

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
DECEMBER 15, 2020

The Mayor and City Council of Morgan City, Louisiana, met at 6:00 pm (local time) in regular session, this date, in the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium Theater, 725 Myrtle Street, Morgan City, Louisiana.

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

Absent: None

Also present was Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Wendell Howse.

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

Catherine Holcomb, Monica Mancuso, Kelly Boudreaux and Margaret Theriot with St. Mary Excel made a brief presentation on the National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) system (copy on file). They urged the Mayor and Council to pass a resolution of support for the LANERR Site to be the Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-40

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE
(NERR)
DESIGNATION FOR THE ATCHAFALAYA ESTUARINE ZONE IN ST. MARY PARISH**

WHEREAS, the designation of National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) site provides an outstanding example of broader impacts to local communities; and

WHEREAS, The NOAA is currently exploring the feasibility of developing a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) for the Gulf Coast of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, The Atchafalaya Basin is home to the largest wetland in the United States, the vitality of which is critical to the current and future prosperity of ecological sustainability of Morgan City in St. Mary Parish and in the broader region impacted directly by the Atchafalaya River and Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Research activities associated with NERR situated in the Atchafalaya Estuarine zone will attract scholars on both the national and international stage, providing employment opportunities to the region, stronger connectivity to the rest of Louisiana, the Gulf Coast, the United States, and ultimately inject money into the local economy; and

WHEREAS, many of the youth currently enrolled in local school districts value Louisiana's natural resources for the quality of life opportunities that they provide, shaping decisions about where they live, seek employment, further their education and raise their families; and

WHEREAS, Eco-tourism is an established and growing industry in St. Mary Parish and the Atchafalaya Basin and a research reserve would fit well within the 137,695 acre Atchafalaya Delta Wildlife Management Area already located at the mouths of the Atchafalaya River and the Wax Lake Outlet in St. Mary Parish.

WHEREAS, a LaNERR established here would support Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards announced Task Force which would focus on restoring and enhancing the Atchafalaya Basin.

WHEREAS, A St. Mary Parish Based NERR would enhance place-based identity, contributing directly to talent recruitment and retention efforts;

WHEREAS, Morgan City is the largest protected city located at the mouth of the Atchafalaya River—home to the parish’s business infrastructure with water, rail, and nearby air transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, the governing authority of Morgan City, Louisiana do hereby support the location of the LaNERR here in the Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should NERR designation be incurred for the Atchafalaya Estuarine Zone, the City of Morgan City enthusiastically expresses its desire to host a NERR site and pledges to work with Louisiana Sea Grant and NOAA to make this possibility a reality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Morgan City administration will provide a copy of this resolution to St. Mary Parish Government, Governor John Bel Edwards, NOAA, the Louisiana Sea Grant, and state and federal government representatives (House and Senate) who represent St. Mary Parish.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Hymel, Stephens, Bias, Domangue, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mr. Pat Cloutier asked Mayor Grizzaffi if the drainage project on Belanger Street would affect his property adversely. Mayor Grizzaffi stated he would speak to Public Works Director Michael Loupe and get back with him. Mr. Cloutier also asked about the status of the LEPA plant. Mayor Grizzaffi said that the plant was currently not operational, and decisions would be made on the future of the plant.

The minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending November 30, 2020.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: December 15, 2020
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended November 30, 2020.

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 November 30, 2020. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Revenues remain over budget by \$108,700. Operating expenses are below budget by \$808,500. The net income, after transfers, of \$198,500 is a favorable variance of \$977,200 compared to the budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues continue to be increasingly under budget by \$2,623,000, with operational expenses comparably under budget by \$2,579,300. The net income, after transfers, of \$550,500 creates an unfavorable variance again this month of \$9,700.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$88,700 over budget, with total operating expenses under budget by \$105,500. The net income, after transfers, of \$881,700 leaves a favorable variance this month of \$210,900.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended November 30, 2020

	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	VARIANCE
	2020	2020	
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	
REVENUES			
General Fund	6,503,754	6,257,294	246,460
Recreation Fund	47,778	119,396	(71,618)
Library Fund	26,812	13,302	13,510
Auditorium Fund	302,530	349,525	(46,995)
Lake End Park Fund	602,237	634,854	(32,617)
Total Revenues	7,483,111	7,374,371	108,740
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	8,942,670	9,393,981	(451,311)
Recreation Fund	280,561	489,130	(208,569)
Library Fund	76,510	109,275	(32,765)
Auditorium Fund	382,421	439,471	(57,050)
Lake End Park Fund	690,071	748,850	(58,779)
Total Expenses	10,372,233	11,180,707	(808,474)
TRANSFERS			
Transfers from Funds	3,511,667	3,451,667	60,000
Transfers to Funds	(424,000)	(424,000)	0
Net Transfers	3,087,667	3,027,667	60,000
EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS	198,545	(778,669)	977,214
UTILITY FUND			
Total			
Revenues	18,114,487	20,737,483	(2,622,996)
Total Expenditures	14,387,362	16,966,651	(2,579,289)
Net			
Excess	3,727,125	3,770,832	(43,707)
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(3,176,655)	(3,210,665)	34,010
Excess net of transfers	550,470	560,167	(9,697)
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND			
Total			
Revenues	2,772,343	2,683,642	88,701
Total			
Expenses	2,851,988	2,957,456	(105,468)
Net			
Excess	(79,645)	(273,814)	194,169
Net Transfers/non-operating expenses	961,369	944,641	16,728
Excess net of transfers			

and non-operating 881,724 670,827 210,897

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

Mr. Pete Lawton with the Planning and Zoning Department gave a brief update on the property located at 1430 Victor II Boulevard. He stated that the contractor had started demolition of the home and it would be complete by next council meeting.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the auditors needed to be retained to conduct the 2020 audit; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-41

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, 2020, 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, 2020.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December, 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was to appoint a Director and an Alternate to the Louisiana Municipal Gas Association board; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-42

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. Stephens seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Bias, Stephens, Domangue, Hymel, Tamporello

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December, 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Grizzaffi stated that the work on Roadway Repairs & Improvements, Phase 11 by Gray Construction was finished and a balancing change order as well as a substantial completion needed to be passed; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-43

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: 20-28, between the City of Morgan City and Gray Construction Corp. for the Roadway Repairs and Improvements Phase 11 project.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December, 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-44

WHEREAS, the firm of Gray Construction, Corp. has substantially completed the work done under contract No. R:20-28 for the Roadway Repairs & Improvements Phase 11 project, dated September 14, 2020, and recorded in the mortgage records of the Parish of St. Mary, Book 1602, Page 26, and

WHEREAS, the contractor has requested that this work be put in the lien period, and

WHEREAS, the engineer for the project has recommended acceptance of said project as substantially complete, to begin the forty-five (45) day lien period with no items remaining to be done, and

WHEREAS, before final payment is made, the engineer will so certify to the City that the project is fully complete and approve the payment of the retainage,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute the "Certificate of Substantial Completion" and that a copy of this resolution, along with said "Certificate" be filed with the Clerk of Courts of the Parish of St. Mary to initiate the forty-five (45) day lien period for the work done under the above mentioned contract.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December, 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Fiscal Agent. Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, explained that this year the proposals had come in different with Hancock Whitney submitting a proposal on their own while the other three local banks, MC Bank and Trust, Patterson State Bank and Regions Bank, had submitted a proposal together, whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 20-45

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FISCAL AGENT OF THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY

WHEREAS, in response to the City's public notice requesting bids for a Fiscal Agent, two bids were received; three (3) local banks (MC Bank and Trust Company, Patterson State Bank, and Regions Bank) submitted one (1) joint bid, and a second bid was received from Hancock Whitney Bank,

WHEREAS, each bank is qualified and capable of handling the account of the City as a Fiscal Agent,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the MC Bank and Trust Company, Patterson State Bank, and Regions Bank, are hereby named and designated as the Fiscal Agents for the City of Morgan City, Louisiana,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the MC Bank and Trust Company is designated as Managing Depository bank for the accounts of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that the accounts of the City now on deposit with each of the said banks or any future accounts of the City shall be divided equally among the said three (3) banks as allowable by state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that investments of funds in excess of those required for demand accounts shall be invested at the discretion of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that any account now on deposit with any bank by virtue of a resolution naming said bank as official depository of a trust agreement or bond issue shall not be affected by this resolution.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

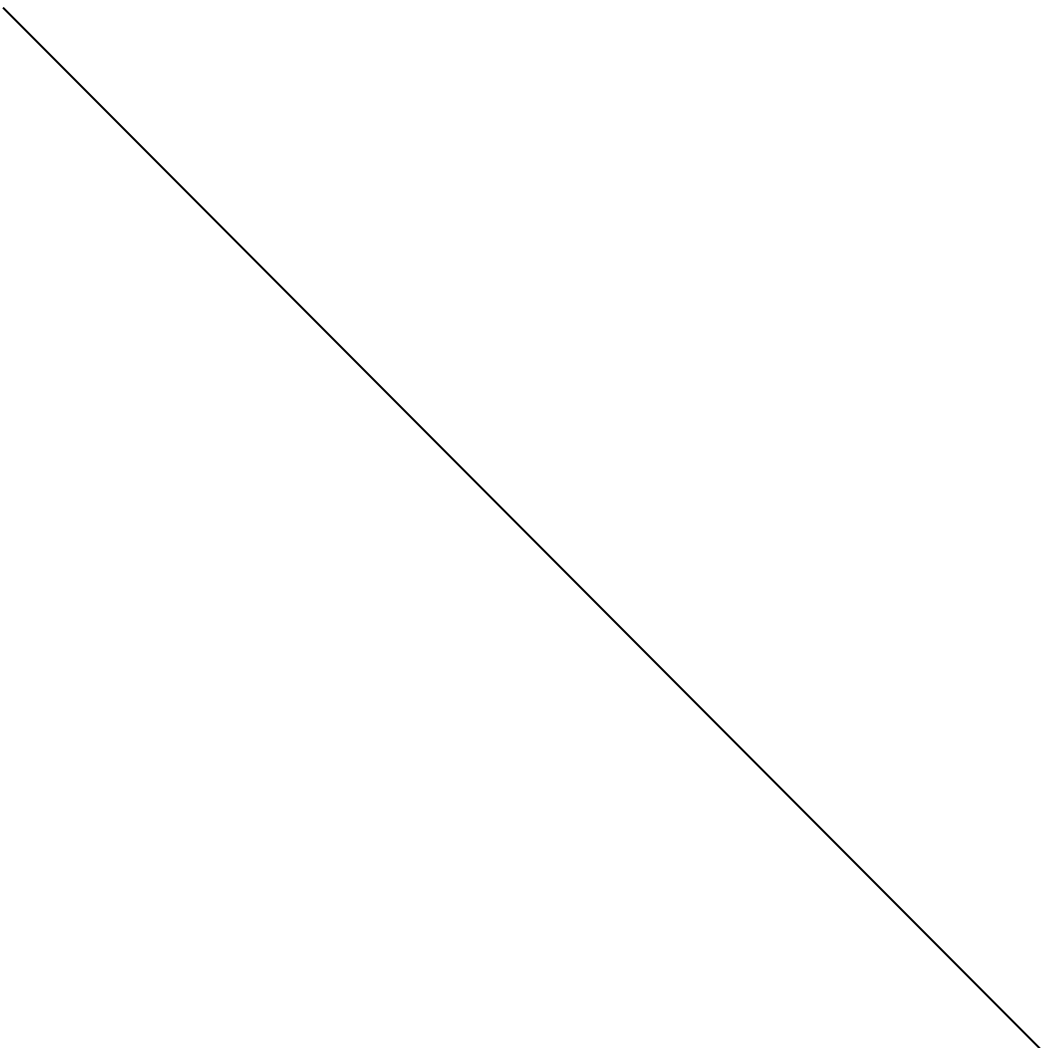
The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 15th day of December 2020.

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The public hearing for the 2020 Amended Budget ordinance was opened. No one appeared for or against said ordinance; whereupon,



Mayor Grizzaffi submitted the name of Ms. Robbie Landry for appointment to the Health Insurance Committee. A motion to approve the appointment was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Stephens and voted unanimously in favor.

A class "A" Liquor and Beer application for Harlan Kappal d/b/a East Gate BBQ was submitted. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Grizzaffi stated he wanted to give some updates on projects within the City. He stated that The Jimmy Johnson Memorial Basketball Park was underway and should be completed soon. The Justa Street walking trail was about three weeks away from completion and the City had agreed to fix the crossover at Oceaneering on Railroad Avenue and that project would be underway very soon. He wished a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all residents.

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

Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Frank P. Grizzaffi, III
Mayor