Subdivision. They needed to figure out the placement of the generator because it was in someone's front yard and they did not want to block the view from their driveway. He stated that all sewer lift stations would have automatic generators by next year.

The minutes of the September 26, 2023 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending September 30, 2023.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: October 24, 2023
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended September 30, 2023.

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 September 30, 2023. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: The actual total revenues are over budget by \$717,241. A few of the main overages are as follows:

Sales taxes	215,000
Occupational licenses	128,500
Fines	157,000
Lake End Park/Parkway	128,990

Operating expenses are below budget by \$584,243. The net loss of \$4,138,889 is a favorable variance of \$1,439,170 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Timing of billing continues to be an issue. Revenues are now under budget by \$2,997,102 mainly due to electrical revenues. However, the operational expenses are also under budget \$1,976,360 with the cost of purchased power under budget \$1,977,116. The net income of \$4,040,023 creates an unfavorable budget variance in the amount of \$854,036.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$139,124 under budget, with total operating expenses under budget \$180,309. The net loss of \$479,308 leaves another favorable budget variance of \$34,863.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
 Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
 Period Ended September 30, 2023

	SEPTEMBER 2023	SEPTEMBER 2023	
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			

General Fund	5,508,834	4,984,241	524,593
Recreation Fund	87,163	50,081	37,082
Library Fund	9,306	10,507	(1,201)
Auditorium Fund	81,454	42,238	39,216
Lake End Park Fund	758,403	629,413	128,990
Cemetery			
Fund	133,676	112,502	21,174
State Prisoner Fund	155,273	187,886	(32,613)
Total Revenues	6,445,160	5,716,480	717,241
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	8,371,383	8,661,483	(290,100)
Recreation Fund	474,905	486,743	(11,838)
Library Fund	66,303	90,651	(24,348)
Auditorium Fund	354,478	382,045	(27,567)
Lake End Park Fund	631,626	784,885	(153,259)
Cemetery			
Fund	182,491	215,544	(33,053)
State Prisoner Fund	502,863	546,941	(44,078)
Total Expenses	10,584,049	11,168,292	(584,243)
Net Excess(Deficit)	(4,138,889)	(5,451,812)	1,301,484
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	2,936,247	2,810,000	126,247
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	2,936,247	2,810,000	126,247
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	(1,202,642)	(2,641,812)	1,439,170
UTILITY FUND			
Total			
Revenues	18,442,564	21,439,666	(2,997,102)
Total Expenditures	14,402,541	16,378,901	(1,976,360)
Net Excess(Deficit)	4,040,023	5,060,765	(1,020,742)
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(2,402,196)	(2,568,902)	166,706
Excess net of transfers	1,637,827	2,491,863	(854,036)
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total			
Revenues	2,348,604	2,487,728	(139,124)
Total			
Expenses	2,827,912	3,008,221	(180,309)
Net Excess(Deficit)	(479,308)	(520,493)	41,185
Net Transfers/non-operating expenses	876,531	882,853	(6,322)
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	397,223	362,360	34,863

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

In the matter of the Redistricting Update, Mayor Dragna said that no one was present to give the update. Mr. Tamporello said that at the last meeting there were some problems with the maps that were presented. He had contacted Josh Manning, and it was being looked into. If they were working with the wrong information, then it would have to be corrected.

Mayor Dragna said that he had a conference call with Gerard Bourgeois and another attorney regarding the 3M case. He said basically the resolution on the agenda would be authorizing the city not to drop the attorney firm. The City was in the lawsuit because they generated water. If the document was not signed by December, the City would not be included in the lawsuit. A motion to remain in the 3M Lawsuit was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna stated that the Wharf Committee only had one member, and there would be appointments later on the agenda.

The next matter on the agenda was the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund application. Mayor Dragna said that these monies would allow the city to complete phase 2 of the water plant at the same time as phase 1; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R:23-41

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City is in need of improvements to the Morgan City Water System, whose PWS ID No. is LA1101005; and

WHEREAS, loans for this project may be available through the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund program operated by the Louisiana Department of Health Office of Public Health.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City that:

Section 1. Lee Dragna, Mayor is hereby authorized to submit a Loan Application Form 100A and accompanying documents to the Department of Health on behalf of the City of Morgan City for the purpose of place Morgan City Water Treatment Plant Improvements Phase 2 project on the Comprehensive Priority List for funding through the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund program; and

Section 2. Lee Dragna, Mayor is further authorized to furnish such additional information as may reasonably required in connection with the Loan Application; and

Section 3. Lee Dragna, Mayor is hereby designated as the Official Project Representative and is hereby given signature authority for all relative documents for the City of Morgan City for any project that may result from the submission of the Loan Application Form 100A and accompanying documents. Furthermore, Lee Dragna, Mayor, representing the City of Morgan City, is hereby given the power and authority to do all things necessary to implement, maintain amend, and renew such documents relative to any such project.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24th day of October, 2023.

Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Health Insurance Committee recommendations; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 23-42

WHEREAS, the City's health insurance policy will expire December 31, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Health Insurance Committee, after reviewing the proposal from A. J.

Gallagher made the following recommendation as follows:

1. Continue to provide current benefits with no additional cost to the employees.
2. Include the SAVEonSP drug assistance benefit.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to execute the contract between the City and Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Louisiana, as per the recommendations of the Health Insurance Committee.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24th day of October, 2023.

Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that City Court had an extensive list of items to surplus; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 23-43

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the item shown below are hereby declared surplus and no longer needed:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Dell Computer Windows XOP 0045 L81-438-973 | City Court |
| 2. Dell Monitor CNSUH 472-46633-67P-IT8S | City Court |
| 3. Keyboard IMJSO14031120258 | City Court |
| 4. Miscellaneous DVD Drives | City Court |
| 5. Dell Power Supply 02216663 | City Court |
| 6. HP Laserjet 4050N USBB293021 Copy Machine | City Court |
| 7. HP Compaq CNC1120PDC 19" Monitor | City Court |
| 8. ViewSonic TEQ141320750 19" Monitor | City Court |
| 9. AOC NAAGE 99A001583 19" Monitor | City Court |
| 10. HP CNC726OY2N 21" Monitor | City Court |
| 11. Brother MFC 86-400 Fax Machine | City Court |
| 12. Three (3) Transcribers | City Court |
| 13. Miscellaneous Keyboards | City Court |
| 14. Miscellaneous Computer Parts | City Court |
| 15. Fellowes Shredder | City Court |
| 16. HP 4000 Pro SFF Serial #2UA1181N97 | City Court |
| 17. HP 4000 Pro SFF Serial #2UA1181N9B | City Court |

18. HP 4000 Pro SFF Serial #2UA1181N98	City Court
19. Dell Optiplex 3040 Serial #336DYB2	City Court
20. HP Compaq DC5700 Micro Tower Serial #2UA7250CS	City Court
21. HP Compaq 8200 Elite Mini Tower Serial #MXL2020M1Z	City Court
22. Dell Poweredge 2900 Tag 9YG4TB1	City Court
23. Modem	City Court
24. Compaq Computer	City Court
25. Old Telephone System	City Court
26. Mixer	City Court

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that said items be sold either by auction, on GovDeal.com, or by receiving bids.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The Resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24th day of October, 2023.

Lee Dragna
 Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
 Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that he needed a resolution for the yearly Capital Outlay requests; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 23-44

WHEREAS, the Mayor submitted to the council, the following projects for re-submission to the State requesting Capital Outlay funding:

Sewer Rehabilitation	\$4,725,000
Morgan City Wellness Center	\$19,650,600
LA HWY 70 Resurfacing & Drainage Repairs	\$5,460,000
Morgan City Lake End Parkway Pier Development	\$3,431,893
LA Highway 182 Resurfacing	\$6,000,000

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana that it hereby supports the Mayor's request, to the state, for Capital Outlay Funds to complete these projects.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 24th day of October, 2023.

Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The first reading for the Amend Section 126-157 Sign and Billboard Requirements was the next matter on the agenda. No definitive action was necessary.

The first reading for the Amend Section 90-40 Service Charges for Garbage Pickup and collections was opened. No definitive action was necessary.

The first reading for the Enaction of Section 110-2 Directional Boring Permit Within City Right of Ways was the next matter on the agenda. No definitive action was necessary.

The second reading of the 2024 Budget Adoption was opened. It was decided that it would be taken up at the November meeting after the Budget Workshop was completed.

Mayor Dragna offered the names of Daniel Fryou, Kevin Mayon and Chad Miller for appointment to the Wharf Committee. A motion to concur in the appointments was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna offered the name of Eriq Blanchard for appointment to the Main Street Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission, and the Recreation & Parks Commission. A motion to concur in the appointments was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

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