

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PORT ALLEN, LOUISIANA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Port Allen, Louisiana, met in Regular Session on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, in the City Council Chambers at Port Allen City Hall.

Mayor Richard Lee called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and asked Rose Roche' to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Present: Brandon Brown, Garry Hubble, Ray Helen Lawrence, Hugh Riviere and Carey Williams

Absent: None

Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2017. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any opposition. There was none and the motion carried by unanimous consent of the members present.

Mayor Lee read aloud the procedure for public participation at the Regular Meetings of the Port Allen City Council in accordance with state statutes and local ordinances.

Mr. Garry Hubble moved to authorize the engagement of Provost, Salter, Harper & Alford, LLC to perform the audit of the City's financial statements for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 and to authorize Mayor Lee to enter into a contract with the firm to provide these services for the City of Port Allen. Mr. Brandon Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to appoint The Westside Journal as the official journal for the City of Port Allen for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to authorize Mayor Lee to proceed with the design work for the LA 1 railroad lift station with the City's engineering firm, PEC. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

The Mayor and City Council heard from Tony Arikol of PEC regarding possible solutions to the drainage issues on Florida Avenue between N. Jefferson and 6th Street. No further action was taken by the City Council.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to introduce an ordinance to increase the minimum user rates for customers for water, gas and sewer services who live outside the city limits of the City of Port Allen. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to authorize Mayor Lee to advertise, interview and hire a person with Class 2 or Class 3 certifications for a vacant position in the Water and Gas Department. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

Mayor Lee called the Chief Financial Officer to present the proposed FY 2017-2018 budgets of the City of Port Allen in all funds and to explain the details of proposed capital outlay spending in each fund. The City Council members received a copy of the proposed budgets and a copy of the proposed budgets was placed at the entrance to the administration offices for the public to view, review and/or copy. No further action was taken by the City Council.

Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to introduce an ordinance to adopt the proposed budgets for the City of Port Allen for all funds. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried.

The City Council discussed potential rate increases on utility services provided to city customers and asked the Chief Financial Officer to provide them with information regarding the potential increase using various scenarios before the next meeting when they will vote on any increase in rates. No further action was taken by the City Council.

Mr. Brandon Brown moved to request the Port Allen legislative delegation to propose legislation to change the name of Louisiana Highway 1 to Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway from its intersection of Rosedale Road to its intersection with Avenue G within the city limits of the City of Port Allen, LA. Mrs. Ray Helen Lawrence seconded the motion. All City Council members were given an opportunity to express their opinions and concerns regarding this change. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Lawrence, Williams. NAYS: Hubble, Riviere. The motion carried.

City Attorney Alvarez, along with Inspector Guidry, showed the City Council members photos and information regarding the condition of the property located at 840 N. 14th Street in Port Allen. It showed that the property was still in a very unstable condition and Mr. Alvarez asked the City Council to vote on whether the property should be condemned. Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to condemn the property. Mr. Carey Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Lee asked if there was any objection. There was none. A roll call vote resulted as follows: YEAS: Brown, Hubble, Lawrence, Riviere, Williams. NAYS: None. The motion carried. The property owner is Unique Family Ties, LLC and Connie Harvey was present at the meeting. She stated that she had done many of the necessary repairs and was certain everything could be completed if she was given an extension of one hundred twenty (120) days. This request was granted by the City Council. No further action was taken by the City Council.

Mr. Adrian Genre stated there were no alcoholic beverage permits pending.

Mayor Lee introduced Warren Harang, a candidate for Louisiana Senate District 2, and allowed him to address the City Council and members of the audience on his platform. Mayor Lee

announced that the press conference to be held by DOTD was canceled. Mayor Lee announced that the next installment of the Live on the Levee in Port Allen would be with Tyree Neal and would be held on Thursday, May 11, 2017. Mayor Lee stated that Phase 4 of the Road Improvement Program in the City would be starting in a few days. Mayor Lee announced that Family Day in the Park would be held at Williams and Lee Park on May 27, 2017. Mayor Lee announced that the Port Allen Neighborhood Watch Cleanup Day would be held on May 20th. Mayor Lee announced that the LMA annual conference would be July 27-30, 2017 in Shreveport and asked any City Council members who wished to attend should let the administration know as soon as possible registration fees could be paid. Mayor Lee announced that the 2017 Juneteenth Celebration would be held in Port Allen on June 17th and 18th and plans are being finalized now.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mr. Hugh Riviere moved to adjourn. Mr. Garry Hubble seconded the motion. The motion carried without objection and the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Richard N. Lee, III, Mayor

Audrey A. McCain, City Clerk