

The Mayor and Council of the City of Franklin met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 6:00 PM at City Hall, 300 Iberia Street, Franklin, Louisiana. Mayor Eugene P. Foulcard called the meeting to order. Also present were Councilmembers Chuck Autin, Lester Levine, and Jaime Robison, and City Clerk Karen LeBlanc. Absent were Councilmembers Larry Guilbeau and Joseph Garrison, and City Attorney Russel J. Cremaldi.

The invocation was offered by Mayor Foulcard and Councilman Autin led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUESTS:

Mr. Brett Allain, Bayou Bend Health System Board Chairman, requested that the building permit fees be waived for the \$10.2 million expansion and renovation of the hospital.

Mrs. Dianne Wiltz promoted the Franklin Merchant's Association Dinner Under the Lamp Posts to be held on April 20, 2024. She asked for community support.

Mrs. Alfreida Edwards and Ms. Ann Poole, St. Mary Democratic Parish Executive Committee, encouraged voters to vote during the upcoming election and promoted their Coffee with Clergy and Community event to be held on April 1, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for items on the agenda):

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to accept the February 20, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE REPORT:

Mayor Foulcard read aloud the budget messages presented to the Council with the budget ordinances.

He also read the below statement as provided to the Council in relation to necessary line item adjustments to the presented budgets:

Subsequent to presenting the Amended 2023-2024 Budget and the Proposed 2024-2025 Budget certain events make it necessary to make some line item adjustments to those budgets.

This is due to, when preparing the schedules, it was anticipated that the A/C units would not have been delivered by April 30, 2024. Those units were delivered ahead of projections and are now in the contractor's possession and will be billed before April 30th.

This requires adjustment of the budgets for both the General Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund as the funds flow into the General Fund and are then transferred to Capital Outlay for disbursement.

Accordingly, below are the accounts that need to be adjusted to account for this situation to avoid problems complying with budget laws.

Amendments to the Amended Budget for 2023-2024 (Ordinances 3448) and Amended Capital Outlay Budget for 2023-2024 (Ordinance 3449)

- Fund 10 Account 30031 (Federal Grants) Adjusted from \$ 970,000 to \$ 1,770,000
- Fund 10 Account 65510 (T/O to Capital Outlay) Adjusted from \$ 4,000,000 to \$4,800,000
- Fund 50 Account 56100 (T/I from Gen Fund) Adjusted from \$ 4,000,000 to \$ 4,800,000
- Fund 50 Account 40502 (City Park A/C) Adjusted from \$ 200,000 to \$ 600,000
- Fund 50 Account 40503 (B Harris A/C) Adjusted from \$ 200,000 to \$ 600,000

Amendments to the Proposed Budget for 2024-2025 (Ordinance 3450) and Capital Outlay Budget for 2024-2025 (Ordinance 3451)

- Fund 10 Account 30031 (Federal Grants) Adjusted from \$ 1,400,000 to \$ 670,000
- Fund 10 Account 65510 (T/O to Capital Outlay) Adjusted from \$ 1,280,340 to \$ 480,340

- Fund 50 Account 56100 (T/I from Gen Fund) Adjusted from \$ \$ 1,280,340 to \$ 480,340
- Fund 50 Account 40502 (City Park A/C) Adjusted from \$ 640,000 to \$ 240,000
- Fund 50 Account 40503 (B Harris A/C) Adjusted from \$ 640,000 to \$ 240,000

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Mayor Foulcard stated that the January 2024 Financial Statement was presented to the Council.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

A motion was made by Councilman Robison to introduce Ordinance No. 3452 – An Ordinance fixing the rates of tax to be assessed by the municipal corporation of the City of Franklin, Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, subject to taxation therein, for the year 2024.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to accept the line item adjustments to amended and proposed Capital Outlay and General Fund budgets to comply with budget laws due to CDBG-CV Project HVAC units being delivered ahead of anticipated schedule. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Robison to adopt Ordinance No. 3448 – An Ordinance amending the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year beginning May First (1st), 2023 and ending April Thirtieth (30th), 2024 with amendments. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to adopt Ordinance No. 3449 – An Ordinance amending the Capital Outlay Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year beginning May First (1st), 2023 and ending April Thirtieth (30th), 2024 with amendments. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to adopt Ordinance No. 3450 – An Ordinance adopting the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year beginning May First (1st), 2024 and ending April Thirtieth (30th), 2025 with amendments. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Levine to adopt Ordinance No. 3451 – An Ordinance adopting the Capital Outlay Budget for the Fiscal Years beginning May First (1st), 2024 and ending April Thirtieth (30th), 2029 with amendments. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion was made by Councilman Levine to adopt a Resolution authorizing the suspension of the collection/imposition of the “Building Permit” fee due to the City of Franklin, in

connection with the Bayou Bend Health System Hospital Renovation and Expansion Project. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Robison to adopt a Resolution lifting the open alcohol container law on Teche Drive for the Bayou Teche Black Bear Festival to be held on April 13, 2024. No glass containers. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Robison to adopt a Resolution lifting the two-night limit on allowed days for overnight dockside parking at Parc Sur La Teche and allowing for a ten-night limit on specified dates. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to adopt a Resolution lifting the open alcohol container law on Main Street for Dinner Under the Lampposts to be held on April 20, 2024. No glass containers. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

A motion was made by Councilman Robison to adopt a Resolution lifting the open alcohol container law on Teche Drive for the St. Mary Parish Soul Food Festival to be held on June 14-15, 2024. No glass containers. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Guilbeau and Garrison

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Foulard and Councilmen congratulated the Franklin Senior High Hornets Boys Basketball Team for being the 2024 Non-Select Division IV State Champions. A parade and proclamation signing to celebrate will be held on March 24, 2024.

Mayor Foulard announced the Love the Boot City-Wide Clean Up will be held on April 20, 2024. He encouraged the residents to do their part in helping to clean up Franklin.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Autin. Second by Councilman Robison and carried.

ATTEST:

CITY OF FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

Karen LeBlanc
Clerk of the Council

EUGENE P. FOULCARD, MAYOR