

# **\*Notice of Public Meeting\***

Washington Parish Council  
Regular Meeting  
Washington Parish Courthouse  
908 Washington Street  
Franklinton, La 70438  
Council Chambers  
July 24, 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 King 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.

Chairman Rice entertained a motion to open and add Resolution 23-1234 to the agenda. A resolution declaring and confirming that the legal name of Gas Utility District No. 2 of the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana is the same entity as Washington Parish Gas District No. 2., Washington Parish Gas Utility District, Washington Parish Gas Utility District No. 2.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Fornea to open and add Resolution 23-1234 to the agenda.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Chairman Rice: "This item will be added as number 8 of the agenda."

**Item No. 5. - Approval of Minutes** - Approval of minutes dated July 14, 2023.

Councilman McMasters offered a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Wagner to approve minutes dated July 14, 2023.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

**Item No. 6. - Town of Franklinton, Mayor Greg Route** - Recreation Park update.

Chairman Rice: Mayor has cancelled.

**Item No. 7. Adopt Resolution No. 23-1233** - A resolution authorizing the Washington Parish Government to apply for and administer a grant through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Program.

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

No one came forward.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman King to adopt resolution 23-1233.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

**Item No. 8. Adopt Resolution No. 23-1234** - A resolution declaring and confirming that the legal name of Gas Utility District No. 2 of the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana is the same entity as Washington Parish Gas District No. 2., Washington Parish Gas Utility District, Washington Parish Gas Utility District No. 2.

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

Melissa Haley Office Manager of the Washington Parish Gas Utility District No. 2: "We applied for an Infrastructure Grant to change out 186 miles of PVC. After being rejected on every request because of the name and dates not matching they are now requesting a new resolution to update the old resolution on the creation of the gas districts name."

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

No one came forward.

Councilman King offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Culpepper to adopt Resolution 23-1234.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

**Item No. 9. - Public Participation** -

Chairman Rice: "Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak, if so, please state your name and address for the record?"

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) Rice, Wagner, Harry, Fornea, McMasters, King, and Culpepper

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

**Item No. 10. - President Report -**

President Thomas:

- Presented a proclamation to Jeff Tageant for his illustrious career in Franklinton High School Baseball.
- We are now accepting applications for a new maintenance supervisor.
- July 24, 2023, DOTD will be working on Hwy 62 East and 62 West.
- August 2, 2023, DOTD will be working on Hwy 436 and Hwy 10.
- Monday the DOTD will be working at the intersection of Hwy 450 and Hwy 16.

Donna Graham - Financial Director:

- Presented the Financial Budget Actual
- The Legislative Auditors Office will be here at our next meeting to present their report.

Danny Knight Transportation Supervisor: Month of June

- Picked up 117 bags of trash on 14 roads.
- Installed 6 road name signs.
- Installed 21 other signs.
- Maintained 9 parish locations.
- Asphalt crews are continuing in house asphalt overlay.
- Sprayed around culverts and bridges on 7 roads.

**Item No. 11. - Council Discussion**

Thank everyone for attending. Congratulations to Jeff Tageant on his retirement and we appreciate all you have done for our community. Good luck to Clay Tageant.

**Item No. 12. - Adjourn** - No further business to come before the Council, meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman King seconded by Councilman Fornea

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

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Shawn Rice, Chairman  
Washington Parish Council

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Sarah Cook, Clerk to the Council  
Washington Parish

**Order of Voting:**

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

Next meeting will be held on Monday, August 14, 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](http://washingtonparishalerts.org).

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