

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
NOVEMBER 19, 2024

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, Bonnie Leonard 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 Pastor Bias.

The Positive Image recipient for the month of November was the Morgan City Junior High School Football Team. Mayor Dragna stated the team had been back-to-back champions for the parish, but there was a schedule conflict and the team could not be present, but he would present the certificates to them at school. Mr. Hymel recognized Pastor Bias as being the Defensive Specialist Coach for the team and congratulated him for their success.

Mr. Clarence Robinson with the Morgan City Housing Authority presented the City with the 2024 PILOT payment. He stated that the relationship between the Housing Authority and the City had been going on for 12 years, and the partnership was a benefit to both agencies.

Mr. Bill Bourgeois with St. Mary Hospital District 2 gave a brief presentation on the upcoming 10-year, 9-mill assessment tax that would be on the December 7, 2024 ballot(copy on file). He said that this tax would generate \$3.4 million per year for the St. Mary Hospital District 2 to allow for renovations to the hospital. He urged all citizens to vote in favor of the tax.

The public hearing for Table 5 lounge was opened. Mr. David Ardoin, the attorney for Table 5 argued that the loud music ordinance for the City was not specific and could not be enforced as written. He said that he felt Table 5 was being singled out. He asked if other bars in the area were treated the same way, if all other bars had to call and notify the Police that they were opening. Police Chief Chad Adams presented 46 complaints involving Table 5, including complaints of people drinking outside of the bar, loud music, and vehicles parked in yards. He said when he became Chief, he met with the owners and told them that they were responsible for keeping their customers inside the bar. He told them if they advised him of when they would be open, he would try to have reserve officers out to help patrol the area. There were also two complaints of a bullet hole in a vehicle at another establishment believed to have come from Table 5, and casings found in the Table 5 parking lot. Mrs. Hettie Carries, owner of a neighboring house, said that she had called in many noise complaints and that she asked that something be done about the situation. Lt. Richard Briscoe said that he had responded to one of the complaints of people partying in the parking lot and only tried to de-escalate the situation and get the patrons inside the building because he had no available backup. Mrs. Cherie LeBeouf, Table 5 owner produced letters written and signed by neighbors stating that the bar was not a problem in their opinion. Mr. John Gibson also spoke in favor of Table 5, and said he would do anything he could to help control the crowds if they were allowed to stay open. After lengthy discussion, Pastor Bias made a motion to table the issue until the December 17, 2024 meeting and give the City Attorney as well as the Table 5 Attorney time to work on a solution possibly by measuring decibel levels, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

For the Mayor's Update Councilwoman Leonard advised that the wharf area was going to be getting new tables and chairs.

The minutes of the October 22, 2024 and November 1, 2024 meetings were submitted. There being no corrections, additions, or deletions, a motion to approve the

minutes was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending October 31, 2024.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE: November 19, 2024
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deborah Garber
RE: Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended October 31, 2024.

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 October 31, 2024. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Revenues are over budget by \$298,591. In General Fund, sales taxes are now over budget by \$295,850 due to some recent sales tax audits that brought in some back taxes. Operating expenses are under budget \$1,042,526. The net loss of \$1,927,847 is a positive variance of \$1,346,117 as compared to the adopted budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are under budget at \$1,660,825. Electric revenues alone are under budget \$1,778,000 which is a direct result of the Purchased Power Expense being under budget \$1,220,500. Overall, the utility operational expenses are under budget \$1515,913. The net income, after transfers, of \$297,783 creates a negative variance compared to the budget of \$65,025.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$119,620 over budget, with total operating expenses under budget \$57,708. The net income, after transfers, of \$512,526 results in a positive variance of \$131,657.

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

**CITY OF MORGAN CITY
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
 Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
 Period Ended OCTOBER 31, 2024**

GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS	OCTOBER 2024 ACTUAL	OCTOBER 2024 BUDGET	VARIANCE
REVENUES			
General Fund	6,114,200	5,829,678	284,522
Recreation Fund	94,235	54,747	39,488
Library Fund	6,447	3,762	2,685
Auditorium Fund	88,137	84,185	3,952
Lake End Park Fund	827,982	860,038	(32,056)
Cemetery Fund	153,701	133,502	20,199
State Prisoner Fund	159,326	183,036	(23,710)
Total Revenues	7,131,001	6,832,410	298,591
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL			
General Fund	9,665,525	10,353,616	(688,091)
Recreation Fund	396,149	482,988	(86,839)
Library Fund	52,375	127,797	(75,422)
Auditorium Fund	558,865	580,342	(21,477)
Lake End Park Fund	995,503	1,159,763	(164,260)
Cemetery Fund	227,927	245,680	(17,753)
State Prisoner Fund	580,004	568,688	11,316
Total Expenses	12,476,348	13,518,874	(1,042,526)

TRANSFERS

Transfers from Funds	3,417,500	3,412,500	5,000
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	<u>3,417,500</u>	<u>3,412,500</u>	<u>5,000</u>

EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS

<u>(1,927,847)</u>	<u>(3,273,964)</u>	<u>1,346,117</u>
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UTILITY FUND

Total Revenues	19,142,979	20,803,804	(1,660,825)
Total Expenditures	15,902,201	17,418,114	(1,515,913)
Net Excess	<u>3,240,778</u>	<u>3,385,690</u>	<u>(144,912)</u>
Net Transfers and non-oper.	<u>(2,942,995)</u>	<u>(3,022,882)</u>	<u>79,887</u>
Excess net of transfers	<u>297,783</u>	<u>362,808</u>	<u>(65,025)</u>

SANITATION AND SEWER FUND

Total Revenues	2,840,272	2,720,652	119,620
Total Expenses	3,581,509	3,523,801	57,708
Net Excess	<u>(741,237)</u>	<u>(803,149)</u>	<u>61,912</u>
Net Transfers/non- operating expenses	<u>1,253,763</u>	<u>1,184,018</u>	<u>69,745</u>
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	<u>512,526</u>	<u>380,869</u>	<u>131,657</u>

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

The next matter on the agenda was the surplus equipment; whereupon, Mr. Hymel offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 24-37

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the item shown below are hereby declared surplus and no longer needed:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #C2313480283 | Elec. Dept. |
| 2. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #C2313480284 | Elec. Dept |
| 3. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #C2313480285 | Elec. Dept |
| 4. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #12413537188 | Elec. Dept |
| 5. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #12413537189 | Elec. Dept |
| 6. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #12413537302 | Elec. Dept |
| 7. ERMCO Pad Mount 112.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #12413537303 | Elec. Dept |
| 8. Howard Pad Mount 500 KVA Transformer, Serial #1400930910 | Elec. Dept |
| 9. Howard Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #2489292694 | Elec. Dept |
| 10. ABB Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #01A200040 | Elec. Dept |
| 11. RTE Poletop 75 VA Transformer, Serial #801119410 | Elec. Dept |
| 12. Howard Poletop 167KVA Transformer, Serial #3618243005 | Elec. Dept |
| 13. Allis-Chalmers Poletop 100 KVA Transformer, Serial #7417-6341652 | Elec. Dept |
| 14. Central Maloney Poletop 100 KVA Transformer, Serial #188363302 | Elec. Dept |
| 15. Howard Poletop 100 KVA Transformer, Serial #2799924293 | Elec. Dept |
| 16. Allis-Chalmers Poletop 100 KVA Transformer, Serial #7417-6341653 | Elec. Dept |
| 17. Howard Poletop 167 KVA Transformer, Serial #225241107 | Elec. Dept |
| 18. Westinghouse Poletop 75 KVA Transformer, Serial #79A502156 | Elec. Dept |
| 19. ABB Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #01A200039 | Elec. Dept |
| 20. Howard Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #2820304298 | Elec. Dept |
| 21. Howard Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #2489272694 | Elec. Dept |
| 22. Howard Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #2489282694 | Elec. Dept |
| 23. RTE Poletop 75 KVA Transformer, Serial #801119421 | Elec. Dept |
| 24. McGraw-Edison 75 KVA Transformer, Serial #79ZH117003 | Elec. Dept |
| 25. ABB Poletop 250 KVA Transformer, Serial #95A214587 | Elec. Dept |
| 26. ABB Poletop 250 KVA Transformer, Serial #98A214586 | Elec. Dept |
| 27. Magnet Poletop 250 KVA Transformer, Serial #ID00602 | Elec. Dept |
| 28. ABB Poletop 250 KVA Transformer, Serial #95A214585 | Elec. Dept |
| 29. Westinghouse Poletop 167 KVA Transformer, Serial #66AK10273 | Elec. Dept |
| 30. RTE Poletop 167 KVA Transformer, Serial #791120266 | Elec. Dept |
| 31. Cooper Poletop 37 KVA Transformer, Serial #931089217 | Elec. Dept |
| 32. Cooper Poletop 37 KVA Transformer, Serial #931089220 | Elec. Dept |
| 33. Howard Poletop 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #1360190795 | Elec. Dept |
| 34. Howard Poletop 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #136080795 | Elec. Dept |

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|---|------------|
| 35. Howard Poletop 50 KVA Transformer, Serial #2820314293 | Elec. Dept |
| 36. Allis-Chalmers 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #7441-6431919 | Elec. Dept |
| 37. Allis Chalmers 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #7439-6426213 | Elec. Dept |
| 38. WTS Poletop 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #99011602 | Elec. Dept |
| 39. WTS Poletop 37.5KVA Transformer, Serial #99011603 | Elec. Dept |
| 40. ABB Poletop 37.5 KVA Transformer, Serial #05A230344 | Elec. Dept |
| 41. ABB Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #03A311728 | Elec. Dept |
| 42. ABB Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #03A311729 | Elec. Dept |
| 43. ABB Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #05A230461 | Elec. Dept |
| 44. ABB Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #05A230469 | Elec. Dept |
| 45. ABB Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #05A230460 | Elec. Dept |
| 46. WTS Poletop 15 KVA Transformer, Serial #96060720 | Elec. Dept |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, etc., that said items be sold either by auction, on GovDeal.com, or by receiving bids.

Mr. Tamporello seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The Resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
 Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
 Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that the Capital Outlay request needed to be submitted; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 24-38

WHEREAS, the Mayor submitted to the council, the following projects for re-submission to the State requesting Capital Outlay funding:

Sewer Rehabilitation	\$6,965,000
Morgan City Lake End Parkway Pier Development	\$13,110,000
Pavement Preservation Program	\$6,160,000
Morgan City Wellness Center	\$23,180,550

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana that it hereby supports the Mayor's request, to the state, for Capital Outlay Funds to complete these projects.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the Cadre Services management agreement; whereupon,

Mrs. Leonard offered the following Resolution, who moved for its adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. R: 24-39

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City is interested in entering into a contract with a firm to provide Grant Administration and Management of the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program – FY 2022; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Cadre Management Resources, LLC has submitted a proposal to accomplish this.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Cadre Management Resources, LLC is hereby selected by the City of Morgan City to provide grant administration for Notice of Funding Opportunity for Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program – FY 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a contract for the above services.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that the St. Mary Parish School Board wanted a memorandum of understanding in effect if any area schools needed to be evacuated to the Municipal Auditorium; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 24-40

WHEREAS, the St. Mary Parish Public Schools is in need of a facility to serve as a reunification site in the event of an emergency evacuation of the students and staff of any St. Mary Parish Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Auditorium has the space to accommodate the students and staff of the schools, and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding with St. Mary Parish Public Schools needs to be signed to establish the terms of use.

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 a Memorandum of Understanding with the St. Mary Parish Public Schools.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that the agenda needed to be expanded to discuss a bid tabulation of Request for Qualifications for consulting services for Hurricane Francine. A motion to expand the agenda to discuss consulting services was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Charlie Solar, CAO, proposed that the top two companies from the Request for Qualifications be accepted; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 24-41

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2024, Hurricane Francine caused devastating and catastrophic damages to the City, including critical infrastructure assets, utilities, and other city asset; and

WHEREAS, the City requires professional expertise in disaster recovery project and grants management with established experience in assessment, repair, and restoration; and

WHEREAS, requests for proposals were received on November 18, 2024; and

WHEREAS, after grading the proposals, Charlie Solar, Jr., CAO, has recommended entering into an agreement with the firms of Royal Engineers and Consultants, LLC and Metric Consulting, LLC for assistance in the disaster recovery project.

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 a contract with Royal Engineers and Consultants, LLC and Metric Consulting, LLC, for the administration of disaster recovery and grants management project.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The first reading of the 2024 Budget Amendment was the next matter on the agenda. No definitive action was necessary.

The public hearing for the 2025 Budget was opened. No one appeared for or against said ordinance; whereupon,

This Ordinance introduced with first reading on September 24, 2024 and a second reading on October 22, 2024. Published by title on October 2, 2024.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 24-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA ADOPTING AN OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025.

SECTION 1

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that:

Section 1

The attached detailed estimate of revenues as reflected in the consolidated statement, the supporting line item budget, and other such fiscal exhibits and information as required by the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act are ready for approval and adoption to serve as the Budget of Revenues for the City for the Fiscal Year January 1 to December 31, 2025.

Section 2

The attached detailed statement of expenditures as reflected in the consolidated statement, the supporting line item budget and other such fiscal exhibits and information as required by the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act are ready for approval and adoption to serve as the Budget of Expenditures for the City for Fiscal Year January 1 to December 31, 2025.

Section 3

The adoption of the Budget of Expenditures as reflected in the attached line item budget containing account object of expenditure classifications shall be declared to be the appropriation of the amounts set therein as established in each budget classification by object of expenditure.

Section 4

The amounts appropriated for all accounts shall not exceed the amounts fixed therefore in the Budget of Expenditures; however, nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prohibit the governing authority from amending or making an appropriation to and for a contingent fund to be used in cases of emergency.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, etc., that the budget for fiscal year January 1 to December 31, 2025, as attached hereto and made a part hereof be and the same is hereby approved.

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 laws in conflict with this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after its passage within the time prescribed by law.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

Certified approved and adopted this 19th day of November, 2024.

Delivered to Mayor Dragna at 2:30 PM, this 21st day of November, 2024.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Approved this 21st day of November, 2024.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

Received from Mayor Dragna at 2:45 PM on November 21, 2024.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

Published: November 29, 2024

Mayor Dragna said the 2025 Class "A" and "B" Liquor License Renewals were the next matter on the agenda:

ATCHAFALAYA CAFÉ LLC	7310 HIGHWAY 182 E
BAY CITY BISTRO INC	618 FRONT ST
BOURBON'S LLC	501 FIRST ST
CAFÉ JOJO'S LLC	624 FRONT ST
CAJUN COUNTRY LOUNGE	1226 VICTOR II BLVD
CANNATA'S SUPERMARKET INC	6010 LA-182
CIRCLE K #4640	7700 US-90
CIRCLE K #2706821	6383 HIGHWAY 182 E
COU-YONS BAR LLC	117 RAILROAD AVE
THE CROOKED CORNER	1400 SECOND ST
LOUISIANA CVS PHARMACY	6502 HIGHWAY 182
DAIQUIRIS & COMPANY	7550 HIGHWAY 182
DON JOSE OF MORGAN CITY LLC	605 MLK BLVD
FIFTH STREET STORE LLC	701 EVERETT ST
FRIEND'S TAVERN	6815 HIGHWAY 182 E
G AND J LAND & MARINE FOOD DIST.	506 FRONT ST
GANAWAY'S #1	1409 FEDERAL AVE
HAMPTON INN MORGAN CITY	
KILPATRICK HOTELS #4	6365 HIGHWAY 182 E
LAS BRISAS LLC	7418 HIGHWAY 182
LINKS CAFE	1118 VICTOR II BLVD
MAMA G'S	7540 HIGHWAY 90
ONE STOP	7028 HIGHWAY 182 E
PARADISE VALLEY CASINO	1118 VICTOR II BLVD
PARADISE VALLEY DAIQUIRIS	1114 VICTOR II BLVD
PETROLEUM CLUB OF MORGAN CITY	500 RODERICK ST
POOL DO'S SPORTS BAR LLC	615 BRASHEAR AVE
QUICK GENERAL MINI MARKET	2407 SIXTH ST
ROUSE'S SUPERMARKET #10	6403 HIGHWAY 90
SAAS HOTELS LLC	520 RODERICK ST
SPORTS BAR	7419 HIGHWAY 182
STAZIONE DELI #2	6602 HIGHWAY 90
SUSHIRO STEAK HOUSE	6214 HIGHWAY 182
TABLE FIVE	702 FIFTH ST
TAMPICO RESTAURANT & LOUNGE	1025 VICTOR II BLVD
TRI CITY LIQUOR & WINE LLC	500 BRASHEAR AVE
THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY	319 SECOND ST
THE GALLEY	7409 HIGHWAY 182 E
VICTOR II DELI	1220 VICTOR II BLVD
WALGREEN'S #10975	815 BRASHEAR AVE
WAL-MART MARKET #7099	1002 HIGHWAY 182

A motion to approve the renewals was made by Mr. Tamporello, and seconded by Mrs. Leonard. The vote thereon was as follows: Yeas: Tamporello, Leonard, Bias, Hymel, Nays: None, and Abstain: Domangue.

Mayor Dragna informed the Council that although Joe Cavalier was appointed to the Civil Service Board at the October meeting, the board had already sworn in Lonnie Gray for one more term, so Mr. Cavalier would not be appointed to the Civil Service Board.

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