

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is Hereby Given a
Public Hearing
will be held by the
Washington Parish Council
In the Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street
Franklinton, La 7 0438
Council Chamber s
May 8, 2023
Monday - 5:45 PM

Public Hearing Ordinance No. 23-728 -An ordinance to amend the 2023 Road Capital Outlay Budget.

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak?"

No one came forward.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman King to close public hearing.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Notice of Public Meeting

Washington Parish Council
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street
Franklinton, La 70438
Council Chambers
April 24, 2023
Monday - 6:00 PM

Item No. 1. - Call to order - Chairman Rice called the meeting to order.

Item No. 2. - Invocation - Councilwoman Wagner gave the invocation.

Item No. 3. - Pledge of Allegiance - Councilman McMasters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item No. 4. - Roll Call - Council Clerk Sarah Cook called the roll. Present were Joe Culpepper, Shawn Rice, Kim Wagner, Clark Harry, Rusty Fornea, Reginald McMasters, and Carley King.

Item No. 5. - Approval of Minutes - Approval of minutes dated April 24, 2023.

Councilman King offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Fornea to approve minutes dated April 24, 2023.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 6. Adopt Ordinance No. 23-728 -An ordinance to amend the 2023 Road Capital Outlay Budget.

Chairman Rice: “We just had a public hearing on ordinance 23-728. Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?”

No one came forward.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Fornea to adopt Ordinance No. 23-728.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 7. Introduction of Ordinance No. 23-726 -ordinance adding E. Thomas Road, Wilson Magee Road, Knapp Thomas Road, and Leo Mizell Road to the “No Thru Truck Routes” ordinance as per Ordinance No. 13-577.

Chairman Rice: “This is an introduction only and a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 5:45pm.”

Item No. 8. Introduction of Ordinance No. 23-727 - An Ordinance to levy taxes for the 2023 Millage at the same rate as the prior year on property subject to taxation in Washington Parish.

Chairman Rice: “This is an introduction only and a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 5:45pm.”

Item No. 9. - Adopt Resolution No. 23-1226 - A Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana (the “Parish”) on Saturday, October 14, 2023, for the purpose of authorizing the levy and collection of a 3.15 mill tax on assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation in the Parish, for a period of ten (10) years for the purpose of operation and maintenance of the Washington Parish Coroner’s Office, including the creation of a morgue and vital community education center focused on preventive, premature deaths; and further making application to the State Bond Commission for consent and authorization to hold the aforesaid election; and further providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Chairman Rice: “Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?”

Mr. Arthur Richardson has 25 years’ experience and expressed the need for this millage.

After further discussion and no other comments Councilman Fornea offered a motion, seconded by Councilman McMasters to table Resolution No. 23-1226 until our next meeting on May 22, 2023, to allow Dr. Casama more time to provide the council a budget showing how these funds will be spent.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 10. - Adopt Resolution No. 23-1227 -resolution for the Washington Parish Government to join the Attorney General of Louisiana in litigation against the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to challenge Risk Rating 2.0.

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?"

Attorney Kuhn: "FEMA has come up with a new way of rating called "Risk Rating 2.0" rather than "Flood Zone Maps" which is a more detailed program."

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone else like to speak?"

No one came forward.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman King to adopt Resolution No. 23-1227.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 11. - Adopt Resolution No. 23-1228 - A resolution by the Washington Parish Council to accept the lowest bid and to authorize the Parish President to sign a contract between Barriere Construction Co., L.L.C, a division of CRH Americas Materials, Inc., and Washington Parish Government for asphalt overlay on Matthew Thomas Rd, Carroll Rd, A Moses Rd, Mondy Rd, Sphere Rd, Dan Seal Rd, Mt. Pleasant Rd, Cooper Rd #2, Russ Williams Rd, Knight Rd, Schilling Rd, J.P. Alford Rd, Heidelberg Rd, East Heidelberg Rd, Legacy Lane, CC Rd.

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?"

Jackie Tate asked President Thomas about the roads he discussed getting asphalted several months back; Tammy Lane, Delta Lane and a few others off Penton Road?

President Thomas explained that this is project of roads are contracted out, and more roads will be getting done "in house" by the Parish Government this year.

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone else like to come forward and speak?"

No one came forward.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman King adopt Resolution No. 23-1228.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 12. - Public Participation -

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak? Please state your name and address for the record."

No one came forward.

Councilman Fornea offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Harry to close public participation.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 13. - President Report -

- National Prayer Day was held on May 4, 2023, and it was a great success.
- We celebrated Donnell Merritt's last day with a luncheon last Friday.
- Seniors Week - Congratulations to all the parish graduates.
- May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month - President Thomas presented the proclamation to **Mr. Bob Walton local officer of ABABE.**

Donna Graham Finance Director:

- The unaudited financial report for last year and an update for the current year will be presented at our next meeting.
- Each Councilman will receive a questionnaire from the auditors to complete and sign.

Ken Wheat: Public Works Director:

- Capital Outlay money for the jail bids will be open next week on May 18, 2023.
- Bogalusa Health Unit will hold an open house on May 18, 2023 to show off the remodeling of the lobby, labs, restrooms and office painted.
- Animal Shelter renovation is almost complete with painting, duct work, HVAC work, mold and mildew cleaned, and new ceiling tiles.

Danny Knight Transportation Supervisor: Month of April

- Drainage work on 20 roads covering 26 miles.
- Delivered 38 tons of cold mix on 19 roads covering 24 miles.
- Delivered 204 tons of hot mix on 13 roads covering 20 miles.
- Installed 11 culverts.
- Graded 48 roads covering 86 miles.
- Hauled 348 yards on 11 roads covering 20 miles.
- Bush hogged 113 roads covering 206 miles.
- Picked up 303 bags of trash on 33 roads.
- Installed 3 road name signs.
- Installed 22 other signs.
- Maintained 10 parish locations.
- Asphalt crew overlaid 3 roads using 2190 tons of asphalt:

- Dewitt Lane
- C. Jenkins Road
- T.C. Nobles Road
- Sprayed around culverts and bridges on 27 roads.

Item No. 14. - Council Discussion

Thank everyone for participating tonight. Congratulated the graduates and wished everyone a Happy Mother’s Day.

Item No. 15. - Adjourn - No further business to come before the Council, meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman McMasters seconded by Councilman King.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (7) Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Rice, and Wagner

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Shawn Rice, Chairman
Washington Parish Council

Sarah Cook, Clerk to the Council
Washington Parish

Order of Voting:

Clark Harry	Joe Culpepper
Rusty Fornea	Shawn Rice
Reginald McMasters	Kim Wagner
Carley King	

Next meeting will be held on Monday, May 22, 2023

In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Sarah Cook, Clerk to the Council at 985-839-7825 Ext. 313 describing the assistance that is necessary.

(All Ordinances, Resolutions and Attachments in its entirety are available at the office of Clerk of the Council at 909 Pearl Street, Franklinton, Louisiana or at (985) 839-7825 or washingtonparishalerts.org.

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