

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
October 23, 2023
Monday - 5:45 PM

Public Hearing - Ordinance No. 23-730 - An ordinance to amend the 2023 Annual Operating Budget for the Washington Parish Government.

Chairman Rice: "Read the ordinance aloud and asked if anyone would like to come forward and speak?"

No one came forward.

Public Hearing - The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views on the community development needs of Washington Parish and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. The following items will be discussed at the hearing.

- A. The amount of funds available for proposed community development activities.
- B. The range of activities available that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will meet the State Program's National Objective: to benefit persons of low and moderate income, slum and blight properties and urgent need.
- C. The plans of the Washington Parish Government for minimizing displaced persons as a result of activities assisted with such funds and the benefits to be provided by the Washington Parish to persons actually displaced as a result of such activities; and
- D. The Washington Parish Government's past performance on LCDBG projects funded by the State of Louisiana.

All residents, particularly low- and moderate-income persons and residents of slum and blighted areas of Washington Parish are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking individuals provided that three-day notice is received by the Washington Parish Government administration.

Those citizens unable to attend this hearing may submit their views and proposals until October 30, 2023, in writing to:

Washington Parish Government
909 Pearl Street, Franklinton, LA 70438
985.839.7825

Chairman Rice: "Read the ordinance aloud and asked if anyone would like to come forward and speak?"

No one came forward.

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

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

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
October 23, 2023
Monday - 6:00 PM**

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

Item No. 2. - Invocation - Councilman McMasters 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.

Item No. 5. - Approval of Minutes - Approval of minutes dated October 9, 2023.

Councilman Culpepper offered a motion, seconded by Councilman King to approve October 9, 2023, minutes.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 6. Adopt Ordinance No. 23-730 - An ordinance to amend the 2023 Annual Operating Budget for the Washington Parish Government.

Chairman Rice: "We just had a public hearing, would anyone like to come forward and speak before the council votes?"

No one came forward.

Councilman King offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Fornea to adopt Ordinance No. 23-730.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 7. Introduction of Ordinance No. 23-731 - An ordinance to authorize and direct the Washington Parish President to sign and execute on behalf of the Washington Parish Government any and all contracts, purchase agreements, declarations, applications, amendments, agreements and all other documents and paperwork necessary for the application, administration and closeout of FY 2024-2025 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities Application for the Bogue Lusa Water Works District on behalf of the Parish and any political sub-divisions thereof.

Chairman Rice: "This is an introduction only and a public hearing will be held on November 6th at 5:45pm.

Item No. 8. Adopt Resolution No. 23-1251 - A resolution by the Washington Parish Council to submit to the Federal Off-System Bridge Replacement Program priority list for 2023-2025; and further providing the respect thereto in regard to Old Columbia Road Bridge (Report/Recall Number 109137).

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 Harry to adopt Resolution 2-1251.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 9. Adopt Resolution No. 23-1252 -A resolution for a certificate of Washington Parish evidencing public approval of bonds pursuant to Section 146(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

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 2-1252.

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 10. - 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."

Tish Desmare resides in Franklinton La: Ms. Desmare presented a letter from the Office of State Fire Marshal regarding the WPF #1 becoming one of Louisiana's next Fire Prevention Bureaus.

After further discussion, the decision to bring this before a committee meeting was brought forward and all agreed.

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

No one came forward.

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

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Item No. 11. - President Report -

- Shared with the Council the accomplishment of Mrs. Graham receiving a plaque from the La GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) and honored to have her serve as President of the Louisiana GFOA.
- Washington Parish Free Fair was a great success.
- The Parish Government received first place from the Franklinton Chamber of Commerce for our display at the front of the courthouse.
- The modified Statewide burn ban is still in effect due to lack of rain. Each district fire chief can provide an exception on a case-by-case basis to give permission to burn as they see fit.

Danny Knight: Transportation Supervisor: September

- Picked up 281 bags of trash on 15 roads.
- Installed 8 other signs.
- Maintained 3 parish locations.
- Asphalt Crews are currently working on the following:
 - Church Street overlay project for the City of Bogalusa

Item No. 12. - Council Discussion

The council thanked everyone for attending. Congratulated Donna Graham and reminded everyone of the Bogalusa and Pine Homecoming games this Friday.

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

Roll call of vote as follows:

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

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

Shawn Rice, Chairman
Washington Parish Council

Sarah Cook, Clerk to the Council
Washington Parish

Order of Voting:

Joe Culpepper Rusty Fornea
Shawn Rice Reginald McMasters

Kim Wagner
Clark Harry

Carley King

Next meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, 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 wpgov.org.

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