

The Mayor and Council of the City of Franklin met in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 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, Joseph Garrison, Lester Levine, Jaime Robison, and City Clerk Karen LeBlanc. Absent was City Attorney Russel J. Cremaldi and Councilman Larry Guilbeau.

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

GUESTS:

Leah Long, Best Friends Animal Society, provided information on the Community Cat Program. The St. Mary Parish Animal Shelter received a grant to start a pilot program to capture, spay/neuter, and release stray cats.

Roddy Matherne, CEO, Pelican Waste & Debris discussed the proposed rate changes for garbage collection services within the City of Franklin. He stated that the contract renewal increases the cost for service from \$19.83 to \$21.95 per residential unit per month while maintaining a twice a week pick-up.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for items on the agenda): No comment heard.

MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE REPORT:

Mayor Foulcard presented his report. He expressed his pleasure in the success of the Third Annual Soul Food Festival. He thanked all of the City Departments for a job well done as well as all assisting agencies for their support. He mentioned possible upcoming community events at Broussard-Harris Park to bring people together in a positive way.

Councilmembers Garrison and Levine expressed agreement with the success of the Soul Food Festival.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to accept the May 16, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Mayor Foulcard stated that the City's Financial Statement for the month of April 2023 were presented to the council.

Mr. Ed Hay noted that the Financial Statements are unaudited. He discussed the increase in garbage service rates. He stated that he believes we can work with the proposed rates since we had a rate increase in January. He mentioned that the contract allows provisions to adjust the number of units that are being serviced; a survey will be conducted to get a more accurate count of the number of residences receiving service.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to introduce Ordinance No. 3439 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Franklin to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of Franklin and Teche Action Board, Inc., to transfer ownership of the immovable property located at 605 Bigler Street in Franklin, Louisiana.

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to introduce Ordinance No. 3440 – An Ordinance amending and enacting Chapter 26, Article II – Fire Department, Section 26-58, to include Sections 26-58(a), 26-58(b), 26-58(c), AND 26-58(d), of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Franklin.

A motion was made by Councilman Levine to introduce Ordinance No. 3441 – An Ordinance declaring certain movable property no longer needed for public purposes as

surplus movable property; due to said movable property constituting a burden of unnecessary expense and consuming needed space and offering said property for sale that could be utilized by others; authorizing the Mayor and Council of the City of Franklin to auction said surplus movable property through the sealed bid process to the bidder submitting the highest sealed bid.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to adopt a Resolution authorizing Mayor Eugene P. Foulcard, on behalf of the City of Franklin, to contract with Pelican Waste & Debris, LLC for professional services for the collection and transportation of residential solid waste. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to adopt a Resolution adopting the list of approved structures and structure location map for the 2023 State Community Development Block Grant Clearance Program. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

A motion was made by Councilman Levine to adopt a Resolution to adopt a Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

A motion was made by Councilman Levine to adopt a Resolution in support of Leonard Marshall, Jr.'s induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Second by Councilman Garrison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to adopt the Franklin Banner-Tribune as the Official Municipal Journal Selection for the period of July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

A motion was made by Councilman Autin to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year. Second by Councilman Garrison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

CONDEMNATION HEARINGS

Mayor Foulcard held Condemnation Hearing pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute Sections 33:3761-4763, relative to the properties submitted by Glenn Todd, Chief Building Official.

Mr. Todd asked if there was anyone present on behalf of any of the properties listed. No one was present.

Mr. Todd stated the properties in question all were appointed an attorney at a previous meeting as the owners were unable to be located within the state.

He stated that 408 Jacobs Street is not occupied, has not had utility service since March 2011, the windows are gone, the doors kicked in, has been wide-open for several years.

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to make an order for condemnation and the demolition of 408 Jacobs Street within zero (0) days. Second by Councilman Autin and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

Mr. Todd stated that 1018 W. Third Street was the site of a major house fire recently. Many complaints have been received about the structure over the years. Utility services have not been connected since 2014.

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to make an order for condemnation and the demolition of 1018 W. Third Street within thirty (30) days. Second by Councilman Robison and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

Mr. Todd stated that 406 Robertson Street is unsecured and people are ransacking it and leaving its contents around the property. It is being destroyed and illegal activity is occurring in the double-wide mobile home.

A motion was made by Councilman Garrison to make an order for condemnation and the demolition of 406 Robertson Street within zero (0) days. Second by Councilman Levine and carried. Roll call is as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Autin, Garrison, Levine, and Robison

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Guilbeau

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Foulcard made announcements for the upcoming Franklin City-Wide Clean-Up. He stated that he would be making a special presentation at Wind-Down Wednesday to Donovan Briscoe, Chris Blanks, and D.J. Fab for their "Club Rona" that was held on Facebook Live during the Covid-19 lock-down.

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

CITY OF FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA

ATTEST:

Karen LeBlanc
Clerk of the Council

EUGENE P. FOULCARD, MAYOR