

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
SEPTEMBER 23, 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, Bonnie Leonard, and Thomas Hutchinson, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present was Mr. Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer.

The invocation was given by Reverend Tracey Smith.

There was no positive image recipient for September.

Mrs. Kelly Cantu, with Chez Hope, said that it was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and presented a proclamation for Mayor Dragna's signature. Mr. Hymel said that the program was a lifesaver, and Mrs. Leonard thanked Chez Hope for the wonderful program available to our residents. A motion to approve the proclamation was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Beverly Domengeaux, with St. Mary Council on Aging, presented the Senior Center Month proclamation. A motion to approve the proclamation was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Jessica Dubois with St. Mary Outreach submitted the yearly request to use the Petting Zoo for the annual Pumpkin Patch (copy on file). She said that this year, around 1400 children were scheduled to attend the event. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Hutchinson, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Courtney & Mrs. Danika Long were not in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Kolin Leonard with NICS requested permission to use Lawrence Park on October 19, 2025, for an All-Inclusive Trunk or Treat. This event would provide a fun, safe, and sensory-friendly event for children and families with special needs (copy on file). A motion to approve the request was made by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Danielle Sons, with the Atchafalaya Bit & Bridle Club, requested permission to hold a Cajun Rodeo Association rodeo on October 4, 2025, from 10 AM to 10 PM at the arena. A motion to approve the request, pending Police Department approval, was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor. Mrs. Sons also stated that on October 11, October 18, and October 31, there would be a walk-through Halloween event at the arena for area residents. Admission would be \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Mr. Dwayne Barbier stated that the Recreation & Parks Commission had approved an Every Body Pilates Plus event at the Lawrence Park tennis courts on October 18, 2025. He said that since that meeting, they had requested to serve Mimosas and Bloody Marys at the event, and would need a temporary liquor license. A motion to approve the license was made by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Lindsey Anslem requested permission to hold a prayer service for the community on October 13, 2025, from 5:30 PM to 7 PM, at the gazebo in Lawrence Park. This event would be called "Awaken the Halls" and would be open to the public. She said she had not gone too far with the organization, and no specific churches were involved at this point, she just felt our community needed prayers during these times. Pastor Bias said that he definitely wanted to be a part of the event. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Hutchinson, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Mike Ruffin asked the Mayor if the "Charlie" sign on the flood wall had been removed. Mayor Dragna said it had been scheduled to run for 7 days and had timed out.

Mr. Ruffin said that Mr. Kirk’s rhetoric offends a lot of people, and as a black man, he could not deal with it. As a City, he felt someone should have spoken up because it was not a good representation, and he felt an apology needed to be made to those who were offended by the sign. He said as discreet as it was, it was still not right.

Mr. Wilbert Turner said that he was highly offended that a man who believed his success was only because of DEI was put on a sign. Pastor Bias said that as Americans, we need to realize that we are different. There is hate and racism, and an underlying current, but we needed to sit down and have a conversation on the issues. He felt we did not need to light up another man, but if we have a problem, we should sit down and work it out. Mr. Hutchinson said that he believed the prayer service to be held on October 13 would go a long way in our community regarding these issues.

Mayor Dragna read the 2026 Budget Message into record (copy on file). Mrs. Leonard made a motion to hold the Budget Workshop on November 6, 2025, at 3 PM., seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

In the matter of the Mayor’s Update, Mayor Dragna said that there had been an accident near Bayou Ramos, and the Fire and Police Departments were on the scene very quickly and stabilized the injured man. Mr. Hutchinson said he had been very impressed by the speed at which the Fire and Police Departments had responded to the accident.

The minutes of the August 26, 2025, meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending August 31, 2025.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
DATE:	September 23, 2025
TO:	Mayor and Council
FROM:	Deborah Garber
RE:	Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended August 31, 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 August 31, 2025. The following comments are related thereto:

**General and Ancillary Funds**: Actual revenues are just under budget by \$1,228. Operating expenses and transfers to other funds, however, are over budget \$321,656. The net loss of \$2,632,838 is an unfavorable variance of \$322,884 as compared to the adopted budget.

**Utility Fund**: Actual revenues in this fund are finally in line with the budget with a difference of only \$7,704. The operational expenses are over budget by \$1,677,827 which is largely due to Purchased Power costs. The net loss, after transfers, of \$370,988 creates an unfavorable variance again this month as compared to the budget of \$1,520,541.

**Sanitation and Sewer Fund**: The operating revenues are slightly over budget by \$50,001, with total operating expenses under budget by \$157,975. The net income, after transfers, of \$489,381 leaves the only favorable variance this month of \$221,104.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget Period Ended August 31, 2025							
				AUGUST 2025 ACTUAL	AUGUST 2025 BUDGET	VARIANCE	AUGUST 2024 ACTUAL
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS							
REVENUES							
General Fund				5,532,528	5,547,634	(15,106)	4,389,200
Recreation Fund				94,529	65,744	28,785	83,486
Library Fund				3,751	3,350	401	5,447
Auditorium Fund				59,046	57,404	1,642	62,185
Lake End Park Fund				749,965	738,589	11,376	650,024
Cemetery Fund				71,270	133,472	(62,202)	130,533
State Prisoner Fund				130,552	96,676	33,876	98,698
Total Revenues				6,641,641	6,642,869	(1,228)	5,419,573
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL							
General Fund				8,313,814	8,002,501	311,313	6,749,554
Recreation Fund				341,039	472,021	(130,982)	302,028
Library Fund				94,218	116,349	(22,131)	66,074
Auditorium Fund				427,279	343,971	83,308	312,275
Lake End Park Fund				692,998	868,139	(175,141)	745,109
Cemetery Fund				175,454	183,116	(7,662)	166,629
State Prisoner Fund				426,136	383,185	42,951	393,808
Total Expenses				10,470,938	10,369,282	101,656	8,735,477
TRANSFERS							
Transfers from Funds				2,963,678	2,948,678	15,000	1,920,000
Transfers to Funds				(1,767,219)	(1,532,219)	(235,000)	(623,000)
Net Transfers				1,196,459	1,416,459	(220,000)	1,297,000
Excess(deficiency) net of transfers				(2,632,838)	(2,309,954)	(322,884)	(2,018,904)
UTILITY FUND							
Total Revenues				16,355,442	16,363,146	(7,704)	12,807,311
Total Expenditures				14,732,201	13,054,374	1,677,827	10,125,062
Net Excess				1,623,241	3,308,772	(1,685,531)	2,682,249
Net Transfers and non-oper.				(1,994,229)	(2,159,219)	164,990	(1,308,239)
Excess net of transfers				(370,988)	1,149,553	(1,520,541)	1,374,010
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND							
Total Revenues				2,306,861	2,256,860	50,001	1,979,594
Total Expenses				2,785,232	2,943,207	(157,975)	2,414,927
Net Excess				(478,371)	(686,347)	207,976	(435,333)
Net Transfers/non- operating exp.				967,752	954,624	13,128	691,614
Excess net of transfers&non-oper.				489,381	268,277	221,104	256,281

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

The next matter on the agenda was changing the November and December meeting dates; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-50

WHEREAS, the November 2025 council meeting falls on November 25, 2025, during Thanksgiving week; and the December 2025 council meeting falls on December 23, 2025, Christmas week; and

WHEREAS, children are out of school for the holidays and many families take vacations at this time, and

WHEREAS, from past experience it has been determined to be within the best interest of the city to change this council meeting date.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the November 2025 and the December 2025 council meetings be changed as follows:

November 25, 2025 meeting changed to November 18, 2025

December 23, 2025 meeting changed to December 16, 2025

Mr. Hutchinson seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Hymel, Hutchinson, Bias, Domangue, Leonard

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Change Order No. 3 for the Park Road Sewer Pump Station was the next matter on the agenda; whereupon,

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

#### RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-51

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 3 in the amount of + \$9,438.00 and + 8 Contract Days, under Contract Number R:24-32, between the City of Morgan City and LA Contracting Enterprise, LLC, for the Park Road Sewer Pump Station Replacement project.

Mr. Hutchinson seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Leonard, Hutchinson, Bias, Domangue, Hymel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mr. Hymel said the Finance Committee had met before the Council meeting; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-52

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the following Finance Committee recommendations be and the same are hereby approved:

1. Allocate \$176,500 for Lake End Park Improvements from Lake End Parkway.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Dragna said the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention report had to be completed yearly, and a resolution needed to be adopted; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-53

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City is committed to minimizing the amount of infiltration and inflow into the wastewater collection system and its associated impact on the design flow of the wastewater treatment plant, and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City has dedicated adequate budget funds to aggressively pursue location of and repairs to cracked and broken pipes in the wastewater collection system, employing both City and contract resources,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that it hereby informs the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality that the following actions were taken by the City of Morgan City, Louisiana.

1. Reviewed the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Audit Report which is attached to this resolution.
2. Set forth the following actions necessary to maintain permit requirements contained in the Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit, number LA0065986:
  - a. Continued mapping of the wastewater collection system to characterize and document the size, type, and maintenance history of each main;
  - b. Continued systematic surveying and investigation of sections of the collection system to determine the extent and priority of repair efforts; and
  - c. Continued repairing and/or replacement of damaged sections of the collection system.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that the School Board had requested a new Memorandum of Understanding for use of the Municipal Auditorium in case an emergency took place at the schools; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-54

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City and the St. Mary Parish Public Schools have an agreement for the use of the Municipal Auditorium as a facility to serve as a reunification site in the event of an emergency evacuation of the students and staff of any St. Mary Parish Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding expires on November 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, both parties are desirous of continuing the agreement indefinitely.

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 Memorandum of Understanding with the St. Mary Parish Public Schools.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Dragna said the building next to City Hall had recently been purchased to house the Archives. He said that ownership of the Schrier House on Federal Avenue needed to be returned to the donors; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-55

WHEREAS, Leah Norman Schreier Foundation donated to the City of Morgan City that certain property located at 501 Federal Avenue, Morgan City, Louisiana (the "Property") by Act of Donation recorded in the conveyance records of St. Mary Parish under Entry No, 209594, Conveyance Book 27-Y, Folio 537 on February 28, 1985 (the "Donation"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City does not desire to maintain the Property as required by the terms and conditions of the Donation and instead desires to transfer and re-convey the Property to Leah Norman Schreier Foundation, which is desirous of accepting the return of the ownership of the Property; and

WHEREAS, a document between Leah Norman Schreier Foundation and the City of Morgan City must be executed whereby the City of Morgan City conveys and transfers the Property to Leah Norman Schreier Foundation, thereby returning ownership of the Property to Leah Norman Schreier Foundation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that the City of Morgan City is authorized to convey and transfer to Leah Norman Schreier Foundation the Property that the City of Morgan City acquired by the Donation recorded as set forth above.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to enter into any agreements and sign any documents necessary in connection with the conveyance and transfer of the Property and the return of ownership of the Property to Leah Norman Schreier Foundation.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Leonard, Bias, Domangue, Hutchinson, Hymel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

The first reading of the 2026 Budget Ordinance was the next matter on the agenda. No definitive action was necessary.

The first reading of the Amending of Section 42-6, Grills and Outdoor Cooking/ Heating Appliances was opened. No definitive action was necessary.

The first reading of the Amending Section 110-32, Meter Deposits, was opened. No definitive action was necessary.

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor