

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2025

The Mayor and City Council of Morgan City, Louisiana, met at 6:00 PM in special session, this date, in the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium Theater, 725 Myrtle Street, Morgan City, Louisiana.

There were present:

HONORABLE LEE DRAGNA, Mayor
TIM HYMEL, Councilman
BONNIE LEONARD, Councilman
RON BIAS, Councilman
STEVE DOMANGUE, Councilman
LOUIS J. TAMPORELLO, Jr., Councilman

There were absent: None

Also present were: Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer.

Mayor Dragna welcomed everyone in attendance He thanked Mr. Tamporello for his service on the Council. Mr. Hymel also thanked Mr. Tamporello for his twenty years of service on the City Council and presented him with a plaque. Mrs. Leonard, Pastor Bias, and Mr. Domangue also extended their thanks to Mr. Tamporello for his service as a councilman. Mr. Tamporello thanked his fellow councilmen and the citizens for the opportunity to serve them.

Mayor Dragna gave a brief update on the projects that had been completed as well as the projects that had begun during the last four years. He thanked his wife, family, and friends and said he looked forward to moving the city even more in the next four years.

Mr. Hymel said that it had been a great sixteen years and he looked forward to seeing the city move forward in the next four years.

Mrs. Leonard thanked the Mayor and Council for their confidence in her as the interim Councilman for District Two and said she looked forward to this next term.

Pastor Bias thanked the citizens of Morgan City for electing him for the last twenty years and he was ready to hit the ground running in the next four-year term. He wanted the public to know that he was always accessible to them.

Mr. Domangue said that he not only served the citizens of District 4, but the citizens of the entire city. He intended to keep the city moving forward and looked forward the next four years.

Mr. Tamporello extended "Thanks" to his family and the Mayor and Council. He said the City had moved forward in the past four years and he would be there if anyone needed anything.

It was then announced that the time had come for a motion that the present administration adjourn "**SINE DIE**".

Whereupon, a motion was made by Mr. Tamporello and seconded by Mrs. Leonard, that the meeting adjourn "**SINE DIE**", and the vote thereon was unanimously in favor, as follows:

/s/ Lee Dragna
LEE DRAGNA, Mayor

/s/ Tim Hymel
TIM HYMEL, Councilman

/s/ Bonnie Leonard
BONNIE LEONARD, Councilman

/s/ Ron Bias
RON BIAS, Councilman

/s/ Steve Domangue
STEVE DOMANGUE, Councilman

/s/ Louis J. Tamporello, Jr.
LOUIS J. TAMPORELLO, JR., Councilman

“The four (4) year terms of Lee Dragna, Mayor; and Councilmen Ron Bias, Steve Domangue, Tim Hymel, Bonnie Leonard and Louis Tamporello, Jr., who have served during the years 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, have expired and this administration has adjourned “Sine Die” at 6:18 PM, this date.

The Administering of the Oaths of Office was the next matter on the agenda. Judge Kim Stansbury administered the oath of office to the following elected officials:

Lee Dragna, Mayor
Ron Bias, Councilman

Tim Hymel, Councilman

Mayor Dragna introduced Judge Ed Leonard who administered the oath of office to the following elected officials:

Bonnie Leonard, Councilman
Eriq Blanchard, Councilman

Steve Domangue, Councilman

The meeting then reconvened beginning the new administration.
There were present:

HONORABLE LEE DRAGNA, Mayor
RON BIAS, Councilman
BONNIE LEONARD, Councilman
STEVE DOMANGUE, Councilman
TIM HYMEL, Councilman
ERIQ BLANCHARD, Councilman

The Council then took up the matter of the authorization of bank signatures, whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-01

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, that the following persons are hereby authorized to sign checks for the City of Morgan City, Louisiana bank accounts.

<u>NAME AND TITLE</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Charlie Solar, Jr. Chief Administrative Officer	<u>/s/ Charlie Solar, Jr.</u>
Genie G. Bonner Administrative Secretary	<u>/s/ Genie G. Bonner</u>
Ron Bias Councilman	<u>/s/ Ron Bias</u>
Shawn St. Romain Treasurer	<u>/s/ Shawn St. Romain</u>
Samantha Vining Utility Billing Clerk	<u>/s/ Samantha Vining</u>
Payroll Accounts Only	

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

AYES: Domangue, Leonard, Bias, Blanchard, Hymel
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 13th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

The next matter on the agenda was the appointment of the LEPA Director and Alternate; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-02

BE IT RESOLVED, etc., that Lee Dragna, Mayor, is hereby appointed to serve as Director on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Energy and Power Authority (LEPA), and William Cefalu, Sr., Utilities Director, is hereby appointed to serve as Alternate Director.

Mrs. Leonard seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 13th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

The Mayor made the following Department Head appointments: Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer; Paul Landry, City Attorney; Leo Landry, City Prosecutor; Deborah Garber, Finance Director; William Cefalu, Utilities Director; Michael Loupe, Public Works, Dwayne Barbier, Recreation and Culture; Neal Mayon, Archives and Library; Alvin Cockerham, Fire Chief; and Chad Adams, Police Chief. A motion to concur in these appointments was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, and voted unanimously in favor.

In the matter of the Mayor Pro-tempore,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-03

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 Bonnie Leonard is hereby selected as Mayor Pro-tempore of the City Council for the year 2025.

Pastor Bias seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 13th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dagna
Lee Dagna Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

In the matter of the appointment of the Clerk of the Council,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 25-04

WHEREAS, the City Council of Morgan City's home rule charter provides for a clerk of the council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana that Debbie Harrington be and she is hereby appointed to the position of "Clerk of the Council" and shall assume all duties of that position.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 13th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Lee Dagna
Lee Dagna, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington, Clerk

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

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

/s/ Lee Dagna
Lee Dagna
Mayor