

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
FEBRUARY 22, 2022

The Mayor and City Council of Morgan City, Louisiana, met at 6:00 pm (local time) in regular session, this date, in the City Court Building, Highway 182 East, Morgan City, Louisiana.

There were present: Honorable Lee Dragna, Mayor; and Council Members Ron Bias, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel, Mark Stephens and Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Terry Joseph.

There was no Positive Image recipient for the month of February.

Mayor Dragna stated that the demolition on the old power plant was getting close to completion and the street sweeper was back up and running. He said that the City received a letter that said the \$3.8 million water sector funds were approved. He stated that they could borrow from the ARPA funds until the money was received. As soon as the go-ahead was received the City would get started bidding out the project.

The minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Tamporello, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending January 31, 2022.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: February 22, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended January 31, 2022.

Attached is a summary that compares our actual revenues and expenses to our operational budget for our major funds subject to budgetary control for the period ending January 31, 2022. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Actual total revenues are starting the year over budget by \$111,448. Sales taxes in General Fund were over budget by \$68,000. Operating expenses are below budget by \$122,728. The net income, after transfers, of \$172,121 is a favorable variance of \$344,175 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are under budget by \$119,430, with \$107,000 of that difference is electrical revenues. The operational expenses are also under budget but only by \$179,739. The net loss, after transfers, of \$101,994 creates a favorable variance of \$59,133.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$9,010 under budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$24,693. The net income, after transfers, of \$47,462 leaves another favorable variance of \$15,748.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Deborah Garber
Deborah Garber
Finance Director

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended January 31, 2022

	JANUARY 2022	JANUARY 2022	
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			
General Fund	616,736	539,538	77,198
Recreation Fund	556	1,008	(452)
Library Fund	1,100	1,126	(26)
Auditorium Fund	2,176	3,008	(832)
Lake End Park Fund	93,499	57,938	35,561
State Prisoner Fund	25,592	31,875	(6,283)
Total Revenues	714,067	602,619	111,448
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	773,421	829,411	(55,990)
Recreation Fund	22,933	32,324	(9,391)
Library Fund	5,400	11,603	(6,203)
Auditorium Fund	32,028	40,734	(8,706)
Lake End Park Fund	56,039	76,370	(20,331)
State Prisoner Fund	45,458	67,564	(22,106)
Total Expenses	935,279	1,058,007	(122,728)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	393,333	283,333	110,000
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	393,333	283,333	110,000
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	172,121	(172,054)	344,175
UTILITY FUND			
Total			
Revenues	1,650,387	1,769,817	(119,430)
Total Expenditures	1,469,163	1,648,903	(179,739)
Net			
Excess	181,224	120,915	60,309
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(283,217)	(282,042)	(1,176)
Excess net of transfers	(101,994)	(161,127)	59,133
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total			
Revenues	244,870	253,880	(9,010)
Total			
Expenses	258,098	282,790	(24,693)
Net			
Excess	(13,228)	(28,910)	15,683
Net Transfers/non-operating expenses	60,690	60,625	65
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	47,462	31,715	15,748

A motion to accept the financial statement was made by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna stated that the Condemnation reports would be taken up at the March meeting. Both Anthony Governale and Pete Lawton were out sick.

A motion to expand the agenda to discuss a change order on the Power Plant demolition project was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted

unanimously in favor. Mayor Dragna stated that they calculated it would cost the City about \$100,000 to break up the cement and transport it to Lake End Park. The contractor, Bean Excavating and Dirt Work, already had all of their equipment on-site and stated that they would do the work for a \$70,000 reduction in the price paid to the City. This would bring the total price paid to the city down to \$381,800, whereupon,

Mr. Stephens offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-04

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed in the name of and on behalf of said municipal corporation, to execute Change Order Number 1 under Contract Number R:21-19, between the City of Morgan City and Bean Excavating and Dirt Work, for the Municipal Steam Plant Demolition project.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Stephens, Hymel, Bias, Domangue, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the engagement of the auditors, whereupon,

Mr. Hymel offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-05

WHEREAS, the firm of Kolder, Champagne, Slaven and Company, LLC submitted an agreement letter for the examination of the financial statements of the City of Morgan City for the year ending December 31, 2021, and

WHEREAS, said agreement letter must be approved by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Mayor, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute the letter agreement between the City and Kolder, Champagne, Slaven

and Company, LLC for the purpose of conducting an examination of the City's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2021.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Hymel, Tamporello, Bias, Domangue, Stephens
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that Mrs. Garber wanted to declare the swimming pool complex surplus to get it off of the books. The pumps were moved to the diesel plant in case they could be repaired; whereupon,

Pastor Bias offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-06

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the Morgan City Swimming Pool Complex, including all buildings and components is hereby declared surplus and no longer needed.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Domangue, Hymel, Stephens, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The Resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Louisiana Municipal Gas Association Director and Alternate Director resolution; whereupon,

Mr. Domangue offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-07

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF A DIRECTOR
AND AN ALTERNATE DIRECTOR TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF

MORGAN CITY, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LOUISIANA MUNICIPAL NATURAL GAS PURCHASING AND DISTRIBUTION AUTHORITY AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 10-B OF TITLE 33 OF LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950.

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, has previously become a member of the Authority in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4546.2 of the Act, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, desires to approve the appointment of William Cefalu to serve as Director of the Authority and to approve the appointment of Lee Dragna, to serve as an alternate Director to act in the absence of the director herein above named;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, State of Louisiana, acting in such capacity:

Section 1. That, pursuant to the Act, the appointment of William Cefalu to serve as a Director of the Authority for a term of four (4) years from the date hereof is approved and that the appointment of Mayor Lee Dragna, III to serve as an alternate Director, for like term, to act in the absence of the director is approved.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Domangue, Tamporello, Bias, Hymel, Stephens

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The public hearing for the Surplus and Sale of the property near New Zorah Baptist Church was opened. Pastor Terry Joseph stated that they were interested in expanding the building to make classrooms for the children to receive more education; whereupon,

This ordinance was introduced with a first reading on December 28, 2021 and a second reading on January 25, 2022. Published by title on January 28, 2022.

Mr. Stephens offered the following ordinance, who moved for its adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-01

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council, the governing body of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, in regular session convened this 22nd day of February, 2022 that:

SECTION 1:

Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712, the Mayor and Council of the City of Morgan City hereby declares the below described real property to be not needed for public purposed and shall therefore be sold at private or public sale in accordance with the law.

SECTION 2:

The said property is without use to the City; its sale will place the property back in commerce and be subject to taxation in accordance with the law.

SECTION 3:

The sale shall be for a price not less than that established by appraisal by a certified appraiser, payable in cash at the closing of this act of sale.

SECTION 4:

The property is described as follows:

That certain parcel of land lying and being situated in the City of Morgan City, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, and being a .060-acre (2,650 Sq. Ft.) parcel of vacant land located within Jones Annex, Block B, Section, Township 16. Range 12, Morgan City, Louisiana, being more particularly described as follows: 17.00' (Seventeen feet) along Julia Street, 155.00' (One hundred fifty five feet) along parcels 3194361115.00, 3194361117.00, 3194361118.00, 17.00' (Seventeen feet) along Ash Street and 155.00' (One hundred fifty five feet) along parcel 3194361112.00. Attached plat map titled, *New Zorah Baptist Church Surplus Property Sale*, dated December 20, 2021.

SECTION 5:

The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary in carrying out the intent and purpose of this ordinance.

SECTION 6:

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional or repealed for any reason, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected hereby. That all laws or parts of law in conflict with this ordinance be and the same are repealed. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage within the time prescribed by law.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Stephens, Bias, Domangue, Hymel, Tamporello
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Certified approved and adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022.

Delivered to Mayor at 12:45 pm, this 24th day of February, 2022.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Approved this 24th day of February, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

Received from Mayor at 1:45 pm on February 24, 2022.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Published: March 2, 2022

Mayor Dragna stated that there was one opening for the Housing Authority Board if anyone knew of someone who may want to serve.

Pastor Bias stated that some residents were trying to get a Pop Warner Football league back in the City. He asked Mrs. Garber to see what kind of money she could come up with to get the league going again. He suggested that they may try to do it parish-wide. Mr. Barry Walker, Sr. asked if the City could get back the 13 and 14-year-old baseball league. He knew that some kids were not playing with the Junior High and he felt that a lot of kids not playing travel ball needed something to do. Mr. Hymel stated that travel ball had taken most of the players and killed recreational sports. He stated he would love to see the league started again. Mr. Solar stated that his son was in the age group when the Sheriff's League was dissolved. They did not have enough participants to make two teams. Mayor Dragna stated that the Recreation Department should take applications with no registration fee to see if there was an interest in the 13 and 14-year-old baseball league. If enough participants registered they would collect the fees and draft the teams. Mr. Walker said that parents with two or three children could not afford the price of registration. Mr. Barbier stated that one of the main problems was that there was no interest from children in participating. Two years ago the Recreation Department offered Bidy Basketball registration for free and the increase in the total members of the league was two children. This year the participation was average. He said junior high is now sixth, seventh, and eighth grades so it cut out more

players for recreational sports. The younger ones don't play much on the junior high team but would rather be on a junior high team than a recreational team. Pastor Bias suggested getting coaches together parish-wide to talk about a possible solution to the problem of recreational sports leagues. He said children and parents in the community were interested in seeing tackle football return to our area. Mr. Barbier stated that all football equipment was out of compliance so it had been thrown away. To start a new league all new equipment would need to be purchased. Mr. Hymel stated that the High School was currently getting prices on middle-of-the-line helmets and they were running about \$400 each. Pop Warner would be a bit cheaper, but still a large expense. Mr. Barbier stated he would set up a meeting and advise everyone of the meeting date and time.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Pastor Bias and voted unanimously in favor.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor