

The city council of the city of DeQuincy met in regular session on the above date in the city hall council chambers located at 300 Holly Street, DeQuincy, Louisiana, with the following members present: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Absent: None.

Council Member Eddy Dahlquist called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Smith gave the invocation, and the new council led the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Margaret Brown to nominate Eddy Dahlquist as council chairman. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Scott Wylie to nominate Margret Brown as council vice-chairman. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith, and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Scott Wylie and seconded by Jim Smith to approve the December 12, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Without objection, the motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Valecia Royer read the financial report. As of December 31, 2022, the overall total revenue, actual year to date is \$1,131,246.24 with the FYE 9/30/2022 budget being \$6,527,710.00 and a remaining budget of \$5396,463.76. The total expenses, as of December 31, 2022, actual year to date total is \$1,266,112.85 with the FYE 9/30/2022 budget total expenses being \$8,672,570.00, and the remaining budget of \$7,406,457.15. There were no questions or comments from the council.

FIRE REPORT

The fire report from Fire Chief Johnny Copeland was in the council's file. There were five (5) calls for December 2022. There were no comments or questions from the council.

POLICE REPORT

The police report from Asst. Chief Roy Williams was in the council's file. There were 20 arrests, 181 complaints filed, 156 violations and 147 warnings given. The fines and bonds collected for the month of December totaled approximately \$23,834.23. There were 56 calls for service in District 1, 37 in District 2, 32 in District 3 and 34 in District 4. There were no comments or questions from the council.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The code enforcement report from Mr. Carroll was in the council's file. There were no questions or comments from the council.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

The public works report from Hank Frazier, for the street department, gas department and sewer department was in the council's file. It was as shown below and there were no questions or comments from the council.

Street:

- Prepared water lines for freezing temperatures
- Started taking down Christmas lights.
- Patched potholes
- Started street patching project RC Paving
- Started tearing down old city bard on 3rd Street.

Gas:

- Installed new gas meter at 1237 Capella Drive
- Killed gas service at 1007 Richard Allen Street
- Killed gas service on Washington Street

Sewer:

- Replaced manhole on Highway 12 West
- Cleaned sewer main on Highway 12 West
- Repaired sewer pump at wastewater plant.

CITY REPORT

Mayor Smith had no report this month.

A motion was made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Cameron Smith to approve the January 9, 2023 agenda. Without objection motion carried.

Public Input

Items not on the agenda:

None.

Items on the agenda:

Vance Perkins, 902 Overton Street – Mr. Perkin’s asked why the city and council is changing the monthly city council meetings to 5:30 rather than 6:00 p.m. Mayor Smith said he had received several requests to change the time to 5:00 p.m. and he just split the difference. Mr. Perkins also asked about the ordinance setting fees for public information request.

Cassandra Williams asked to be recognized when the discussion of the condemnation of 1103 Richard Allen Street comes up on the agenda.

Mayor Smith asked for approval of his appointment of Roy Williams to replace Casey Whitehead as police chief. A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Scott Wylie to approve Mayor Smith’s appointment of Roy Williams as DeQuincy Police Chief. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Mayor Smith re-appointed department heads; Pat Brummett-City Clerk, Hank Frazier-Public Works Director, and Johnny Copeland-DeQuincy Fire Chief. A motion was made by Scott Wylie and seconded by Jim Smith to approve Pat Brummett at City Clerk, Hank Frazier as Public Works Director and Johnny Copeland as DeQuincy Fire Chief. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Joseph DeMary addressed the council and requested a variance to purchase a mobile home that was slightly smaller than the city ordinance requires. A motion was made by Scott Wylie and seconded by Jim Smith to approve the variance requested by Joseph De Mary. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Scott Wylie to approve the liquor applications submitted by Daiquiris & Deaux and Dollar General. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Margaret Brown and seconded by Cameron Smith to begin the condemnation process on the structure located at 1001 Richard Allen Street. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Ms. Williams addressed the council regarding the structure at 1103 Richard Allen Street and asked that they postpone going forward with the condemnation of the structure. They are in the process of hiring an attorney to begin the succession of the current owners of the property and once that is complete they will purchase the property and clean it up themselves. A motion was made by Scott Wylie and seconded by Cameron Smith that this matter be tabled for three (3) months, with the understanding Mr. & Mrs. Williams will secure the property by putting a lock on the front door and boarding up the windows to secure the structure. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None: Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A public hearing was held regarding amending the general zoning ordinance to set out a minimum lot size for city lots, a minimum dwelling size and number of dwellings allowed per lot. There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Scott Wylie to adopt an ordinance amending the general zoning ordinance to set out a minimum lot size for city lots, a minimum dwelling size and number of dwellings allowed per lot. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None: Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Jim Smith and seconded by Cameron Smith to introduce an ordinance and set a public hearing for February 13, 2023 changing the time of our city council meetings from 6:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith, and Scott Wylie. Nays: None: Absent: None. Abstain: None.

A motion was made by Margaret Brown and seconded by Scott Wylie to introduce and ordinance and set a public hearing for February 13, 2023 setting the fees for public records request. Motion carried as follows: Yeas: Cameron Smith, Margaret Brown, Eddy Dahlquist, Jim Smith and Scott Wylie. Nays: None: Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Margaret Brown made a motion to adjourn, and Scott Wylie seconded the motion.

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
Pat Brummett City Council Clerk Riley Smith Mayor

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN: _____
Eddy Dahlquist