

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
JUNE 27, 2017

The Mayor and City Council of Morgan City, Louisiana, met at 6:00 pm (local time) in regular session, this date, in the City Court Building, Highway 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana.

There were present: Honorable Frank P. Grizzaffi, III Mayor; and Council Members Ron Bias, James Fontenot, Tim Hymel, Mark Stephens and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Marcus Folse, Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Bias.

Mr. Bobby Dufrene with the Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival submitted the request to hold the 82nd annual festival (Copy on file). A motion to approve the request was made by Reverend Bias seconded by Mr. Fontenot, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Ronnie Harris with CivicSource addressed the council regarding adjudicated properties. He stated that his company performed tax sales and sold adjudicated properties at no cost to the municipality. He stated that there would be a one year contract that would be automatically renewed each year. It could be canceled at any time. He stated that his company performed legal compliance by notifying every property owner and interested party associated with the property. He said that the average age of a delinquent property was twenty two years, which meant twenty two years of not collecting any taxes and costing the city money for upkeep. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the City currently had 30 properties that needed to be sold. Mr. Tamporello stated that he thought it would be a good idea, whereupon,

Mr. Tamporello offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-33

WHEREAS, political subdivisions across the State of Louisiana are faced with an ever-growing number of adjudicated properties in their land banks that are costly to maintain; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Constitution, Article VII, Section 14(C) provides that political subdivisions may engage in professional service agreements with public and private entities as long as a public purpose is served; and

WHEREAS, the sale of such properties in accordance with applicable law in order reverse and prevent the spread of blighted and abandoned property and to maintain the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Morgan City serves a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City entering into a Professional Services Agreement with CivicSource would be an efficient and cost effective way for the City to place adjudicated properties back into commerce and on the tax roll.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute and agreement with Archon Information Systems, LLC d/b/a CivicSource to assist with the disposition of adjudicated properties throughout the City.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Tamporello, Hymel, Bias, Fontenot, Stephens
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of June, 2017.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mr. Pat Cloutier asked the Mayor and Council if the City was paying for the excavation work at 1315 Front Street. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that there was an errors and omission insurance policy that the work was being covered by. Mr. Cloutier asked if LEPA voted to continue to fund lawyers up to \$350,000 until September. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he was not at the meeting last month, but he would check with LEPA and get back with Mr. Cloutier.

Several citizens from Eleventh Street addressed the council regarding the instability of the electrical services during the past few months. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that he agreed 100% with the citizens. He said the City was addressing the problems. There were bird, squirrel, lightening and tree problems that all caused various outages. He stated that we had not had a major hurricane in seven years, so there were many limbs on lines that are usually cut after major storms. He stated that \$1.2 million had been invested over the last two years in electrical upgrades, but more needed to be done. He stated a contractor had been hired to cut trees in addition to the city crews.

The minutes of the May 23, 2017 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Reverend Bias, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending May 31, 2017.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: June 27, 2017
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended May 31, 2017.

Attached is a summary that compares our actual revenues and expenses to our operational budget for our major funds subject to budgetary control for the period ending May 31, 2017. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Actual total revenues are over budget by \$54,300. Sales taxes in General Fund were over budget by \$13,000 however, I do not expect that to continue. Occupational licenses was still under budget by 152,000. Workmen's comp dividend was \$115,000 over budget. Operating expenses are below budget by \$366,000. The net loss, after transfers, of \$256,000 is a favorable variance of \$345,400 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are under budget by \$542,000, with operational expenses also under budget by \$448,000. Energy and gas costs are \$290,000 under budget. The net loss, after transfers, of \$495,000 creates an unfavorable variance of \$68,900.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$21,500 under budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$131,500. The net income, after transfers, of \$330,700 leaves a favorable variance of \$179,000.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Deborah Garber
Deborah Garber
Finance Director

**CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT**

Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended May 31, 2017

	MAY 2017 ACTUAL	MAY 2017 BUDGET	VARIANCE
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS			
REVENUES			
General Fund	2,526,368	2,509,379	16,989
Recreation			
Fund	60,778	45,382	15,396
Library Fund	8,205	5,848	2,357
Auditorium			
Fund	55,205	31,795	23,410
Lake End Park Fund	316,544	320,380	(3,836)
Total Revenues	2,967,100	2,912,784	54,316
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	4,046,659	4,202,720	(156,061)
Recreation			
Fund	143,288	218,682	(75,394)
Library Fund	53,617	57,076	(3,459)
Auditorium			
Fund	183,997	228,541	(44,544)
Lake End Park Fund	283,779	370,433	(86,654)
Total Expenses	4,711,340	5,077,452	(366,112)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	1,593,333	1,668,338	(75,005)
Transfers to Funds	(105,000)	(105,000)	0
Net Transfers	1,488,333	1,563,338	(75,005)
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	(255,907)	(601,330)	345,423
UTILITY FUND			
Total Revenues	7,006,206	7,548,618	(542,412)
Total Expenditures	6,083,414	6,532,075	(448,661)
Net Excess	922,792	1,016,543	(93,751)
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(1,417,884)	(1,442,761)	24,877
Excess net of transfers	(495,092)	(426,218)	(68,874)
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total Revenues	1,093,726	1,115,250	(21,524)
Total Expenses	1,236,678	1,368,234	(131,556)
Net Excess	(142,952)	(252,984)	110,032
Net Transfers/non-operating expenses	473,722	404,606	69,116
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	330,770	151,622	179,148

A motion to accept the financial statement was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Reverend Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that Councilman Stephens had been approached by Mr. Dalton regarding a piece of property adjacent to his property a 304 Egle Street. Mr. Dalton had provided an appraisal, but a survey still needed to be completed. Mr. Dalton said he had a survey from when the property was originally purchased in 1948 or 1949. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that an ordinance would be placed on the next Council agenda for introduction that would allow the sale of the property.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the Lake End Park Committee and Recreation and Parks Commission had decided to lower the cabin rental rate to \$100 per night from Sunday through Thursday, and there would not be a two night minimum during this time, effective immediately. This was informational only, no definitive action necessary.

The next matter on the agenda was the Acadian Ambulance Master Services Agreement, whereupon,

Reverend Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R:17-34

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of entering into a Master Services Agreement with Acadian Ambulance for the ground transportation of patients of the City of Morgan City Jail needing transportation , and

WHEREAS, Acadian Ambulance Service shall charge the City of Morgan City Jail the Louisiana Medicaid allowable rates for the services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute a master agreement with the Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc., for and on behalf of and in the name of said Municipal Corporation, to perform ground ambulance transportation for the City of Morgan City Jail.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Stephens, Fontenot, Hymel, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of June, 2017.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mr. Dwayne Barbier stated that he was requesting up to \$10,000 from the Lake End Park Building & Maintenance Fund for a boat launch and pile driving at the marina, whereupon,

Mr. Hymel offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R:17-35

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the following Lake End Park Committee and Recreation & Parks Commission recommendation be and the same is hereby approved:

1. Allocate up to \$10,000 from the Lake End Park Building and Maintenance Fund for the construction of a wharf near the boat launch on Highway 70.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Hymel, Tamporello, Bias, Fontenot, Stephens
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of June, 2017.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the Wharf Committee had met and established new wharf fees that needed to be adopted by the Council, whereupon,

Mr. Tamporello offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 17-36

WHEREAS, Ordinance 02-26 adopted December 17, 2002, gave authority to the Morgan City Wharf Committee to implement wharf fees, docking fees, and/or berth fees for all vessels using the public dock, and

WHEREAS, said ordinance provides that these fees shall be approved by the City Council, and

WHEREAS, the Wharf Committee recommends that the following fees be implemented:

- In lieu of a daily fee, an Annual Permit Fee of \$500.00 will be charged for mooring a vessel to the public dock for one calendar year (January 1 – December 31). Annual permits must have commercial fishing license, proof of insurance, be an active shrimper and sign a hold harmless clause by the City of Morgan City. The Annual Permit will cover anyone with a commercial fishing license within St. Mary Parish or a 15 mile radius of the dock. The annual permit allows the holder to sell shrimp.

- \$25.00 per night for any vessel that does not purchase an annual permit. This fee will also apply to any vessel tying up to another vessel. This fee includes electricity and water.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that it hereby approves the implementation of the above referred fees for docking at the Morgan City Wharf.

Mr. Fontenot seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Tamporello, Fontenot, Bias, Hymel, Stephens
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of June, 2017.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Chief Blair stated that he was requesting up to \$28,000 for a fully loaded police pursuit vehicle under State Contract price, whereupon,

Reverend Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R:17-37

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the following is hereby approved:

2. Allocate up to \$28,000 from the State Prisoner's fund to purchase a 2017 Ford Police Vehicle under the current 2017 State Contract Price.

Mr. Fontenot seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Fontenot, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of June, 2017.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The first reading for the Millage Rates for 2017 was opened. Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the last adopted bond millage needed to be rescinded and a new rate needed to be adopted. This was a first reading, no definitive action was necessary.

The application for a Class "A" Liquor and beer permit (copy on file) for John G. Hudson d/b/a A.J.'s Second Street Pub, 1400 Second Street, was submitted. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Reverend Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Reverend Bias and voted unanimously in favor of.

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor