

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
MARCH 22, 2022

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 Lee Dragna, Mayor; and Council Members Ron Bias, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel, Mark Stephens and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Steven Kelly.

The Positive Image recipient for the month of March was Mr. Ryan Yager. Mr. Solar stated that since arriving in Morgan City about 15 years ago, Mr. Yager had worked hand in hand with him on many different local projects and with many different organizations. He thanked him for being a valuable asset to the community and told him he would always be welcomed back as a resident of Morgan City. Mr. Yager thanked the Mayor and Council for the award and thanked the citizens of Morgan City for welcoming he and his family with open arms. Mr. Hymel thanked Mr. Yager for hosting an Italian foreign exchange student and said he thoroughly enjoyed having the student at Morgan City High.

Mr. Greg Green with Sounds of the City submitted a request to the Council to hold an outdoor music event on Friday evenings during the month of May from 6PM to 10PM (copy on file). A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Bryce Merrill submitted a request to place an Oilfield Diver's monument on the grounds of the Municipal Auditorium near the Fallen Warrior Memorial (copy on file). He said it would be a 6' bronze statue designed and built by the same person that designed the Fallen Warrior Memorial. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Jennifer Edwards with Painted Pillars of the Community submitted a request to allow painting of the pillars under the US 90 bridge (copy on file). She stated that there would be an approval process as well as sponsorships available. A motion to approve the project was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Domangue and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the Mayor's Update. Mayor Dragna stated that there had been a major power outage for most of the day. All power had now been restored and the Electrical crews got the job done in spite of the high winds and bad weather. A contractor would have to come in and do a permanent repair on the line, but that would be a planned outage and the public would be notified.

The minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending February 28, 2022.

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**MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**DATE:** March 22, 2022  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Deborah Garber  
**RE:** Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended February 28, 2022.

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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 February 28, 2022. The following comments are related thereto:

**General and Ancillary Funds:** The City is starting the year off well with actual total revenues over budget by \$135,683. Sales taxes in General Fund were over budget by \$77,000. Operating expenses are below budget by \$204,629. The net income, after transfers, of \$146,677 is a favorable variance of \$450,313 compared to the budget.

**Utility Fund:** Actual revenues are currently over budget by \$162,189. The operational expenses are under budget by \$238,200. The net income, after transfers, of \$82,943 creates a favorable variance of \$398,034.

**Sanitation and Sewer Fund:** The operating revenues are \$7,888 over budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$49,850. The net income, after transfers, of \$189,943 leaves another favorable variance of \$57,853.

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

**CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT**

Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget  
Period Ended February 28, 2022

	<b>FEBRUARY 2022</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 2022</b>	
<b>GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
General Fund	1,162,623	1,103,546	59,077
Recreation Fund	15,256	5,617	9,639
Library Fund	2,101	2,253	(152)
Auditorium Fund	5,181	5,237	(56)
Lake End Park Fund	178,984	111,810	67,174
State Prisoner Fund	26,091	63,750	(37,659)
Total Revenues	<u>1,364,145</u>	<u>1,228,462</u>	<u>135,683</u>
<b>EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL</b>			
General Fund	1,529,328	1,646,323	(116,995)
Recreation Fund	52,155	51,897	258
Library Fund	12,952	23,207	(10,255)
Auditorium Fund	64,643	77,468	(12,825)
Lake End Park Fund	127,372	164,741	(37,369)
State Prisoner Fund	107,684	135,128	(27,444)
Total Expenses	<u>1,894,134</u>	<u>2,098,763</u>	<u>(204,629)</u>
<b>TRANSFERS</b>			
Transfers from Funds	676,666	566,666	110,000
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	<u>676,666</u>	<u>566,666</u>	<u>110,000</u>
<b>EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS</b>	<u>146,677</u>	<u>(303,636)</u>	<u>450,313</u>
<b>UTILITY FUND</b>			
Total			
Revenues	3,558,217	3,396,028	162,189
Total Expenditures	<u>2,908,817</u>	<u>3,147,035</u>	<u>(238,218)</u>
Net			
Excess	649,400	248,992	400,408
Net Transfers and non-oper.	<u>(566,457)</u>	<u>(564,083)</u>	<u>(2,373)</u>

Excess net of transfers	82,943	(315,091)	398,034
<b>SANITATION AND SEWER FUND</b>			
Total			
Revenues	499,308	491,420	7,888
Total			
Expenses	515,730	565,580	(49,850)
Net			
Excess	(16,422)	(74,160)	57,738
Net Transfers/non-			
operating expenses	206,365	206,250	115
Excess net of transfers			
and non-operating	189,943	132,090	57,853

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

Mr. Pete Lawton stated that all appropriate notifications had been sent to the owners of the property at 320 Bowman Street. There had been no response. The property had been adjudicated to the City and the mobile home needed to be torn down before it became a problem. A motion to approve the demolition of the property at 320 Bowman Street was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Lawton stated that the property at 1717 Elk Street was falling in on itself. He stated that the owner was willing to pay to have the house torn down if the City waived the tipping fees. A motion to approve the demolition of 1717 Elk Street was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

The property at 1103 Birch Street was the next matter on the agenda. Mr. Lawton stated that this was a cluster of old buildings and houses, night clubs and trailers. A motion to approve the demolition of 1103 Birch Street was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna stated that the line of credit needed to be renewed. It was lowered from \$2 Million to \$1.5 Million and a resolution needed to be passed; whereupon,

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Tamporello and seconded by Mr. Hymel:

#### **RESOLUTION R: 22-08**

A resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) of Revenue Anticipation Notes of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana; providing certain terms of said Notes; making application to the State Bond Commission for approval of said Notes; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

**WHEREAS**, Section 527 and the other applicable provisions of Part II of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, and other constitutional authority (the "Act"), authorize governmental entities to pay their current expenses for any fiscal year by issuing revenue anticipation notes for the purpose of anticipating revenues for such fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Act, the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana (the "Issuer"), desires to incur debt and issue not exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) of its Revenue Anticipation Notes (the "Notes"), for the purpose of paying current expenses of the Issuer for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 in anticipation of the revenues of the Issuer for such fiscal year, said Notes to mature not later than March 31, 2023, and to bear interest at a rate not to exceed 5% per annum; and

**WHEREAS**, the Issuer has determined that the aforesaid borrowing authorization does not exceed the estimated revenues of the Issuer for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Issuer desires to make formal application to the State Bond Commission for approval of the Notes described above;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Morgan City Council (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, that:

SECTION 1. **Preliminary Approval of Notes**. The Issuer is hereby authorized to incur debt and issue not to exceed \$1,500,000 of its Revenue Anticipation Notes, at a rate or rates not exceeding 5% per annum, to mature not later than March 31, 2023, for the purpose of paying the costs of current expenses of the Issuer for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022, said Notes to be secured by and payable from the revenues of the Issuer for such fiscal year.

SECTION 2. **State Bond Commission**. Application is hereby made to the State Bond Commission, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for approval of the issuance and sale of the Notes and for consent and authority to proceed with the issuance and sale of the Notes as provided above, and Bond Counsel is directed to make application to the State Bond Commission in accordance with the foregoing on behalf of the Governing Authority.

By virtue of Issuer's application for, acceptance and utilization of the benefits of the Louisiana State Bond Commission's approval(s) resolved and set forth herein, it resolves that it understands and agrees that such approval(s) are expressly conditioned upon, and it further resolves that it understands, agrees and binds itself, its successors and assigns to, full and continuing compliance with the "State Bond Commission Policy on Approval of Proposed Use of Swaps, or other forms of Derivative Products Hedges, Etc.", adopted by the Commission on July 20, 2006, as to the borrowing(s) and other matter(s) subject to the approval(s), including subsequent application and approval under said Policy of the implementation or use of any swap(s) or other product(s) or enhancement(s) covered thereby.

SECTION 3. **Employment**. This Governing Authority finds and determines that a real necessity exists for the employment of special counsel in connection with the issuance of the Notes, and accordingly, Foley & Judell, L.L.P., of New Orleans, Louisiana, as Bond Counsel, is hereby employed to do and perform work of a traditional legal nature as bond counsel with respect to the issuance and sale of said Notes. Said Bond Counsel shall prepare and submit to this Governing Authority for adoption all of the proceedings incidental to the authorization, issuance, sale and delivery of such Notes, shall counsel and advise this Governing Authority as to the issuance and sale thereof and shall furnish its opinions covering the legality of the issuance of the Notes. The fee of Bond Counsel for each series of notes shall be fixed at a sum not exceeding the fee allowed by the Attorney General's fee guidelines for such bond counsel work in connection with the issuance of revenue notes and based on the amount of said Notes actually issued, sold, delivered and paid for, plus "out-of-pocket" expenses, said fees to be contingent upon the issuance, sale and delivery of said Notes. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute, and this Governing Authority hereby agrees to and accepts the terms of, the engagement letter of Bond Counsel appended hereto. A certified copy of this resolution shall be submitted to the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana for his written approval of said employment and of the fees herein designated, and the Director of Finance is hereby empowered and directed to provide for payment of the work herein specified upon completion thereof and under the conditions herein enumerated without further approval of this Governing Authority.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Tamporello, Hymel, Bias, Domangue, Stephens

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Clerk of the Council

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Mayor

The next matter on the agenda was the Fair Housing Month resolution; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-09

WHEREAS the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, as amended, states that "...no person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale, rental, or advertising of dwellings, in the provision of brokerage services, or in the availability of residential real estate-related transaction including lenders, builders and homeowners insurance companies..." and

WHEREAS the State of Louisiana passed the Louisiana Equal Housing Opportunity Act which allows the Louisiana Attorney General's Office to enforce fair housing laws, and

WHEREAS the City of Morgan City desires to promote Fair Housing practices throughout the community and in particular regard to those programs providing housing assistance to area residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the month of April, 2022 be proclaimed as

**FAIR HOUSING MONTH**

In Morgan City, Louisiana and do hereby encourage all citizens to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law, and ask the citizens of Morgan City to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to fair housing opportunities for all.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that Pastor Bias had expressed interest in removing the Voter Registration District from the Employment Application of the City; whereupon,

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

**RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-10**

WHEREAS, by Resolution R:96-11, dated January 23, 1996, the City Council adopted an "employee workplan", and

WHEREAS, a part of said workplan is an "Application for Employment", and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of removing the "Voter Registration District" from the form.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the Governing Authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that the "Application for Employment" is hereby amended.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Change Order for the Maple Street Pump Station Rehabilitation Project; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-11

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 in the name of and on behalf of said municipal corporation, to execute Change Order Number 1 in the amount of + \$39,139.88, under Contract Number R:21-13, between the City of Morgan City and Volute, Inc., for the Maple Street Pump Station Rehabilitation project.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that the engineering agreement for the Maple Street Pump Station Rehabilitation needed to be changed as well; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-12

WHEREAS, the by Resolution R:20-04, dated January 28, 2020, the City engaged the firm of Pan American Engineers, LLC, to perform engineering services for the Maple Street Sewer Pump Station Project; and

WHEREAS, an Amendment to the Agreement Between the Owner and Engineer for Professional Services needs to be executed to facilitate the installation of the generator and automatic transfer switch installation.

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 any and all documents in connection with this project.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The Resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that the bridges on Veteran's Boulevard had recently been inspected and needed some repair work. St. Mary Parish Council received bids on the the repairs to both bridges, and it was agreed that the City would be responsible for forty percent of the total cost of repairs; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-13

WHEREAS, St. Mary Parish Government received bids for labor and materials to perform repairs on the Veteran's Boulevard Bridge for Recall #200879; and

WHEREAS, the total proposal was in the amount of EIGHTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (84,989.00); and

WHEREAS, they City has agreed to reimburse St. Mary Parish Government for forty percent of the repairs which would be THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$33,995.60).

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, will reimburse St. Mary Parish Government in the amount of THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$33,995.60) for the Veterans Boulevard Bridge Repairs, Recall #200879.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-14

WHEREAS, St. Mary Parish Government received bids for labor and materials to perform repairs on the Veteran's Boulevard Bridge for Recall #200880; and

WHEREAS, the total proposal was in the amount of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$76,734.00); and

WHEREAS, they City has agreed to reimburse St. Mary Parish Government for forty percent of the repairs which would be THIRTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY-THREE DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$30,693.60).

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, will reimburse St. Mary Parish Government in the amount of THIRTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY-THREE DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS (\$30,693.60) for the Veterans Boulevard Bridge Repairs, Recall #200880.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of  
March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

In the matter of the selection of an Engineer for the ARPA Sewer Projects,  
Pastor Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-15

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City is interested in making upgrades to the water systems with portions of the American Rescue Plan Act monies; and

WHEREAS, the City has requested qualification statements from interested firms and individuals for Engineering Design, Construction Observation and Project Implementation Services for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); and

WHEREAS, the qualification statements have been reviewed and ranked in accordance with the established Program Criteria.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Professional Engineering and Environmental Consultants, Inc. is hereby selected by the City of Morgan City to provide Engineering Design, Construction Observation, and Project Implementation Services for Water Rehab Projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute a contract for the above services.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of  
March, 2022.

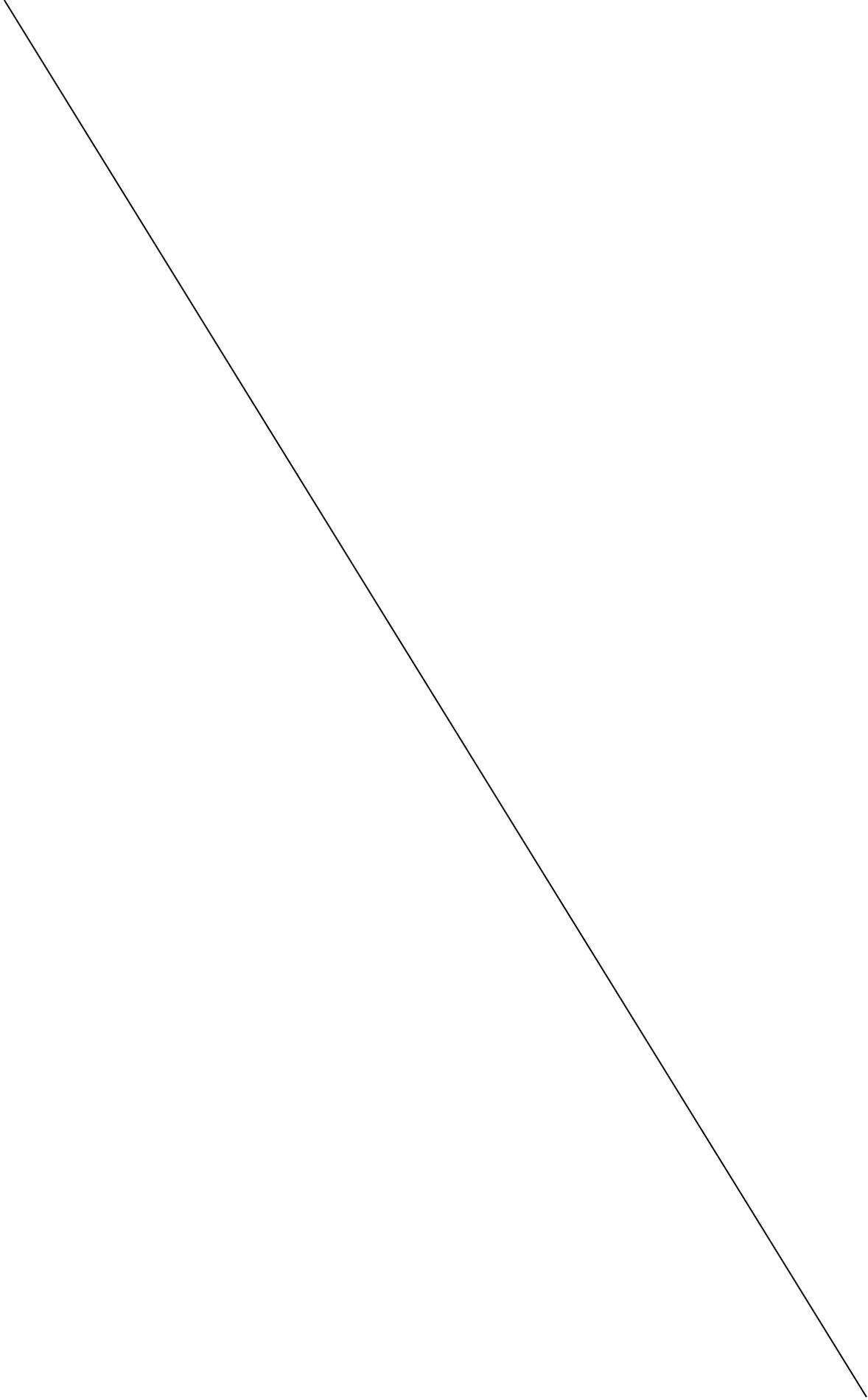
/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

The first reading on the Revenue Anticipation Notes was opened. No definitive action was necessary.

The last item on the agenda was the Resolution of Respect for Julius Vining; whereupon,



Messrs. Bias, Domangue, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-16  
**IN MEMORIAM**  
**JULIUS MARVIN VINING**

WHEREAS, God, in his infinite wisdom has taken Julius Marvin Vining from our midst; and

WHEREAS, he served as a staff sergeant in the Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, he managed the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, he served on the Lake End Park Committee and the Convention Tourism and Culture Committee; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his two sons, Marvin Vining and wife Diane of Berwick, Ronnie Vining and wife Angela of Berwick; one daughter, Judy Davis and husband Bo of Lafayette; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and one on the way; girlfriend, Letitia Blanchard and sister-in-law, Ruby Vining.

WHEREAS, he will be missed by the many, whose lives he touched.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that all those in attendance at this meeting rise and bow their heads in silent prayer out of respect for the late Julius Marvin Vining and extend to his bereaved family our sincere condolences in this, their hour of sorrow, and in these inadequate words endeavor to express the high regard in which we held him in life and honor his memory in death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that this resolution be inscribed on a separate page of the official proceedings of this meeting; that a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family; and that this meeting adjourn out of respect for the late Julius Marvin Vining.

Messrs. Bias, Domangue, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor