

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 22, 2023
Monday - 5:45 PM

Public Hearing Ordinance No. 23-726 - An 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: "Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak?"

No one came forward.

Public Hearing 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 read millage rates aloud and asked if anyone would like to come forward and speak.

No one came forward.

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

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Notice of Public Meeting

Washington Parish Council
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street
Franklinton, La 70438
Council Chambers
May 22, 2023
Monday - 6:00 PM

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

Item No. 2. - Invocation - Councilman Fornea gave the invocation.

Item No. 3. - Pledge of Allegiance - Councilman Culpepper 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, and Reginald McMasters.

Item No. 5. - Approval of Minutes - Approval of minutes dated May 8, 2023.

Councilman Fornea offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Culpepper to approve minutes dated May 8, 2023.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 6. Washington Parish Library Director - Sonnet Ireland - Washington Parish Library update.

Sonnet Ireland announce that the Washington Parish Library is receiving a \$20,000 grant to help with making our libraries more accessible for disabled and elderly patrons.

Item No. 7. Dr. Casama - Washington Parish Coroner's Office.

Dr. Casama handed out a budget as per requested by the council at last meeting. He did a quick walk through. After further discussion the council asked Dr. Casama to get with Donna to help clean up the budget along with decide where they will get the funds to put millage on the ballot. This item will not be able to go on October ballot but will try for November ballot.

Item No. 8. Adopt 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: "We just had a public hearing on ordinance 23-726. 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. 23-726.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 9. Adopt 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 read millage rates aloud.

Chairman Rice: "We just had a public hearing on ordinance 23-727. Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?"

No one came forward.

Councilman Fornea offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Culpepper to adopt Ordinance No. 23-727.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 10. - 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 McMasters offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Fornea to close public participation.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 11. - President Report -

President Thomas:

- Chamber of Commerce will have a ribbon cutting and Harvest at the Franklinton Primary School's Learning Garden Center on May 23, 2023, at 9:30 am.
- Homeland security employees will be headed to our annual DOTD meeting.
- Washington Parish Government Office and Choctaw Landfill will be closed on Monday, May 29, 2023, in observance of Memorial Day.

Donna Graham Finance Director:

- Handed out an unaudited financial report for last year and an update for the current year.
- Auditors will be finishing up by the end of the month and present to us the second week of June. We will be scheduling an exit conference with the member of the finance committee.

Alex Sumrall:

- Animal shelter's renovations are complete.

Danny Knight Transportation Supervisor: First Part of May

- Picked up 132 bags of trash on 17 roads.
- Installed 1 road name signs.
- Installed 15 other signs.
- Maintained 8 parish locations.
- Asphalt crew overlaid 2 roads using 1,028 tons of asphalt:
 - Deer Run Dr
 - Charlie Bell Road
- Barriere Construction is in the process of overlaying parish roadways.
- Sprayed around 22 bridges on 14 parish roads.

Item No. 12. - Council Discussion

Thanked Dr. Casama for coming with his presentation and appreciate his hard work and commitment to our parish. Congratulated Ireland Sonnet on the grant ad thanked her for her great work and dedication to our parish. Reminded everyone that school is out and watch out for our children. Wished everyone a safe and Happy Memorial Day.

Item No. 13. - Adjourn - No further business to come before the Council, meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Culpepper seconded by Councilman McMasters.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Fornea, McMasters, Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, and Harry

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) King

ABSTAIN: (0)

Shawn Rice, Chairman
Washington Parish Council

Sarah Cook, Clerk to the Council
Washington Parish

Order of Voting:

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

Next meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, 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.

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”