OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF MORGAN CITY
JUNE 23, 2026

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, Thomas Hutchinson, Jr., Tim Hymel, and Bonnie Leonard.

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Charlie Solar, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer and Mr. Paul Landry, City Attorney.

The invocation was given by Reverend Steve Manville.

In the matter of the Positive Image award, Mayor Dragna said that Assistant Fire Chief Kristopher Price had received up to $500,000 of Capital Outlay funding to rehab one of the fire trucks. He had solicited the money on his own, and Mayor Dragna thanked him for that. He said that Police Chief Chad Adams had received $200,000 for equipment, and Marshall Teddy Liner received about $60,000. He said that these people worked together to solicit this funding and thanked them for their efforts.

Mr. Matt Dragna and Mr. Bryce Merrill with the Heroes Way Commission addressed the Council regarding the installation of street signs at various sites around the city. Mr. Dragna said that the committee had selected the first ten inductees for the street signs. The signs would be unveiled on July 6, to coincide with the United States 250th Anniversary, and before Labor Day weekend, so that people coming into town could see the honor we have for our veterans. The signs would be about thirty inches long and six to seven inches in height and placed on a black post with a ball at the top. Mr. Domangue asked if the signs had been finalized or if a QR code could be placed on the sign. Mr. Dragna said that they had spoken to Mrs. Greig Chauvin, and the information was going to be placed on the Morgan City app. Two to five new inductees would be unveiled every Veterans Day. Mayor Dragna said it was amazing to see how many heroes we had in our area. Mr. Dragna said Mr. Terry Mayon and Mr. Bryce Merril had been instrumental in researching the veterans, some even going back to the Civil War. Mr. Hymel asked if the locations had been finalized. Mr. Dragna said that if possible, some signs would be placed in areas of the City where the Veterans had lived or worked. Mrs. Leonard asked if the families had been notified. Mr. Dragna said that he had notified the ten families, but wanted to keep the other nominees a secret. He said all donations should be sent to the City, with "Heroes Way Commission" written on the check. A motion to approve the sign installations was made by Mr. Hutchinson, seconded by Mr. Domanague, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Allie Hudson with Ochsner St. Mary submitted a request for the use of Lawrence Park on October 24, 2026, for the Roux Rumble Cookoff (copy on file). Mrs. Hudson said this would be the third year, all proceeds went to the Alzheimer's Association, and the teams would come from all Ochsner campuses. There would also be sign-ups for local teams to participate as well. There would also be a walk, a t-shirt sale, a silent auction, sponsorship options, and, with $10 admission, a ticket to vote for the people's choice award. She said there were fourteen teams in 2025, and they had raised over $40,000. She wanted to beat that number this year. A motion to allow use of the park for the Roux Rumble was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Domangue, and voted unanimously in favor.

Ms. Julana Senette and Mr. Bryce Merrill with the Gathright House addressed the council regarding the installation of a monument recognizing the 1927 flood. They suggested that it be placed to the right of the current Chamber office on Myrtle Street. It would be the same size as a typical light pole. A motion to allow the monument to be placed was made by Mr. Domangue, seconded by Mrs. Leonard, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Patrick Haller with the Morgan City Firefighters Association requested a permit to allow the Fill the Boot event on September 4, 2026, from 4 PM to 6 PM at the intersection of Highway 90 and Highway 182 to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He said all insurance was in place, and the MDA had partnered with the firefighter's association for the past 72 years. A motion to allow the Fill the Boot event was made by Mr. Hymel, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Jose' Ponce, owner of the Eleventh Street mechanic shop, was asked to attend the council meeting to allow the council to explain to him the rules the City had in place. Mr. Jimmie Knight said cars were being worked on in the street and a spill had occurred. Professionals were called out to clean up the mess, but Mayor Dragna stressed the importance of Mr. Ponce working on vehicles inside his shop only. Mr. Ponce, through an interpreter, agreed that he would no longer work on vehicles in the street, and only inside his building.

Pastor Bias said that the Blue Devil Park had been dedicated on June 6, and thanked all who attended. He said the 7th annual Juneteenth walk was held on June 20 and had over 200 participants. He thanked everyone that helped make it a success.

In the matter of the Mayor's Update, Mayor Dragna said that there had been ongoing problems at the horse arena, and some administration of the contract was going to happen. He would update the Council as it progressed. Mr. Hutchinson asked who was responsible for keeping up the paddock. The Mayor said that whoever owned the stalls was responsible for keeping up the paddock in front of their stalls. Mr. Hymel thanked Jimmie Knight for his help with the ongoing situation.

The minutes of the May 26, 2026 meeting 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.

Mayor Dragna presented the statement for the period ending June 30, 2026.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DATE:	June 23, 2026
TO:	Mayor and Council
FROM:	Deborah Garber
RE:	Comments related to summary of revenues and expenses compared to budget for the period ended May 31, 2026.

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 May 31, 2026. The following comments are related thereto:

General and Ancillary Funds: Revenues are currently over budget by $256,247. Operating expenses are under budget by $433,091. The net loss of $1,346,768 is a positive variance of $689,338 as compared to the adopted budget.

Utility Fund: Actual revenues remain under budget this month by $763,827. The operating expenses over budget by $358,833 of which $330,000 is purchased power costs. The net income, after transfers, of $755,104, creates an unfavorable variance compared to the budget of $1,024,770.

Sanitation and Sewer Fund: The operating revenues are $45,343 over budget, with total operating expenses under budget by $156,454. The net income, after transfers, of $437,909 leaves a positive variance of $207,297.

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

CITY OF MORGAN CITY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
Actual Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget
Period Ended MAY 31, 2026

	MAY 2026 ACTUAL	MAY 2026 BUDGET	VARIANCE	MAY 2025 ACTUAL
GENERAL AND ANCILLARY FUNDS				
REVENUES				
General Fund	3,603,556	3,392,283	211,273	3,533,047
Recreation Fund	57,020	41,308	15,712	57,194
Library Fund	282	1,507	(1,225)	1,382
Auditorium Fund	44,799	37,296	7,503	42,457
Lake End Park Fund	604,748	581,764	22,984	484,938
Cemetery Fund	23,239	41,720	(18,481)	64,646
State Prisoner Fund	121,785	125,447	(3,662)	83,976
Total Revenues	4,310,405	4,054,158	256,247	4,267,640
EXPENSES-OPERATIONAL				
General Fund	4,859,350	5,232,846	(373,496)	4,951,780
Recreation Fund	284,779	293,242	(8,463)	224,159
Library Fund	48,757	90,191	(41,434)	52,074
Auditorium Fund	226,749	234,470	(7,721)	224,689
Lake End Park Fund	238,922	255,701	(16,779)	360,870
Cemetery Fund	128,807	100,234	28,573	110,504
State Prisoner Fund	278,192	291,963	(13,771)	235,938
Total Expenses	6,065,556	6,498,647	(433,091)	6,160,014
TRANSFERS				
Transfers from Funds	1,155,000	1,130,000	25,000	530,000
Transfers to Funds	(746,617)	(721,617)	(25,000)	(625,317)
Net Transfers	408,383	408,383	-	(95,317)
Excess(deficiency) net of transfers	(1,346,768)	(2,036,106)	689,338	(1,987,691)
UTILITY FUND				
Total Revenues	10,121,976	10,885,803	(763,827)	9,262,205
Total Expenditures	8,867,889	8,509,056	358,833	8,240,738
Net Excess	1,254,087	2,376,747	(1,122,660)	1,021,467
Net Transfers and non-oper.	(498,983)	(596,873)	97,890	(141,386)
Excess net of transfers	755,104	1,779,874	(1,024,770)	880,081
SANITATION AND SEWER FUND				
Total Revenues	1,447,460	1,402,117	45,343	1,436,785
Total Expenses	1,773,488	1,929,942	(156,454)	1,725,487
Net Excess	(326,028)	(527,825)	201,797	(288,702)
Net Transfers/non- operating expenses	763,937	758,437	5,500	644,656
Excess net of transfers and non-opera	437,909	230,612	207,297	355,954

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

The condemnation and demolition reports were next on the agenda. Jimmie Knight said Mr. Billy Galey was present at the meeting. Mr. Galey said his deceased father owned two of the properties, and he owned one. He requested ninety days to allow him to get the properties cleaned up. Mr. Knight felt that more time would be needed to complete all three. Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to allow Mr. Galey 120 days to repair the houses at 1705 W Garner, 1118 Front Street, and 1124 Front Street, seconded by Pastor Bias, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mayor Dragna said that the City had decided to add a heater to the pool. He said the City currently had the money for the heater, but a change order needed to be completed; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 26-25

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 in the amount of + $25,100.00, under Contract Number R:65-11, between the City of Morgan City and G.W. Olivier Construction, LLC, for the Complex Aquatics project.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that Bill Cefalu had presented a partnership agreement regarding contributing to the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, specifically Avoca Island Marsh Terracing (copy on file); whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 26-26

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City recognizes the importance of coastal marsh restoration, wetland conservation, wildlife habitat enhancement, and the protection of natural resources within St. Mary Parish and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Marsh and Hydrologic Enhancement II Project includes the design and construction of marsh terracing improvements on Tract 2 (Avoca Island Marsh Terracing) located in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the project is intended to enhance approximately 950 acres of coastal freshwater marsh habitat and construct approximately 35,000 linear feet of earthen marsh terraces to improve habitat conditions for migratory birds, waterfowl, fisheries, and other wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City desires to support the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant application and associated conservation partnership by providing a local contribution toward the implementation of the project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City has determined that funds are available from existing non-federal sources and that such funds have not been utilized to satisfy any other federal match or cost-sharing requirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the City of Morgan City hereby commits and authorizes a contribution in the amount of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,000.00) toward the Coastal Marsh and Hydrologic Enhancement II Project, subject to the execution of any necessary agreements and the availability of appropriated funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Morgan City is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents, certifications, agreements, assurances, and related instruments necessary to effectuate this Resolution and the City's participation in the project.

Mr. Domangue seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Mayor Dragna said that the newly enacted legislation R.S. 33:2581.4 provided for specific testing for firefighters. Ochsner Clinic Foundation had agreed to perform the testing, and an agreement needed to be signed; whereupon,

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

RESOLUTION NO. R: 26-27

WHEREAS, Louisiana R.S. 33:2581.4, mandates that municipal, parish, and fire district employers provide regular, fully covered cancer screening examinations for full-time paid and retired firefighters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Morgan City and Ochsner Clinic Foundation are desirous of entering into a services agreement to provide for the firefighter cancer screening examinations; and

WHEREAS, a services agreement between the City of Morgan City and Ochsner Clinic Foundation must be signed.

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 enter into an agreement with Ochsner Clinic Foundation for the firefighter cancer screening examinations.

Mr. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:

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

The resolution was therefore declared approved and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

The first reading for the Recognition and Continuation of the Authority of the Ward 6 City Marshall ordinance was the next matter on the agenda. No definitive action was necessary.

The next matter on the agenda was the public hearing for rezoning 404 Oregon Street. Mayor Dragna said that the item was removed from the agenda.

The public hearing for the rezoning of 402 Fourth Street was opened. Ms. Deborah Price, 501 Railroad Avenue, apologized for not being at the Planning & Zoning meeting, and said she was not sure how she missed the signage for the meeting. She had nothing against the opening of a business; her concern was the zoning as “C” commercial. She said that in the future, if another business opened there, they could potentially open an auto repair shop, a storage yard, and many other things that she felt did not belong in that area. After the discussion, Mayor Dragna asked Mr. Governale if that area could be zoned under business and still allow the brewery to open. He said that it could be done under the zoning of “B-2”; he just originally felt the “C” zoning fit the manufacturing side of the business; whereupon,

This Ordinance introduced with first reading on May 26, 2026. Published by title on June 3, 2026.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 26-12

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY.

SECTION 1

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council, the governing authority of the City of Morgan City, Louisiana, that the official Zoning Map of the City is amended and reenacted to rezone and redesignate the following described property from and to the zoning districts indicated; the affected property with its zoning designation being as shown on the attached map, which map constitutes an amendment to the existing official zoning map.

PROPERTY: 402 Fourth Street

FROM: “R-4A” Residential

TO: “B-2” General Business

SECTION 2

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. Hymel seconded the motion.

The vote thereon was as follows:
AYES: Domangue, Hymel, Hutchinson, Leonard
NAYS: Bias
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Certified approved and adopted this 23rd day of June, 2026.

Delivered to Mayor Dragna at 11:00 AM, this 29th day of June, 2026.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Approved this 29th day of June, 2026.

/s/ Lee Dragna
Lee Dragna
Mayor

Received from Mayor at 11:30 AM on June 29, 2026.

/s/ Debbie Harrington
Debbie Harrington
Clerk

Published: July 3, 2026

Mayor Dragna submitted the name Greig Chauvin for appointment to the Archives Commission, Elisabeth Chaisson, Bobby Dufrene, Micah Allen for reappointment to the Archives Commission; Dustin Kennedy for appointment on the Board of Adjustments, and Marilyn Broussard as an alternate on the Board of Adjustments; Andre Chauvin for appointment to the Cemetery Committee, Lea Hebert for reappointment to the Cemetery Committee; Janine Blanco for appointment to the Historic District; Pards Patel for appointment to the Hotel Motel Economic Corridor Committee; and the reappointment of Paul Governale and Nathalie Weber to the Library Commission. . A motion to concur in the appointments was made by Pastor Bias, seconded by Mr. Hymel, 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