

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
DECEMBER 17, 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 Reverend Wendell Howse.

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

Dr. Monica Mancuso and Mrs. Catherine Holcomb with St. Mary Excel addressed the council regarding a resolution of support for the Atchafalaya National Estuarine Research Reserve. She said that an ideal location had been located, and the seller had written a letter of interest regarding the sale of the property. St. Mary Excel felt that a resolution of support would be advantageous to the mission of connecting a willing seller with a state agency. Mr. Tamporello made a motion to place the resolution on the January agenda, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Elisabeth Chaisson with St. Mary Chamber of Commerce requested permission to hold the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Basin Brew Fest on April 5, 2025. The footprint would remain the same as in previous years. A motion to approve the Basin Brew Fest was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Walter Shepherd with the Krewe of Dionysus requested permission to hold the annual Irish Italian Parade on March 15, 2025. It would be at Bourbon's, travel down Second Street, and end at the Crazy Corner. It would consist of both walkers and golf carts. A motion to approve the Irish Italian Parade was made by Mr. Tamporello, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Vanessa Spinella with Morgan City Main Street submitted a calendar of events for the year 2025 (copy on file). She was seeking approval to hold the events. A motion to approve the event calendar was made by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Bryce Merrill with the Oilfield Divers Monument said that there was interest expressed in building a ROV monument, but the city would need to provide space, possibly near the existing monument. Mayor Dragna suggested that it be put on the January agenda so that the issue could be voted on. Mr. Merrill also stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Oilfield Divers Rally Weekend would be held on April 25, 2025 - April 27, 2025, and include an unveiling of the granite wall and a crawfish boil.

Mrs. Ingrid Dixon, mother of Mrs. Hettie Carries expressed that her mother's extreme distress over the noise from Table 5 had taken a toll on her. She stated that she had studied law, and urged the Council to make the right decision regarding the liquor license for Table 5.

Mrs. Shannon Zerangue, a bartender and patron of Table 5, asked what could be done by the establishment to allow them to remain open. She said they had always tried to follow the rules and did not know what else they could do.

Pastor Bias stated that he wanted to go on record that South Central Planning & Development were terrible to work with during the redistricting process. He said that they had changed the colors of each district on the maps, the maps were hard to read, and did not return repeated phone calls regarding these issues. He urged the Council not to work with them on any future projects.

The minutes of the November 19, 2024 meeting were submitted. Pastor Bias asked that the minutes be amended by adding the transcript of the Table 5 public hearing to the file, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Deborah Garber, Finance Director, submitted the following financial statement for the period ending November 30, 2024.

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**MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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DATE: December 17, 2024  
 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, 2024.

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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, 2024. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Revenues are over budget by \$3. In General Fund, sales taxes are now over budget by \$307,400. Operating expenses are under budget \$1,304,597. The net income of \$562,549 is a positive variance of \$1,659,842 as compared to the adopted budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues are under budget at \$1,769,319. Electric revenues alone are under budget \$1,830,000 which is a direct result of the Purchased Power Expense being under budget \$1,556,000. Overall, the utility operational expenses are under budget \$1,978,665. The net income, after transfers, of \$754,402 creates a positive variance compared to the budget of \$293,602.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are \$122,619 over budget, with total operating expenses over budget \$22,060. The net income, after transfers, of \$44,899 results in a positive variance of \$178,677.

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, 2024**

	<b>NOVEMBER 2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 2024 BUDGET</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b>GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS</b>			
<b>REVENUES</b>			
General Fund	8,770,954	8,454,952	316,002
Recreation Fund	97,463	58,071	39,392
Library Fund	6,460	3,862	2,598
Auditorium Fund	364,756	366,024	(1,268)
Lake End Park Fund	950,643	957,122	(6,479)
Cemetery Fund	172,025	146,851	25,174
State Prisoner Fund	167,931	201,126	(33,195)
Total Revenues	10,190,276	9,840,031	350,245
<b>EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL</b>			
General Fund	10,466,566	11,351,420	(884,854)
Recreation Fund	425,302	521,938	(96,636)
Library Fund	107,828	140,805	(32,977)
Auditorium Fund	598,403	620,978	(22,575)
Lake End Park Fund	1,049,027	1,270,462	(221,435)
Cemetery Fund	240,057	269,482	(29,425)
State Prisoner Fund	603,044	619,739	(16,695)
Total Expenses	13,490,227	14,794,824	(1,304,597)

**TRANSFERS**

Transfers from Funds	3,862,500	3,857,500	5,000
Transfers to Funds	0	0	0
Net Transfers	<u>3,862,500</u>	<u>3,857,500</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**EXCESS NET OF TRANSFERS**

	<u>562,549</u>	<u>(1,097,293)</u>	<u>1,659,842</u>
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**UTILITY FUND**

Total Revenues	20,757,171	22,526,490	(1,769,319)
Total Expenditures	17,051,733	19,030,398	(1,978,665)
Net Excess	<u>3,705,438</u>	<u>3,496,092</u>	<u>209,346</u>
Net Transfers and non-oper.	<u>(2,951,036)</u>	<u>(3,035,292)</u>	<u>84,256</u>
Excess net of transfers	<u>754,402</u>	<u>460,800</u>	<u>293,602</u>

**SANITATION AND SEWER FUND**

Total Revenues	3,124,348	3,001,729	122,619
Total Expenses	4,008,601	3,986,541	22,060
Net Excess	<u>(884,253)</u>	<u>(984,812)</u>	<u>100,559</u>
Net Transfers/non- operating expenses	<u>929,152</u>	<u>851,034</u>	<u>78,118</u>
Excess net of transfers and non-operating	<u>44,899</u>	<u>(133,778)</u>	<u>178,677</u>

A motion to accept the financial statement was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

The next matter on the agenda was the bid tabulation for the Water Treatment Plant Improvements, Phase II. Mr. Charlie Solar said that this contract could not be awarded until LDHH had reviewed and approved the bids.

Mayor Dragna said that the ordinance for the 2024 Budget Amendment would be taken up at the January meeting when the numbers were more precise.

The Class "A" Liquor and Beer application for The Cigarette Store d/b/a Smoke' N Go #415 was the next matter on the agenda. A motion to approve the application was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna submitted the name of Sadie Rankin for appointment to the Hotel Motel Corridor Economic Development District and the Economic Development District. A motion to concur in the appointment was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Hymel stated that this was Mr. Tamporello's last council meeting and he congratulated him for his 20 years of service to the citizens of Morgan City.

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington  
Debbie Harrington  
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dragna  
Lee Dragna  
Mayor