

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE, LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023 AT 6:00 PM
AT YOUNGSVILLE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor Ken Ritter, Logan Lannoo (Division A), Lindy Bolgiano (Division B), Mayor Pro Tem Matt Romero (Division C), Ken Stansbury (Division D), Simone B. Champagne (Division E)

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Terry Bourque (Deputy CAO/Public Works Director), Clint Simoneaux (City Engineer), Rickey Boudreaux (Police Chief), Wade Trahan (City Attorney), Tim Robichaux (Director of Parks & Recreation), Ben Burley (City Treasurer)

1. OPENING

1.1 Invocation was led by Pastor John Canon, Asbury United Methodist Church

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Logan Lannoo

Motion made by Matt Romero, seconded by Ken Stansbury, to expand the agenda (Item 5.2a) to discuss the Youngsville Police Department Budget pertaining to the \$1,000 auto allowance stipend for the Chief of Police.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Approved.

2. RECOGNITIONS/PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE MAYOR & COUNCIL

2.1 Mayor Ritter stated that the presentation from Stacy Brunet on the final renderings of the athletic complex for Acadiana Renaissance Charter Academy will be tabled to a future meeting at the request of ARCA.

2.2 Walter Campbell announced his candidacy for Lafayette Parish Assessor.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Approval of April 13, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion made by Lindy Bolgiano, seconded by Ken Stansbury, approving the April 13, 2023 meeting minutes.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Approved.

3.2 Approval of April 20, 2023 special meeting minutes

Motion made by Matt Romero, seconded by Simone B. Champagne, approving the April 20, 2023 special meeting minutes.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Approved.

4. FINANCE REPORT

4.1 Approval of March 2023 finance report

Motion made by Ken Stansbury, seconded by Lindy Bolgiano, approving the March 2023 Finance Report.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Approved.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Recreation Advisory Board Appointment - Division A Recommendation

Motion made by Logan Lannoo, seconded by Matt Romero, approving Division A recommendation for Cody Dutile for appointment to the Recreation Advisory Board for the remainder of a (2) year term which ends February 21, 2025.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion approved.

5.2 St. Anne's Catholic Church to request a temporary sign variance for 18 months during construction.

Deacon Ed Boustany stated that the temporary variance consists of two 12' x 40' advertising signs which would facilitate space for local businesses to purchase a spot to display their company name and logo. The signs would be displayed for 18 months during construction of the church on the corner of First and Church Streets.

Some members of the Council expressed concerns with the size of the sign and questioned if other sign options were discussed. Deacon Boustany explained that several options were discussed.

Motion made by Lindy Bolgiano granting a temporary sign variance to St. Anne's Catholic Church for 18 months during construction.

Motion failed for the lack of a second.

Motion made by Ken Stansbury, seconded by Simone Champagne, that St. Anne's Catholic Church request for a temporary sign variance for 18 months during construction, be tabled to the June 8, 2023 meeting.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: Lindy Bolgiano.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion to table approved.

5.2a Expansion: Discussion on the Youngsville Police Department Budget pertaining to the \$1,000 auto allowance stipend for the Chief of Police.

Councilman Matt Romero stated that Chief Rickey Boudreaux, the City Council and City Attorney Wade Trahan were recently notified by the Mayor that Chief Boudreaux has charged fuel and vehicle expenses

to the police department budget in addition to his approved \$1,000 auto allowance. Mr. Romero then stated that records from the September 2016 Council meeting specify that only a \$1,000 stipend was requested & approved. He noted that the Mayor's office has roughly calculated \$18,000 in additional unapproved expenses & that unapproved expenses could extend further.

Chief Boudreaux stated that he agreed to the auto allowance stipend at that time, but the agreement was prior to being appointed to numerous state task forces and having to conduct extra patrols in the evenings, on holidays, and the weekends. He stated that the \$1,000 monthly covers some of the expenses but not all. Not long after the original agreement, he stated that he had a discussion with the administration regarding the additional usage of his vehicle and they all agreed to the additional fuel and vehicle expenses. He noted that the fuel receipts are turned in every month and follow all approval processes, including a yearly audit.

Discussion continued amongst the members of the Council and Chief Boudreaux.

Motion made by Matt Romero, seconded by Ken Stansbury, requesting Kolder, Slaven & Company to conduct a special audit to review Chief of Police Rickey Boudreaux's auto allowance within the Youngsville Police Department Budget, beginning September 2016, and to temporarily suspend his \$1,000 auto allowance until the investigation is complete.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion approved.

It was noted that the launch of the special audit would be determined by the schedule of Kolder, Slaven & Company & further that it is possible that this special audit may become a component of the regular audit. The Mayor advised that he would report back to the Council on a timeframe after speaking with Mr. Kolder.

5.3 Executive Session to discuss a Petition for Declaratory Judgement and Injunctive Relief for Rickey Boudreaux, in his Official Capacity as Youngsville City Chief of Police vs. City of Youngsville through the Youngsville City Council, pursuant to LA 42:17 (A) (2) & (4).

Motion made by Matt Romero, seconded by Simone B. Champagne, that the Council of the City of Youngsville does hereby recess its regular session and convene into Executive Session to discuss a Petition for Declaratory Judgement and Injunctive Relief for Rickey Boudreaux, in his Official Capacity as Youngsville City Chief of Police vs. City of Youngsville through the Youngsville City Council, pursuant to LA 42:17 (A) (2) & (4).

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion approved.

Those present in Executive Session included all members of the City Council, Mayor Ken Ritter, City Attorney Wade Trahan, Attorney E. Frederick Preis, Jr. and his Associate Philip Giorlando.

Motion made by Matt Romero, seconded by Lindy Bolgiano, that the Council of the City of Youngsville does hereby close Executive Session and reconvene into Regular Session.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion approved.

No action announced.

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.1 Resolution No. 2023-09 - A Resolution authorizing the City Attorney to obtain a law firm for an independent investigation of the Youngsville Chief of Police on behalf of the City of Youngsville.

Motion made by Ken Stansbury, seconded by Matt Romero, adopting Resolution No. 2023-09, which hires E. Frederick Preis, Jr. with Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP and amends the budget in the amount of \$10,000.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Resolution Approved.

In summary of executive session, City Attorney Wade Trahan stated that Chief Boudreaux filed a declaratory action against the Council and City. The Council was briefed on the procedures involved in a declaratory action and how that action proceeds. In his meeting with Judge Earles, a scheduling order was established. Mr. Trahan advised that the hiring of Mr. Preis should not indicate to anyone that the Council is proceeding with the investigation until Judge Earles rules on the issue of whether the Lawrason allows the investigation to be conducted.

7. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ADOPTION

7.1 Ordinance No. 483-2023 - A Fifth Supplemental Bond Ordinance supplementing Ordinance No. 2013-01 (the "General Bond Ordinance") to provide for the sale and delivery of not exceeding \$14,000,000 of Recreational Facilities Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2023 of the Youngsville Sales Tax District No. 1, State of Louisiana, pursuant to the General Bond Ordinance, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Motion made by Lindy Bolgiano, seconded by Matt Romero, adopting Ordinance No. 483-2023.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Ordinance Approved.

8. MAYOR & COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.1 Mayor/Staff Announcements

- Sports Complex: MMA event on Memorial Day weekend. July 4th celebration in planning. Pony Girls World Series to return in '24- '25. Splash pad - planning for an opening in June, ribbon cutting & a family fun day. Foster Park- LUS Fiber services available, will have video and alarm system at facilities.
- Detention Ponds: Bailey Grove - pond 5 fully functioning, ponds 1 & 2 fully dug, project overall 70% complete. Coulee Lasalle – 65% complete with digging.
- Roads: Fortune Road Roundabout & Extension - water & sewer plans complete and are being submitted to state for permitting, completed drainage design & overall layout of the roundabout/extension. Velasco Crossing – will begin surveying next week. 2022 Roadway Improvement Program in progress, N. Larriviere next in line for improvements.
- Anslem Coulee – pending CEA from State.

- Prescott & Bonin Roundabout – design contract signed by Mayor.
- Sports Complex Expansion: completion of early release package to contour dirt for amphitheater. Now under contract for water, sewer & storm drainage. Fenstermaker will be rapping up drawings this month for final pricing.

8.2 Council Announcements

- Ms. Champagne wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day & congratulated all graduates.
- Mr. Stansbury announced that the Youngsville Rotary Club gave out \$3,000 in scholarships & will be giving out \$7,000 in community grants.
- Mr. Romero expressed his appreciation to the public during trying times.
- Mr. Bolgiano talked about future benefits of Velasco Crossing & Guillot Chemin Metairie Roundabout projects for surrounding residents. He acknowledged the anniversary of the passing of Firefighter Alex Bourque.
- Mr. Lannoo announced that the Youngsville Rotary Club will be hosting Pickle and Pints on June 10 at the recreation center.

9. ADJOURNMENT

9.1 Adjourn Meeting

Motion made by Logan Lannoo, seconded by Simone B. Champagne to adjourn the meeting.

YEAS: Logan Lannoo, Lindy Bolgiano, Matt Romero, Ken Stansbury, Simone B. Champagne.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Approved.

/s/ Nicole Guidry

Nicole Guidry, City Clerk

/s/ Ken Ritter

Ken Ritter, Mayor