

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE, LOUISIANA HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016 AT 5:30 PM AT YOUNGSVILLE CITY HALL

PRESENT: Mayor Ken Ritter and Councilmembers: Jamison Abshire (Division A); Lauren Michel (Division B), Matt Romero (Division C), Kenneth Stansbury (Division D), Dianne McClelland (Division E)

STAFF: Simone Champagne (CAO), Sally Angers (City Clerk), George Knox (City Attorney), Tim Robichaux (Sports Complex Director)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rickey Boudreaux (Police Chief), Pamela Gonzales Granger (City Engineer – CH2M), Jeremy Fontenot (CH2M Engineer)

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Dianne McClelland

A motion was offered by Mr. Stansbury, seconded by Ms. McClelland, to expand the agenda to consider Resolution No. 2016-01 declaring the failure of the Nezpique Road Bridge a public emergency, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Abshire, Michel, Romero, Stansbury, McClelland

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Resolution No. 2016-01 – a resolution declaring that a public emergency exists due to the inspection failure of the bridge on Nezpique Road as per LADOTD.

Mayor Ritter informed the Council that LADOTD inspected the Nezpique Road Bridge on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 and determined it to be a public safety hazard. He stated that DOTD will be sending a certified letter to the City stating the findings and a response must be sent within 7 days with a plan of action. Mayor Ritter stated that the bridge is in the 10 Year Master Plan but due to the emergency, something has to be done immediately because this is the only access for a couple of residents who have homes on the other side of the bridge. He then called on City Engineer Pamela Gonzales Granger to present the options.

Ms. Granger presented the following options:

- Erect a Con/Span precast concrete bridge; Estimated Cost: \$123,000; Time: approximately 4 -5 weeks after receiving Geotech for foundation design followed by 6 – 8 weeks for fabrication after submittal drawings are approved.
- Erect an aluminum bridge: Estimated Cost: \$92,940 - \$114,750; Time: approximately 1 – 2 weeks after receiving Geotech for foundation design followed by 3 – 5 weeks after submittal drawing approved.
- Do not replace the bridge and construct a road from Sugar Ridge Subdivision to Nezpique Road. Option to purchase Lot 70 of Sugar Ridge Phase 1 which is at the end and go through there if right of ways can be obtained from the property owner between

Sugar Ridge and Nezpique Road or from existing connector road outlet from Sugar Ridge Phase I.

Ms. Granger concluded by stating that either way the Mayor decides to go, the bridge will have to be removed to keep vehicles from traversing it.

Mayor Ritter stated that the City will get with the property owners and see what the best option is.

A motion was offered by Ms. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Abshire, to adopt Resolution No. 2016-01 declaring that a public emergency exists due to the failure of the bridge on Nezpique Road as per inspection by LADOTD, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Abshire, Michel, Romero, Stansbury, McClelland

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM 2. Presentation of Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 – Burton Kolder (Kolder, Champagne & Slaven – Auditing Firm)

Mr. Kolder presented the audit for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015. He went over the following points in the Management Letter and said that these items were being addressed by the City:

- Due to the increasing size of the City's operations, it appears that the current software being utilized may not be sufficient to effectively and efficiently record transactions in an accurate manner to provide financial information to management officials. Mayor Ritter responded that the City is in the process of implementing the software.
- City management should invest any excess cash balances in order to maximize interest earnings. Mayor Ritter stated that the City Treasurer will look at optimizing the City's investments by getting quotes from other financial institutions and that some of the money is bond money which cannot be invested.
- The City's water and sewer departments experience operating losses of \$127,648 and \$95,882 respectively. Mr. Kolder stated that the operating loss for the Utility Fund was \$203,273 and that consideration should be given to increasing rates in order to generate a profit or at least a breakeven point. Mayor Ritter stated that the Council just recently approved an increase in water but that was due to Lafayette Utilities System's 23% increase to the City for the purchase of water. He said that he has met with Joel Robideaux, new City Parish Mayor President who will take a look at the increase. Mr. Kolder noted that the LUS increase was not passed on to residents of the City of Lafayette but only to the municipalities purchasing the water, thus the high increase.

Mr. Kolder stated that the surplus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 is \$1,818,700 and the unrestricted net equity for the City is \$6,514,824. He said that the total assets for the City are \$102,452,555 and total liabilities are \$43,130,843 for a total net position of \$59,332,579 (this includes all infrastructure and capital projects). Mr. Kolder added that the City is in good shape and saw only a 1.26% decrease in revenues vs actual budget and a 1.48% increase in expenditures over budget.

Brad Kolder, with Kolder, Champagne & Slaven, informed the Council that with the current surplus, the City could operate for approximately 186 days and that the City has a very healthy general fund balance.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion to adjourn was offered by Ms. McClelland, seconded by Mr. Romero, and unanimously carried.

/s/ Ken Ritter

Ken Ritter, Mayor

/s/ Sally M. Angers

Sally M. Angers, City Clerk

