

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
JANUARY 25, 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 Justin Lee.

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

Mrs. Catherine Holcomb with St. Mary Excel shared a power point presentation on the recently held Verdunity workshop (copy on file). She stated that the workshop was held on January 19 and 20, 2022 and it was a pleasure to see Morgan City and Berwick work together. She felt if both communities continued to work together, it would make our area stronger. She advised that there would be a town hall meeting regarding the National Estuarine Research Reserve and that Morgan City was in the running for this Reserve. The meeting would take place on February 8, 2022 from 6PM to 8PM at the Municipal Auditorium and there would also be a virtual meeting on February 2, 2022 from Noon to 2PM. She encouraged everyone to attend the meetings. She advised the Council that the Neighborhood Signage Project was well underway. Some subdivisions had collected money for their signs and a grant was secured by the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area for the signs in the remaining subdivisions of Elliot, Walsh, Wyandotte, Golden Fams, "Klingsville", "The Generals" and "Coal Chute". These signs had to have the logo of the ANHA on them because of the grant. She said that the City had helped with the landscaping around the signs and neighborhood residents would weed and maintain the landscaping. Hopefully, with this project, pride and ownership would spill into other areas. During hurricane season, the signs would be able to be removed with only two screws.

Mr. Walter Sheppard requested permission to hold the Irish Italian Heritage Parade on March 19, 2022 from 1 PM to 8 PM. The parade would begin at Second Street Liquor Store, travel down Second Street to Everett Street and end with a block party under the bridge near Front Street. A motion to allow the parade with walkers and golf carts was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Raymond "Mac" Wade, Executive Director of the Port of Morgan City presented the Mayor and Council with pictures of the dredging that was taking place in the Atchafalaya River (copy on file). He said there were currently four dredges running and the levels of dredging had allowed millions of cubic yards of sediment to be placed near the port's waterways, creating land that would fight coastal loss. Mayor Dragna asked what was being done with the Bayou Chene project. Mr. Wade said that dredging was planned for this fall in Bayou Chene.

The next matter on the agenda was the Mayor's Update. Mayor Dragna stated that Senator Bret Allain had facilitated in securing a four-million-dollar grant with a one-million-dollar city match for the Water Sector Program. This project would install new clarifiers at the Water Plant, thus requiring fewer chemicals to treat the water. He stated that there were changes that needed to be made to the Shannon School Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Act of Sale before it could be signed. Both the School Board and the City Attorney were working together on that. He advised that the power plant demolition was coming along nicely. There were about 19 or 20 business that had qualified for the façade grants and there was a list of private residences that qualified for grants as well. He thanked the Nicholls State University Nursing Students for their attendance at the meeting. Pastor Bias said that the senior living facility on David Drive was coming along nicely. There would be 40 to 50 units when the facility was completed.

The minutes of the December 28, 2021 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending December 31, 2021.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: January 25, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended December 31, 2021.

Attached is a summary that compares our actual revenues and expenses to our AMENDED operational budget for our major funds subject to budgetary control for the period ending December 31, 2021. In order to get a better overview of our year, I included the original budget along with the Amended budget. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Revenues ended over budget by \$129,089. Operating expenses were also over budget by \$20,364. The net income, after transfers, of \$681,124 is a favorable variance of \$103,725 compared to the amended budget.

Utility Fund: The Utility fund revenues surprisingly ended over budget by \$937,550 but is still under the original budget by 840,000. The operational expenses came in under budget by \$206,357. The net loss, after transfers, of \$113,485 creates a favorable variance of \$1,201,991.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues ended slightly over budget this by \$10,503, with total operating expenses also over budget by \$3,797. The net income, after transfers, of \$330,915 leaves a favorable variance of \$9,860.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
 Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
 Period Ended December 31, 2021

	DECEMBER 2021	DECEMBER 2021	
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			
General Fund	7,652,383	7,574,037	78,346
Recreation Fund	97,664	96,900	764
Library Fund	28,439	28,295	144
Auditorium Fund	435,982	442,848	(6,866)
Lake End Park Fund	952,063	919,260	32,803
State Prisoner Fund	400,398	376,500	23,898
Total Revenues	9,566,929	9,437,840	129,089
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	10,632,439	10,556,388	76,051
Recreation Fund	345,959	365,125	(19,166)
Library Fund	94,568	108,751	(14,183)
Auditorium Fund	467,727	472,374	(4,647)
Lake End Park Fund	869,789	911,632	(41,843)
State Prisoner Fund	421,052	396,900	24,152
Total Expenses	12,831,534	12,811,170	20,364
TRANSFERS			

Transfers from Funds	4,543,729	4,543,729	0
Transfers to Funds	(598,000)	(593,000)	(5,000)
Net Transfers	3,945,729	3,950,729	(5,000)
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	681,124	577,399	103,725

UTILITY FUND

Total			
Revenues	20,928,627	19,991,077	937,550
Total Expenditures	17,797,869	18,004,226	(206,357)
Net			
Excess	3,130,758	1,986,851	1,143,907
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(3,244,243)	(3,302,327)	58,084
Excess net of transfers	(113,485)	(1,315,476)	1,201,991

SANITATION AND SEWER FUND

Total			
Revenues	2,946,503	2,936,000	10,503
Total			
Expenses	3,330,935	3,327,138	3,797
Net			
Excess	(384,432)	(391,138)	6,706
Net Transfers/non-			
operating expenses	715,347	712,193	3,154
Excess net of transfers			
and non-operating	330,915	321,055	9,860

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

The Police Pension & Relief Fund statement was the next item on the agenda.

CITY OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
Police Pension and Relief Fund
December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Operating Revenues:		
Interest Income	\$ 14	\$ 124
Contributions	-	27,582
Total Revenues	14	27,706
Expenses:		
Benefits Paid	1,248	20,232
Transfer to General Fund	24,909	
Total Expenses	26,157	20,232
Net Income(Loss)	(26,143)	7,474
Fund Balance, beginning	26,143	18,669
Fund Balance, ending	\$ -	\$ 26,143

CITY OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Police Pension and Relief Fund
December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
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CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATIONS	\$ (26,143)	\$ 7,474
Operations-Net Income (Loss)		
Changes in Current Assets & Liabilities		
(Increase)Decrease in:		
Accrued interest receivables	108	(1)
Incr. or (Decr.) Other Receivables		
Incr. or (Decr.) Due other funds		
Net changes in cash & cash equivalents	(26,035)	7,473
Cash & cash equivalents, beginning	26,035	18,562
Cash & cash equivalents, ending	\$ -	\$ 26,035

CITY OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA
BALANCE SHEET
Police Pension and Relief Fund
December 31, 2020

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 10,675
Investments (Restricted)	-	15,360
Receivables:		
Accrued Interest Rec.	-	-
Other		
Total Assets	\$ -	\$ 26,035
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
Accrued liabilities		
Due to other funds		
Restricted Fund Balance (as restated)	-	26,143
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 26,143

A motion to accept the Police Pension & Relief fund statement was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mr. Stephens, and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the selection of the Mayor Pro Tempore; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-01

WHEREAS, by Ordinance 01-3, the council approved a change to the charter to provide for the annual selection of the mayor pro-tempore by a majority vote of the council, said selection to be made at the first meeting in January of each year, and

WHEREAS, this home rule charter amendment, in an election held on October 12, 2002, was approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting in this election.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that Steve Domangue is hereby selected as Mayor Pro-tempore of the City Council for the year 2022.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 25th day of January, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that the Systems Survey & Compliance Questionnaire needed to be submitted, whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-02

WHEREAS, as required by the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana, a Systems Survey and Compliance Questionnaire is to be completed and submitted to the firm of Kolder, Champagne, Slaven, & Company for the City of Morgan City and

WHEREAS, along with the audit report, the results of this questionnaire must be submitted to the Legislative Auditor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that it hereby approves and adopts the Systems Survey and Compliance Questionnaire as completed and submitted by the Finance Director.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The Resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 25th day of January, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

In the matter of the Walking Trail Phase B, Segment 1, Mayor Dragna stated that some questions had arisen with the low bidder and that the City Attorney would look into the proposal and give his approval before signing anything; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 22-03

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the proposal of Cedar Construction & Management of Lafayette, Louisiana, for furnishing all materials, equipment, etc., for the Phase B, Segment 1 Walking Trail project in the amount of NINETY FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$95,447.20) being the least and most responsible proposal received, be and the same is hereby accepted and awarded to Cedar Construction & Management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the Mayor, be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute a contract with said Cedar Construction & Management for and on behalf of and in the name of said Municipal Corporation, for furnishing all materials, and equipment for the Phase B, Segment 1 Walking Trail, Morgan City, Louisiana, contingent on approval of City Attorney.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the contract shall be filed with the Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Recorder of Mortgages for the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, for recordation in the mortgage records of said parish, hereby ratifying and confirming his act or acts in the premises.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 25th day of January, 2022.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna stated that there was an issue with publication of the notice in the paper for the Surplus and Sale of the Property near New Zorah Church. It would be advertised again and voted on at the February meeting.

The Class "A" Liquor and Beer application for SAS Hotels, LLC d/b/a Clarion Inn Restaurant & Lounge was the next matter on the agenda. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor