

Notice of Public Meeting

Washington Parish Council
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
Upstairs Courtroom
908 Washington Street
Franklinton, La 70438
July 12, 2021
Monday – 6:00 PM

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

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

Item No. 3. - Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman Fornea led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item No. 4. - Roll Call – Council Clerk 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 June 28, 2021.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Rice to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 28, 2021.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 6. Michelle Treschwig – Kushner LaGraize 2020 Audit Report.

Ms. Treschwig was proud to announce our 2020 audit was completed successfully with 2 clean opinions and one unmodified opinion which has been resolved. Thanked all the staff with help getting audit done before June 30, 2021.

Item No. 7. Adopt Resolution No. 21-1088 – A resolution by the Washington Parish Council to submit to the federal Off-System Bridge Replacement Program priority list for 2021-2023; and further providing with respect thereto.

Chairman McMasters read the ordinance aloud.

Chairman McMasters: “This Federal Off-System Bridge Replacement Program provides Washington Parish Government to make improvements to parish roads and bridges for the best interest of the public. This resolution has added Cleve Kennedy Road located in Pine area to the replacement program priority list. Would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?”

No one came forward.

Councilman King offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Culpepper to adopt Resolution 21-1088.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 8. – Public Participation –

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

Al Barron, Washington Parish Library gave a recap of the summer reading program with Thomas Library having 212 and Enon Library having 145. They are currently working on getting wifi in areas needed with federal help.

Chairman McMasters: “Would anyone else like to come forward and speak?”

No one came forward.

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

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 9. President Report – Updates:

- Working on striping on several roads
 - Union Square
 - Byrd Road
 - Seven Mile Road
 - Caroline Drive
- Covid positivity rates have gone up. Last month we were at 1.40%, this month we are at 5.30%. We are still top in our region but very low across the nation.

Donna Graham: Financial Director – Thanked the Kushner and LaGraize for all their work throughout the years with the Washington Parish Government. Thanked the administration staff for working hard to accommodate Kushner and LaGraize’s needs during auditing. Handed out the financial report ending June 30, 2021, along with the Washington Parish Government annual audit financial report.

Ken Wheat: Public Works Director: Thanked the council for passing the Resolution for the Off-System Bridge Program for Cleve Kennedy Road. Reminded everyone that this is a slow process and could be up to 4 years before starting this bridge.

Donnell Merritt – Transportation Supervisor: Month of June.

- Drainage work on 18 roads covering 36 miles.
- Delivered 16 tons of cold mix on 8 roads covering 4 miles.
- Delivered 352 tons of hot mix on 26 roads covering 48 miles.
- Installed 11 culverts.
- Graded 167 roads covering 278 miles.
- Hauled 642 yards of gravel on 13 road covering 38 miles.
- Bush hogged 239 roads covering 378 miles.
- Picked up 381 bags of trash on 26 roads.
- Installed 2 road name signs.
- Installed 18 other signs.
- Maintained 11 parish locations.
- Sprayed around 32 culverts and bridges on 30 roads.

- Location 1 & 2 worked 14 days cutting low hanging limbs over roads.
- Laid 72 tons of hot mix over Davenport Bridge for Bogalusa.

Item No. 11. Council Discussion

Council thanked everyone for coming out tonight, and thanked Al Barron for giving us frequent updates on the library. Commended the administration on the great audit report and thank Kushner and LaGraize.

Item No. 13. – Adjourn – No further business to come before the Council, meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman King seconded by Councilwoman Wagner.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Order of Voting:

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

Next meeting will be held on Monday, July 26, 2021

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(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 wpgov.org.)

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