

There was a legal and regular session of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Louisiana held this date, July 23, 2019 at the Council's regular meeting place, 400 Lea Joyner Memorial Expressway, City Council Chambers/City Hall Building, Monroe, Louisiana.

The Honorable Juanita Woods, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order and asked the Council Clerk, Ms. Riley to call the roll.

Council members present for roll call: Mrs. Gretchen Ezernack, Ms. Juanita Woods, Mr. Michael Echols, Mr. Kenneth Wilson, and Mr. Eddie Clark.

The Invocation was led by Pastor Vivian Jenkins and the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Wilson.

COMMUNICATIONS & SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Mr. Echols welcomed each one present; he thanked Scott Martinez and the North La. Economic Partnership staff and the site selectors for their efforts of meeting last week with local and regional officials to discuss economic development and the importance of economic development, and what it means to have sites that are ready for economic development; he said they gave them tools to think about and he is both hopeful and optimistic that our administration, the police juries and other parish governments surrounding Ouachita Parish are cognizant of the opportunities that exist and hopefully will work in concert to create more economic opportunities and try to drive business growth in our region. He thanked Ouachita Green, the Children's Coalition and dozens of volunteers for their efforts of doing a multi-block sweep, a cleanup and also planting plants in downtown Monroe and some of the downtown parks; he asked that the citizens would go to Facebook on the Ouachita Green page to find out more information on when they are doing the monthly cleanups, the outdoor gardens and get involved to volunteer. He stated on last week he attended the Monroe Symphony League's luncheon which thanked volunteers and also acknowledged their past board members and welcoming new board members; he presented an Achievement Award to the Monroe Symphony League for their service of contributing to the region economically and as an asset that adds to the quality of life to Northeast Louisiana providing music and music education, and how they have also worked alongside the Monroe Symphony Orchestra since 1972; representing the Monroe Symphony League to accept the award were Caroline Tubbs, President and Billie Barringer, the outgoing President of the Monroe Symphony League.

2. Mrs. Ezernack welcomed each one and gave thanks to the Public works department, the employees, and citizens for preparing for the storm that didn't arrive; she asked that everyone would make sure when they do hear about them that we would all help ourselves and neighbors to do what you can to supplement what the city is doing to clean ditches, etc. to prepare for these types of events, as it takes all of us to make sure that we don't have situations where people tend to have flooding in their homes or businesses.

3. Mr. Wilson thanked Pastor Jenkins for the prayer and their friendship; he thanked the citizens for going through the community on last week and getting things done themselves; he asked all minority contractors and subcontractors to stand; he thanked them and said that his prayer since being elected has been to help somebody as he passes through and said that he, along with Councilmembers and the Mayor want change for the minority contractors and understand that they will speak later at the end of the meeting. Mr. Wilson stated he had meetings with several of the contractors and they feel they are being left out and want them to know that their voices have been heard and he read a letter concerning the minority contractors and how the city is constantly falling short of including minority contractors for projects within the city; he asked that there be a consultant/liaison between the minority business community and the city to ensure fairness and access and this will be a win for everyone. He pledged his full support to the effort.

4. Mr. Clark welcomed each one present.

5. Ms. Woods welcomed each one present and thanked them for attending the Council meeting; she echoed the sentiments of Mr. Wilson, because that is her goal and thinks we need to do whatever we can to make sure that we are awarding the contracts; she said we are going out and seeking individuals who have a specific skill that can be used in the community, because we want to make sure we are helping the minority contractors, African American men and women or whatever it is, to make sure we are embracing the fabric of the community. Ms. Woods announced Monroe would be hosting the Louisiana Municipal Association Convention on next week, August 1-3, 2019; she invited everyone to come out on Saturday, 9:30 am, there will be a session discussing tackling blighted

Monroe City Council Legal and Regular Session
July 23, 2019
6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers-City Hall
MINUTES

properties and other top nuisances and to understand what is going on around the state, country, as different areas are addressing blighted properties in their areas.

Upon a motion of Mr. Echols and a second by Mr. Clark, the minutes of the Legal and Regular session of July 09, 2019 were approved unanimously. (There were no public comments).

PRESENTATION: NONE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PROPOSED CONDEMNATIONS: Public Comment: NONE.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF BIDS: Public Comment NONE.

RESOLUTIONS AND MINUTE ENTRIES:

Council: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7505, granting an exception to the Open Container Ordinance to Damon Williams (Doc Chilly Presents, LLC/Blues Show) pursuant to Monroe City Code Sec. 12-231 D. (Open Container Ordinance), and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mrs. Ezernack stated the event is scheduled for Sunday and not on Saturday; correction was made and amended.

Department of Administration: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Echols, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Consider an Application by Breaktime Corner Market (Omair Bashir) dba Corner Market 73 LLC, 1501 N. 18th Street, Monroe, LA 71201 for a New 2019 Class B Alcoholic Beverage Permit. The Monroe Police Department has no disqualifying records and Sales Tax has been Cleared, CO-Cleared, Distance Report Cleared. (There were no public comments).

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Clark and approved; Voting YES: Wilson, Ezernack, Clark, Woods; Voting to ABSTAIN: Echols, to Consider an Application by Mario Mata dba Kahlo Tapas & Tequila LLC, 428 DeSiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201 for a New 2019 Class A Alcoholic Beverage Permit. The Monroe Police Department has no disqualifying records and Sales Tax has been Cleared, CO-Cleared, Distance Report Cleared. (There were no public comments).

(c) Upon a motion by Mr. Echols, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Consider an Application by AFARE LLC (Adeel & Fazion & Ahscan Rehman, Bal Dahal) dba Smokers Paradise & Spirits, 3412 DeSiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201 for a New 2019 Class B Alcoholic Beverage Permit. The Monroe Police Department has no disqualifying records and Sales Tax has been Cleared, CO-Cleared, Distance Report Cleared. (There were no public comments).

(d) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7506, amending and restating Resolution No. 7494 of 2019 to provide for the preliminary authorization for the City of Monroe, Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana to incur debt and to issue not to exceed Twenty-Three Million Five Hundred Dollars (\$23,500,000) aggregate principal amount of Sales Tax Increment Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Economic Development Project-Garrett Road Economic Development Area), in one or more series making application to the State Bond Commission; employing bond counsel and other professionals; and otherwise providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(e) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7507, amending and restating Resolution No. 7495 of 2019 which provided for the preliminary authorization for the City of Monroe, Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana to incur debt and to issue not to exceed Eleven Million Dollars (\$11,000,000) aggregate principal amount of Sales Tax Increment Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Economic Development Projects-Tower Drive Economic Development Area), in one or more series making

application to the State Bond Commission; employing bond counsel and other professionals; and otherwise providing with respect thereto.

Comments: Mr. Echols asked if the bond attorney could speak, because he did have one concern; Mr. Nnamdi Thompson, Government Consultants came forward; Mr. Echols stated to Mr. Thompson, that the top bond rate would not exceed six percent and do know that rates are dramatically better than six percent right now as it relates to the market and am concerned on that being the cap, and if we hit a bad day; he asked Mr. Thompson what would be the recourse; Mr. Thompson said the state bond commission requires them to have a higher interest rate that they don't exceed, however, because they are revenue and refunding bonds, unless it makes economic sense, then they would not be able to accept, they always have them to put in a higher rate on their adjust to test to make sure the feasibility of the project itself; Mr. Echols asked what was the current rate of a bond similar, if it was put in the market today; Mr. Thompson said if it was in the market today on this, the final maturity would be 2033, and would be somewhere at three or maybe three and a quarter.

Ms. Rowell asked if they could go back to Item D, there is a correction that needs to be made on the wording of the Resolution; they quoted twenty-three million five hundred dollars and it should be twenty-three million five hundred thousand dollars. Council Clerk, Mrs. Riley said it was spelled correctly, just the number was wrong, it was just a typo.

Department of Planning & Urban Development: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7508, appointing Charles Scott to the Planning Commission of the City of Monroe, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mrs. Ezernack asked if Mr. Scott was present to stand, he was at the last meeting.

Legal Department: Public Comment: NONE.

Mayor's Office: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mr. Echols, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7509, reappointing Hardeman Cordell IV and appointing Dr. Craig Turner to the Monroe Fire and Police Civil Service Board and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Ms. Woods asked if either appointee was present.

Department of Public Works: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7510, authorizing Monroe Regional Airport to advertise for bids for the Airfield Drainage Project repackaging at the Monroe Regional Airport, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7511, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to enter into and execute an Implementation Services Contract Task Order #8 between the City of Monroe and Kutchins and Groh L.L.C., at the Monroe Regional Airport, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(c) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7512, authorizing James Mayo, Mayor, to enter into and execute a Work Authorization Number 8 between the City of Monroe and Garver, L.L.C., at the Monroe Regional Airport, and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(d) Upon a motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7513, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order Number 2, (MLU Runway 14/32 Extension – Phase 1) between the City of Monroe and Merrick, LLC., for an increase in an additional 62 calendar days to contract time of said project and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(e) Upon a motion by Mr. Echols, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Consider request from the Sewer Division of the Public Works Department for authorization to advertise for the purchase of a trailer mounted Sewer jetter. Funds for this purchase will be derived from the Sewer Department Capital Account. The cost of this purchase is approximately \$68,000.00. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mr. Echols asked for details on the purchase and intended use of machine; Mr. Westrom stated it was a trailer mounted jetter, a water system used for unstopping sewer services and will take the place of the big vac trucks used and it is less expensive to operate and does not have vac capabilities, but can unstop services and can be towed with initial pickup trucks; Mr. Echols asked if it could be used to jet out debris in the storm water basins; Mr. Westrom said it produces a jet of water, sixty at three thousand; Mr. Echols asked if the city has had a machine like this one in the past and Mr. Westrom said no, it was decided due to the big trucks not being able to get in the alleyways and the tight streets and hopefully reduce the wear and tear on the \$400,000 trucks; Mr. Echols asked if the city had several of them, and how long would it take to go out, clean and clear the storm water drains, and sewer lines that needed a little dusting off; Mr. Westrom said he didn't have an answer for that; Mr. Janway said these didn't work nearly as good as the vac truck for storm water because you would need to remove the debris, and with the sewer lines, you're only loosening things up and letting it flow downstream; the vac truck backs the debris up and the catch basin may have two cubic yards of solids in the line and a jetter won't bring that out, it may bring it to. A sewer application is a lot cheaper on smaller sewer lines and it should work fine. Mr. Echols commented, he knows that we have a lot of sewer lines and stormwater lines that are clogged with debris and if a full scale campaign could be done to clean up the lines through out the city, it may remediate some of the back water and flooding; Mr. Janway said they clean up every sewer line according to the consent decree every five years; Mr. Westrom said it was 20 per cent per year and they are required to do 15; Mr. Janway said with one vac truck available for storm water, that he couldn't tell you how long.

Department of Community Affairs: Public Comment: NONE.

Police Department: Public Comment: NONE.

Fire Department: Public Comment: NONE.

Engineering Services: Public Comment:

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Echols and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7514, accepting the base bid of Amethyst Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$146,300.71 for the Saul Adler Parking Lot Improvements Project, and further authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to enter into and execute a contract for said work. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mrs. Ezernack thanked everyone concerned for getting it to the point to get it taken care of, as it has been delayed over the years for various reasons and it's exciting to have it on the agenda; she thanked those involved in the process.

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Ms. Woods and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7515, authorizing the Purchasing Manager to advertise for bids on the WTP Ground Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project. The estimated cost of this project is \$496,100.00 the DBE Goal is 0% and source of funds Water Capital Funds.

Comments: Mr. Wilson asked that all DBE's, contractors and subcontractors to stand. Mr. Wilson stated there were DBE's that could do the jobs, but there is zero participation as a DBE and the people are tired of going through the soup line when the 80 percent is going through the line; he said business men and women were present tonight wanting an opportunity to work in the City, and not just call it a DBE, but call it Minority contractors, sub-contractors are able to do the jobs and it makes no sense to have a zero participation. He said we have a budget over 60 million dollars and they want an opportunity; he said in elaborating on the eleven million dollar bond, and the Caucasians are getting all of the work, and a minority should have the opportunity to be a co-bond attorney and said he has a problem with that and am standing up for the people and do hear the cries of the people.

Mr. Clark asked if someone could explain why the DBE goal is zero percent; Mr. Holland said this particular job involved taking out and it is a 3.1 million gallon ground water storage tank, a metal tank; he said every five to ten years it has the drain inspected and maintenance and repairs are done as needed; it has to be drained and cleaned inside and there is a baffle inside and it has to be repaired or replaced and there are other miscellaneous repairs;

He said just because there is a zero DBE goal, a DBE can bid on it if there is one available for this type project, but as look at the items that are required for the job, to his knowledge there is not a DBE that is capable of doing that type of work; Mr. Clark asked if they had DBE's capable of assisting with that type of work and Mr. Holland said he couldn't answer that and usually with that type of work, the tank is about 16-18 feet tall and it has to be draped before it is cleaned and painted and it takes a technique that not any painter can do; Mr. Clark asked if the DBE's new of the requirements such as this job that is being voted on, and Mr. Holland said the jobs are publicly advertised and they can come to the pre-bid meeting to talk about the process, it is opened to the general public. Mr. Clark stated to Mr. Holland that the resolution is asking for advertising of the bid and that DBE's can go to his office and bid on it; Mr. Holland said if they have the qualifications, they are welcome to it.

Ms. Woods asked when the jobs are being advertised and if we know we don't have certain skill sets, asked if we are reaching out to other publications, in places to find people who could potentially do the type of work; Mr. Holland said he couldn't answer that, but that's purchasing, but do know we have the News Star, Dispatch, Free Press and not sure how far it goes outside of those; he said they have worked with other DBE's within the State, mostly from down south and sometimes they won't bid for a job of this nature due to the cost of it; he said when they worked on Selman field tank, there was a DBE, a female and she did a good job; this again, is opened to the public to submit bids; he said the Baton Rouge advocate picks up the jobs that are advertised sometimes and the jobs are known; Ms. Woods asked Ms. Jackie Slacks who works with the DBE's to come forward and speak on the subject; Ms. Woods asked Mrs. Slacks if they had a database of DBE's and she said yes, it is from the Department of Transportation and have one for the North La. Area that encompasses most of the DBE's which stands for Disadvantage Business Enterprise and it takes in transit, highway and airport and if it's not one of those federal jobs, then you don't have to use a DBE, you can use a minority or small business; Mrs. Slacks stated that the City of Monroe is committed to doing all they can for small businesses and for minority and if it is not one of those three, federally required, then they do not necessarily, and can reach out and are supposed to reach out to small businesses to get a part of the project. Ms. Woods asked Mrs. Slacks if the City was reaching out; Mrs. Slacks said there were DBE's in the audience, and she could ask them the question; she said they have a list and it's not their responsibility because they can't supersede contractors. They are the ones responsible for reaching out. We give them the information and let them know who a DBE is and who is a small business in Monroe or the Monroe area, and as far as Shreveport and Alexandria. They are given a list and we ask them to contact the people because not only are they DBE's, but they are small business minorities and sometimes they do and sometimes they do not. But it's up to the contractors. That's why we have been having these small summits to inform the contractors that it is their responsibility to try to meet these goals when they are set by the DBE committee. Mrs. Slacks commented that the DBE committee meets twice per month and the DBE committee meetings are held on the first and third Monday of the month, but people are sometimes unaware the group is meeting; she said we are not really reaching all that we can, because we get accustomed to doing what we have always done. The small businesses and minorities are getting left out. She said the Mayor has said over and over again that we want to involve them, so that they get some of the work in the City of Monroe.

Mr. Janway said on this particular type project, that all of the previous four or five tank projects in the last 15 years, everyone has been done by specialty companies that do this type of work, and they are out of state.

Ms. Woods asked how out-of-state contractors find out about projects like the tank project; she said they aren't looking at the News Star, Free Press, Dispatch; Mr. Janway said many get in on the front end when a contractor takes a look at the tank, and engineers conduct inspections.

Mrs. Slacks said Purchasing has a list, and they also send out an invitation to bid, so that's how they find it. We are also on something called Bid Express, and you have to pay for Bid Express. A lot of the small businesses and minorities do not have the funds to pay to get on Bid Express, and they are unaware of that.

Ms. Woods said we are doing business with people who know already.

Councilman Clark asked if an addendum could be added to city advertising to let DBE's and know they are free to bid on a project. Mrs. Slacks said if it wasn't one of the three, transit, airport, highway projects then they can bid whether they are DBE's or not; Mr. Clark said he was speaking of the knowledge to give them the knowledge that they are free to bid for those who doesn't know that they can bid; to add an addendum to advertising saying that DBE's are encouraged to bid. Ms. Slacks said they could do that, because it is within the law, but it would come through Purchasing because they place all of the advertising into the news media.

Mr. Clark said he wanted to commend Councilman Wilson for again bringing this to light, it's something that should have been done, and I appreciate him for bringing it back. We need to take care of our own. When I say, 'our own,' I'm talking about our people, our constituents, our local minority businesses. Mr. Clark said he wanted to avoid being misquoted and was making clear what he meant; he said Mr. Janway said most of the business goes to out of state people and we have people who pay taxes who live here and am sure we can find someone here to do business.

(c) Upon a motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7516, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute Change Order No. One (1) to the proposed Booster Station Contract, between the City of Monroe and Dixie Overland Construction, LLC, for a no cost change order and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

(d) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Adopt Resolution No. 7517, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute an Entity/State Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for State Project No. H. 013937 Kansas Ln Extension Clearing & Grubbing and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Add-On: (e) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Ms. Woods and unanimously approved to add to the agenda A Resolution authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute a contract amendment to approve a supplemental agreement for professional engineering services for the Monroe water treatment plant renovation and expansion project, between the City of Monroe and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

Comments: Mr. Clark asked the reason for it being added now to the agenda; Ms. Golden said it was a change order for the contract that's already in place for the big water treatment expansion project renovation and it is adding three things, the demolition of the existing sedimentation basin, turning it into a parking lot, some additional testing for evaluation of using activated charcoal for taste and odor; the taste and order was not in the original preliminary engineering because the city didn't have the experience to know they had that taste and odor problem and in the last two years and with global warming, it is becoming a problem; it is appropriate to study it to see what it would be to add it as a package application to the process for the seasonal occasions when there is taste and odor and a series of test evaluations of the source water need to be done. Mr. Clark asked if it would cost the city \$132,247 to do the tests and Ms. Golden said yes; Mr. Clark asked what was the total contract amount to date with Burns and McDonnell; Ms. Golden said they have spent one million dollars and the total contract is \$2.7 million and the source of funds is Water Capital funds and the bonds; Mr. Clark asked if there were DBE's on the project and she said she didn't think so; the reason for the agenda item being added on is because they had a 90 percent workshop with them on last Wednesday and Thursday and it appeared this would be within the budget to add it to the big project. Mr. Echols asked if the indicated basin was the one no longer in use; Ms. Golden said yes, it is the one on the hill; Mr. Echols asked if this was the actual demolition and road improvements or if it was just a plan to tear something down; Ms. Golden said it would add to the big project to be able to demolish it and build the parking lot. Mr. Echols commented that we are paying \$134,000 to plan to tear down a structure and to plan to put down a parking lot; Ms. Golden said most of it is for testing and evaluation for the use of the activated charcoal and the third thing the inspection of the clear well with the use of the robot. Mr. Echols said Burns and McDonnell has designed and implemented a lot of these systems around the US and world; he asked if there were any other services that they may have mentioned in passing, but the city haven't included in the scope of services to ensure that our water facility is in the 21st Century; Ms. Golden said that is why those things are being added as work through more of the detailed engineering design and they are becoming more aware of a lot of things and are adding additional things to the engineering and the big project at this time so that it will be more up to date with current technologies; Mr. Echols asked if Burns and McDonnell had any concerns with the old energy plant being right next door to the water treatment plant; Ms. Golden said they haven't mentioned it; he asked if there were any plans to mitigate or tear down that plant in the future; Ms. Golden said Entergy is working on it and they have demolished some of what was across Park Avenue already and have redone the substation and are aware that they have other plans in the works to demolish the big old plant; Mr. Echols ask that she keep the Council posted because that is our city's water supply sitting next to a plant that they are going to tear down and would hate for their to be cross contamination. Ms. Golden said absolutely, they would hate that too.

Mr. Wilson said this is why it is so important to have a consultant, a liaison between the minority businesses and the community to make sure they are getting a fair shake; we are about to do a demolition and there is no DBE or minority owned business, or subcontractor that has been talked to about the projects. Ms. Golden said to be clear,

what this is adding is the engineering to put a demolition into the project; she said this is not the actual demolition. That will be a part of the big construction project. Ms. Golden said the city has discussed a specific outreach to general contractors and to DBEs about the big project with Burns & McDonnell. It is a big project and the set of plans are 500 pages, and it will take a general contractor a long time to digest this and feel like it would be in the city's best interest to get it previewed and to also make it part of an outreach to the DBE's; Burns and McDonnell will analyze and come back with a recommendation for DBE participation which anticipates it to be around the 15% range. Mr. Wilson said, I know you are saying DBEs, but I'm talking about minority participation and DBE's at 10 to 15%. We are talking about 40 to 50% of a project. That's where we want to go. That's the road I want to travel. Not just DBEs. But let's say minority businesses, subcontractors and contractors getting a shot at the whole project and not just a portion of 2 to 3%. Ms. Golden said she understands that and the Engineering department has no problem with that and totally supports the outreach and any way they can help to make the information available; they make it fully available to the DBE committee, and if the DBE committee ever decides to take on some type of outreach or spreading the information, they will certainly support it.

(e) Upon a motion by Mr. Clark, second by Mrs. Ezernack and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 7518, authorizing James E. Mayo, Mayor, to execute a contract amendment to approve a supplemental agreement for professional engineering services for the Monroe water treatment plant renovation and expansion project, between the City of Monroe and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., and further providing with respect thereto. (There were no public comments).

BREAK IF NEEDED:

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES: Public Comment: NONE.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION AND SUBJECT TO PUBLIC HEARING:

Open Public Hearing/Public Comment/Close Hearing: Chairwoman Woods opened the public hearing:

1. Ms. Barbara Curvin, citizen, spoke regarding concerns with conditions of some citizens; Ms. Woods commented that the agenda item was about a property and her comments were not germane to the agenda item. Attorney Creekbaum said the property was an adjudicated property and there is an interested purchaser that once the property is acquired, the city will sell to the interested purchaser. The property will sell for \$3,800. Ms. Curvin asked if she purchases the property that she can put whatever she wants on the land; Mr. Creekbaum said the purchaser will be able to do with it as they see fit, complying with all ordinances. Mr. Clark asked Mr. Creekbaum how a person could claim ownership to the property before the City has even acquired ownership. Mr. Creekbaum said there has not been any transfer of ownership and this property is going to be adjudicated to the city for the nonpayment of taxes and someone called and said they were interested in it and because there has been some interest, going through with the process.

Seeing no one else come forward, the hearing was declared closed.

(a) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Wilson and unanimously approved to Finally adopt Ordinance No. 11,942, authorizing the City of Monroe to acquire full ownership interest of the property described as Lots 22 & 23, Sq 77, Booker T. Washington Addition, Unit 13, 1907 Griffin St, Monroe, La, by Adjudication at Tax Sale dated July 31, 2003, and further with respect thereto. (Legal) (There were no public comments).

Open Public Hearing/Public Comment/Close Hearing: Chairwoman Woods opened the public hearing and seeing no one come forward, the hearing was declared closed.

(b) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Finally adopt Ordinance No. 11,943, authorizing the City of Monroe to acquire full ownership interest of the property described as Lots 10 & 11, Sq 78, Booker T. Washington Addition, Unit 13, 1813 Griffin St, Monroe, La, by Adjudication at Tax Sale dated July 31, 2003, and further with respect thereto. (Legal) (There were no public comments).

Monroe City Council Legal and Regular Session
July 23, 2019
6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers-City Hall
MINUTES

Open Public Hearing/Public Comment/Close Hearing: Chairwoman Woods opened the public hearing and seeing no one come forward, the hearing was declared closed.

(c) Upon a motion by Mrs. Ezernack, second by Mr. Clark and unanimously approved to Finally adopt Ordinance No. 11,944, adopting and amending the Zoning Map for the City of Monroe, Louisiana to zone a ±3.12 acre tract of land, more or less presently located in Ouachita Parish and more particularly described as follows: Lot 2, Clute Resubdivision (otherwise known as 1251 Fulton Street) APPLICANT: Chris Holyfield – (P&Z) (There were no public comments).

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:

1. Ms. Johnnie Thomas, citizen, spoke regarding the need for the cleaning up of South Monroe and Public works employees that are working on Saturday, when it seems enough is not being done Monday through Friday. She asked that a plan to clean up South Monroe be implemented.
2. Ms. Ieshea Jones, citizen expressed her appreciation to the conversation on DBE's versus Minority business and the inclusion. She referenced the cyber security breach with the Monroe City Schools and offered her assistance of her company business with the City of Monroe and their cyber security efforts.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m., upon a motion of Mr. Echols and seconded by Mrs. Ezernack. (There were no public comments)

Ms. Juanita G. Woods
Council Chairwoman

Ms. Carolus S. Riley
Council Clerk

Ms. Jacqueline Benjamin
Council Secretary

***For extended details on the Council meeting please call the Council Clerk, Monday-Friday at 329-2252; also, a recording of the minutes can be sent via email to you.**