

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
MAY 27, 2025

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, and Bonnie Leonard.

Absent: Eriq Blanchard

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

The invocation was given by Reverend Marty Harden.

There was no Positive Image recipient for the month of May.

Lee Price requested the removal of several utility poles near the Lake End Bark Park so that he could hold a kite festival (copy on file). He said kite events are held in other areas of the state and are well attended. It was currently in the planning stages. Mayor Dragna told him that they could help with the removal of any unused poles. Mr. Price also requested that the city build a Crawler Test Course near that area, using the existing broken concrete that is being dumped near the lake. He said it could be built in the shape of a pyramid and RC 4 X 4 trucks and track machines could use it. He said there was not currently anything in the area. They would need one utility pole there to charge the RC trucks and machines. Mayor Dragna said he had no objections and suggested that he go before the Lake End Park Committee and the Recreation and Park Commission to get their approval. He said that Mr. Dwayne Barbier could help him with the dates of those meetings.

Ms. Hailee Thomas submitted a request to hold the 90th Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival (copy on file). She said that this year there would be no imported shrimp served at the festival and that any vendors that purchased local shrimp would be highlighted in advertising and with signs at their booth. A motion to allow the 90th annual Louisiana Shrimp & Petroleum Festival was made by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Pastor Bias stated that the 6th Annual Juneteenth bike ride would be held on June 14, 2025, and would begin at 7 AM at the Jimmy Johnson Memorial Basketball Court. He invited everyone to attend. He said there would be guest speakers, including NASA retired engineer Barry Robertson and Tatiana Grogan, food, music, and fun.

The minutes of the April 22, 2025 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna did not give a Mayor's Update for the month of May.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending April 30, 2025.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
DATE:	May 27, 2025
TO:	Mayor and Council
FROM:	Deborah Garber
RE:	Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended April 30, 2025.

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 April 30, 2025. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Actual revenues are now over budget by \$73,605. Operating expenses are slightly under budget by \$45,577. The net loss of \$1,680,853 is a favorable variance of \$119,182 as compared to the adopted budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues in this fund are increasingly under budget by \$565,209. This is a result of Electric revenues being 799,000 under budget. The operational expenses are over budget by \$419,172. This overage is in large part due to Purchase power costs being over budget by \$369,000. The net income, after transfers, of \$808,648 creates an unfavorable variance this month compared to the budget of \$854,337.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are slightly over budget by \$21,214, with total operating expenses under budget by \$67,639. The net income, after transfers, of \$162,439 leaves a favorable variance of \$105,188.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended April 30, 2025

	APRIL 2025 ACTUAL	APRIL 2025 BUDGET	VARIANCE
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS			
REVENUES			
General Fund	2,546,529	2,471,547	74,982
Recreation Fund	44,018	29,982	14,036
Library Fund	1,025	1,000	25
Auditorium Fund	37,497	33,028	4,469
Lake End Park Fund	377,424	370,468	6,956
Cemetery Fund	19,538	66,744	(47,206)
State Prisoner Fund	68,695	48,352	20,343
Total Revenues	3,094,726	3,021,121	73,605
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	4,028,287	3,981,281	47,006
Recreation Fund	180,225	205,566	(25,341)
Library Fund	42,908	56,258	(13,350)
Auditorium Fund	178,438	167,244	11,194
Lake End Park Fund	286,219	381,999	(95,780)
Cemetery Fund	89,507	65,652	23,855
State Prisoner Fund	204,995	198,156	6,839
Total Expenses	5,010,579	5,056,156	(45,577)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	235,000	235,000	0
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	235,000	235,000	0
Excess(deficiency) net of transfers	(1,680,853)	(1,800,035)	119,182
UTILITY FUND			
Total Revenues	7,339,443	7,904,652	(565,209)
Total Expenditures	6,635,959	6,216,787	419,172

Net Excess	703,484	1,687,865	(984,381)
Net Transfers and non-oper.	105,164	(24,880)	130,044
Excess net of transfers	808,648	1,662,985	(854,337)

SANITATION AND SEWER FUND

Total Revenues	1,152,654	1,131,440	21,214
Total Expenses	1,367,672	1,435,311	(67,639)
Net Excess	(215,018)	(303,871)	88,853
Net Transfers/non- operating expenses	377,457	361,122	16,335
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	162,439	57,251	105,188

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

The next matter on the agenda was the condemnation and demolition report.

Compliance Officer Jimmy Knight said that all notices had been sent out for 606 Aucoin Street. All correspondence had been returned unopened. The house was not secured and was overgrown with vegetation. A motion to condemn the house at 606 Aucoin Street was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Knight said that the house at 718 Bush Street had been sold, and the new owner was given 30 days to get the house into compliance.

The house at 619 Kentucky Street was the next matter on the agenda. All mail had been returned. Pastor Bias said the house was in terrible condition and vagrants were in and out of the house constantly. Pastor Bias made the motion to condemn the property at 619 Kentucky Street, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

The condemnation of the house located at 111 Mount Street was the next matter on the agenda. All notices had been sent to the property owner. Mr. Knight said he had spoken with the granddaughter of the owner, and she wanted to fix the house, but could not afford to do so at this time. A motion to condemn the house at 111 Mount Street was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Knight said the owner of 1110 Levee Road was in favor of tearing down the house but did not have the resources at this time. A motion to condemn the house at 1110 Levee Road was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

The owner of the house at 517 Terrebonne Street had passed away and willed it to his girlfriend. They could not produce any documentation regarding succession. A motion to condemn the house at 517 Terrebonne Street was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

The final house on the agenda was 933 Short Street. Pastor Bias said that the house was in such bad condition that he felt no discussion was needed. A fire had caused major damage to the home in 2024. All notices had been sent out. A motion to condemn the property at 933 Short Street was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the fiscal agent; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-33

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FISCAL AGENT OF THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY

WHEREAS, in response to the City’s public notice requesting bids for a Fiscal Agent, two bids were received; four (4) local banks (MC Bank, Patterson State Bank, Regions Bank, and First National Bank of Jeanerette) submitted one (1) joint bid; ans

WHEREAS, each bank is qualified and capable of handling the account of the City as a Fiscal Agent,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the MC Bank and Trust Company, Patterson State Bank, Regions Bank, and First National Bank of Jeanerette, are hereby named and designated as the Fiscal Agents for the City of Morgan City, Louisiana,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the MC Bank is designated as Managing Depository bank for the accounts of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the accounts of the City now on deposit with each of the said banks or any future accounts of the City shall be divided equally among the said four (4) banks as allowable by state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that investments of funds in excess of those required for demand accounts shall be invested at the discretion of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that any account now on deposit with any bank by virtue of a resolution naming said bank as official depository of a trust agreement or bond issue shall not be affected by this resolution.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES:	Hymel, Leonard, Bias, Domangue
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Blanchard

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of May, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mr. Charlie Solar said that the City had to adopt a Self-Insurance Plan to satisfy Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines; whereupon,

Mrs. Leonard offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-34

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City has the legal responsibility for assets which require insurance for potential wind and hail events impacting Morgan City; and

WHEREAS, it is a federal requirement that the City obtain and maintain insurance on assets previously funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance; and

WHEREAS, the cost of market insurance for wind and hail perils is no longer cost effective for Morgan City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that it hereby adopts the municipal, annually funded, self-insurance plan/policy to provide insurance coverage for the perils of wind and hail for Morgan City's facility assets and associated contents.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES:	Leonard, Domangue, Bias, Hymel
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	Blanchard

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 27th day of May, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

City Attorney Paul Landry said that there was a pump station on Park Road that needed power, but to run the lines would be very expensive. There had been negotiations with SLECA, and an agreement was reached that SLECA would supply electricity to the Sewer Pump Station, and the City would allow SLECA to service the forty customers at the proposed new Mobile Home Park on Park Road; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-35

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City is in need of electrical utilities to supply the Park Road Sewer Lift Station on Industrial Road; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the cost to construct the necessary electric utilities would be very expensive; and

WHEREAS, the South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association currently supplies electric utilities in that area; and

WHEREAS, the South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association has agreed to furnish unmetered electric utilities to the Park Road Sewer Lift Station; and

WHEREAS, the City will need SLECA to supply electrical utilities to approximately 40 new customers on Industrial Road at a proposed mobile home park.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that it enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association to accomplish this.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Hymel, Domangue, Leonard
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Blanchard

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 28th day of May, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The public hearing for the Adoption of Millage Rates for the Tax Year 2025 was opened. No one appeared for or against said ordinance; whereupon, This Ordinance introduced with first reading on April 22, 2025. Published by title on April 25, 2025.

Mr. Domangue offered the following Ordinance, who moved for its adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATES OF TAX TO BE ASSESSED BY THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2025.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, in regular session convened:

SECTION 1

That the tax roll of the City of Morgan City as prepared by the St. Mary Parish Assessor, showing the assessed value of all property subject to taxation within the said City, on said roll, to amount to the sum of ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO and no/100 DOLLARS (\$149,785,182.00) to be and the same is hereby ratified and approved by this body.

SECTION 2

That for the purpose of meeting the ordinary, municipal expenses of said City for the year 2025 there is hereby levied upon all property within said City, subject to taxation, an ad valorem tax of SIXTEEN AND SEVEN ONE HUNDREDTHS (16.07) mills on the dollar, upon the assessed value of ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO and no/100 DOLLARS (\$149,785,182.00)

SECTION 3

That for the purpose of paying the maintenance and other such expenses of the Municipal Auditorium for the year 2025, there is hereby levied a tax of TWO (2.0) mills on the dollar upon the assessed value of ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE MILLION, SEVEN

HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO and no/100 DOLLARS (\$149,785,182.00)

SECTION 4

That the proper administrative officials of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, be and are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said City for the year 2025, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and the collection hereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 5

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict hereby be and the same are hereby repealed and this ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption, the public welfare so demanding.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:
AYES: Domangue, Bias, Hymel, Leonard
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Blanchard

Certified approved and adopted this 27th day of May, 2025.

Delivered to Mayor Dragna at 8:00 AM, this 28th day of May, 2025.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Approved this 28th day of May, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

Received from Mayor Dragna at 8:15 AM on May 28, 2025.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Published: May 30, 2025

The Class “A” & “B” Liquor and Beer application for Migel Izaguirre d/b/a Chile Loco was the next matter on the agenda. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

The following renewals for the 2025 -2026 Class “A” and “B” Liquor and Beer Licenses were the next item on the agenda.

ATCHAFALAYA CAFÉ LLC	7310 HIGHWAY 182 E	A
BAY CITY BISTRO INC	618 FRONT ST	A
BOURBON’S LLC	501 FIRST ST	A
CAFÉ JOJO’S LLC	624 FRONT ST	A
CAJUN COUNTRY LOUNGE	1226 VICTOR II BLVD	A
CANNATA’S SUPERMARKET INC	6010 LA-182	B
COMFORT INN & SUITES	610 MLK BLVD	A
CIRCLE K #4640	7700 US-90	B
CIRCLE K #2706821	6383 HIGHWAY 182 E	B
COU-YONS BAR LLC	117 RAILROAD AVE	A
THE CROOKED CORNER	1400 SECOND ST	A
LOUISIANA CVS/PHARMACY	6502 HIGHWAY 182	B
DAQUIRIS & COMPANY	7550 HIGHWAY 182	A
CLUB DAIQUIRIS INC.		
DOLLAR GENERAL STORE #1974	818 BRASHEAR AVE	B
DOLLAR GENERAL STORE #23803	7518 HIGHWAY 182 E	B

DON JOSE OF MORGAN CITY LLC	605 MLK BLVD	A
EAST GATE BBQ LLC	7516 HIGHWAY 182 E	A
FAMILY DOLLAR STORE #01124	900 SEVENTH ST	B
FAMILY DOLLAR STORE #10946	7535 HIGHWAY 182 E	B
FIFTH STREET STORE LLC	701 EVERETT ST	B
FRIEND'S TAVERN	6815 HIGHWAY 182 E	A
G AND J LAND & MARINE FOOD DIST.	506 FRONT ST	B
GANAWAY'S #1	1409 FEDERAL AVE	B
HAMPTON INN MORGAN CITY	6365 HIGHWAY 182 E	A
KILPATRICK HOTELS #4		
JUST 4 HIM MORGAN CITY	1115 NINTH ST	A
LA MORITA MEAK MARKET LLC	1230 VICTOR II BLVD	A
LAS BRISAS LLC	7418 HIGHWAY 182	A
LINKS CAFE	1118 VICTOR II BLVD	A
MAMA G'S	7540 HIGHWAY 90	A
MEL-STAR INC	620 MLK BLVD	B
ONE STOP	7028 HIGHWAY 182 E	B
PARADISE VALLEY CASINO	1116 VICTOR II BLVD	A
PARADISE VALLEY DAIQUIRIS	1114 VICTOR II BLVD	A
PETROLEUM CLUB OF MORGAN CITY	500 RODERICK ST	A
POOL DO'S SPORTS BAR LLC	615 BRASHEAR AVE	A
QUICK GENERAL MINI MARKET	2407 SIXTH ST	B
ROUSE'S SUPERMARKET #10	6403 HIGHWAY 90	B
SAAS HOTELS LLC	520 RODERICK ST	A
SPORTS BAR	7419 HIGHWAY 182	A
STAZIONE DELI #2	6602 HIGHWAY 90	B
SUSHIRO STEAK HOUSE	6214 HIGHWAY 182	A
TABLE FIVE	702 FIFTH ST	A
THE CIGARETTE STORE LLC	7521 HWY 182	B
TRI CITY LIQUOR & WINE LLC	500 BRASHEAR AVE	B
THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY	319 SECOND ST	A
THE GALLEY	7409 HIGHWAY 182 E	A
VICTOR II DELI	1220 VICTOR II BLVD	B
WALGREEN'S #10975	815 BRASHEAR AVE	B
WAL-MART MARKET #7099	1002 HIGHWAY 182	B
*NEW CHILE LOCO LLC	1229 VICTOR II BLVD	A

Pastor Bias made a motion to approve the renewal of all of the Class "A" and "B" licenses **except** Table Five. He said Table Five could be brought before the Council after a court decision was made. Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion. Voting in favor was Pastor Bias, Mrs. Leonard, and Mr. Hymel. Mr. Domangue abstained from the vote.

Mayor Dragna submitted the name of Lori Broussard for appointment to the Board of Adjustments and the Planning & Zoning Committee. A motion to concur in the appointments was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor