



These are the minutes of a regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Kaplan held on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at SSG Ulysse Trahan Council Chamber located at 701 N. Cushing Avenue.

Present: Mayor: Mike Kloesel

Board of Alderman: Dirk Gary
Randy Campbell
Mike Renfrow
Justin Johnson
Chuck Guidry

Also Present: Calvin Woodruff, Jr., City Attorney
Todd Vincent, City Engineer
Heather S. Guidry, City Clerk

Mayor Kloesel called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

An opening prayer was offered by Deacon Johnnie Joseph and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Mike Renfrow.

The following employees were recognized for years of service to the City of Kaplan:

Carla Perry – Police Dispatcher – 10 years of service (August 27th)
Rosalino “Charlie” Beiza – Wastewater Operator – 5 years of service (August 31)
Danny Choate – Streets & Bridges Operator - 15 years of service (September 18)

Motion: Councilman Campbell, Second: Councilman Renfrow

Unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2022 Regular City Council meeting.

Item #1

The treasurer’s report for September 2022 was presented on the council’s iPads for their review of the budget to actual comparison.

Motion: Councilman Gary, Second: Councilman Johnson

Unanimously carried to approve the September 2022 financials as presented.

Item #2

City Engineer Todd Vincent gave a status update on current projects.

Item #3

Police Chief Josh Hardy gave an update on the police department.

Item #4

Condemnation Hearing: 612 E. 5th Street, Kaplan, Louisiana 70548

Motion: Councilman Guidry, Second: Councilman Johnson

Defer condemnation hearing on this property till a later date.

Amended Motion: Councilman Guidry, Second: Councilman Johnson

Defer condemnation hearing on this property for 90 days.

Item #5

Condemnation Hearing: 704 Guidry, Kaplan, Louisiana 70548

Motion: Councilman Renfrow, Second Councilman Campbell

Unanimously carried to allow owners thirty (30) days to provide a written plan of action.

Owner is required to appear at the November 15, 2022 city council meeting.

Item #6

Condemnation Hearing: 210 ML King Dr., Kaplan, Louisiana 70548

Motion: Councilman Johnson, Second: Councilman Guidry

Unanimously carried to allow the owner ninety (90) days to demolish the home. If the owner fails to comply within the 90 days the city will demolish the home and file a lien on the property.

Item #7

An update was given by Councilman Chuck Guidry on the finance committee meetings held on September 6, 2022 and October 11, 2022

Item #8

A public hearing was opened to get public comment on the adoption of Ordinance 10-22-B – Salary adjustment of Mayor. With no comments forthcoming, the hearing was declared closed.

Item #9

Motion: Councilman Campbell, Second: Councilman Johnson
Adopt Ordinance 10-22-B – Salary adjustment of Mayor

Substitute Motion by Councilman Johnson to amend the ordinance to remove the stipulation of the Mayor remaining within 5% of the original administration budget that is attached to the 2.5% cost of living raise.

Motion dies for lack a second.

Mayor Kloesel calls for roll call vote on the original motion - Adopt Ordinance 10-22-B – Salary adjustment of Mayor.

The motion passed 4-1 as follows:

Councilman Gary: Yes
Councilman Campbell: Yes
Councilman Renfrow: Yes

Councilman Johnson: No
Councilman Guidry: Yes

Item #10

A public hearing was opened to get public comment on the adoption of Ordinance 10-22-A – Salary adjustment of Police Chief. With no comments forthcoming, the hearing was declared closed.

Item #11

Motion: Councilman Gary, Second: Councilman Renfrow
Adopt Ordinance 10-22-A – Salary adjustment of Chief of Police.

Mayor Kloesel calls for roll call vote. The motion passed 4-1 as follows:

Councilman Gary: Yes
Councilman Campbell: Yes
Councilman Renfrow: Yes

Councilman Johnson: No
Councilman Guidry: Yes

Item #12

Motion: Councilman Guidry, Second: Councilman Johnson
Unanimously carried to approve the appropriation of \$2,000.00 to Vermilion Economic Development Alliance (VEDA).

Item #13

Motion: Councilman Gary, Second: Councilman Campbell
Unanimously carried to accept and approve the sealed bid received from Altec in the amount of \$342,555.00 for the purchase of a new 55 foot material handling bucket truck.

Item #14:

Motion: Councilman Renfrow, Councilman Guidry
Unanimously carried to adopt a resolution granting authority to the mayor to sign and submit all necessary documents to appoint an administrative consultant and engineer and to commit costs for the FY 2023-2024 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Program.

Item #15

Motion: Councilman Johnson, Second: Councilman Renfrow
Unanimously carried to ratify the termination of Dillion Turner with the electrical department, effective October 6, 2022.

Item #16:

Motion: Councilman Johnson, Second: Councilman Gary
Unanimously carried to ratify the resignation of Benjamin Heath with the electrical department, effective October 5, 2022.

Item #17:

Motion: Councilman Gary, Second: Councilman Guidry
Unanimously carried to ratify the reclassification of Chad Domingue to Driver/Operator with the Kaplan Fire Department, with a 5% reduction in pay, effective October 1, 2022.

Item #18:

Motion: Councilman Johnson, Second: Councilman Campbell
Unanimously carried to ratify the 5% increase and promotion of Eric Meaux to Superintendent Distribution, Step 9, with Gas & Water, effective October 6, 2022.

Item #19:

Motion: Councilman Renfrow, Second: Councilman Johnson

Unanimously carried to ratify the 5% increase and promotion of Gary Sellers to Operator 1 Distribution, Step 5, with Gas & Water, effective October 6, 2022.

Item #23:

Motion: Councilman Johnson, Second: Councilman Gary

Unanimously carried to ratify the hiring of Jade N. Migues as Deputy Marshal with the Kaplan City Marshals office, at the rate of \$10.00 per hour with 20 hours paid by the City of Kaplan, effective September 8, 2022.

Item #24:

Motion: Councilman Gary, Second: Councilman Campbell

Unanimously carried to ratify the hiring of Eric N. Hollier as part time Deputy Marshal, effective September 7, 2022, with the hours being paid directly by the Kaplan City Marshal office.

Mayor Kloesel and council gave announcements.

Motion: Councilman Renfrow, Second Councilman Gary

Unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

/s/ Heather S. Guidry
HEATHER S. GUIDRY, CITY CLERK

/s/ Mike Kloesel
MIKE KLOESEL, MAYOR