

MINUTES. CITY OF GRAMBLING, GRAMBLING, LOUISIANA.
Public Hearing & Monthly Meeting
January 4, 2024

Mayor Alvin Bradley opened the Public Hearing of the City of Grambling on Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 5:45 p.m.; the purpose of the public hearing was to get input from the citizens concerning the following:

Ordinance #01203023-1

Ordinance authorizing the incurring of debt and issuance of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond, Series 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$547,000, by the City of Grambling, State of Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Mr. Hardy Andrews, Foley & Judell, L.L.P., explained the next step for receiving the \$547,000 forgivable loan from Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. The funds will be used for sewer upgrades in the following areas: Hills of Grambling and R. W. E. Jones Drive. After the aforementioned information was presented and explained, the public hearing was opened for discussion from the citizens. There were no comments.

The public hearing was closed at 5:50 p.m.

Mayor Alvin Bradley, Sr. opened the regular session of the Grambling City Council on Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Grambling City Hall. Reverend Garnet Wagner offered the invocation and led the council and others into the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were the following Council members: John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith. Absent: None A quorum was present. Attorney Ronald F. Lattier was present. It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the agenda dated January 4, 2024, with the necessary corrections to the agenda.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was carried with an unanimously vote in favor of the corrections to the agenda.

- It was moved by Council member Delores W. Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated December 7, 2023.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith
Nay: None
Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was carried.

Part II.

Public Comments -- The City will announce any public comments received prior to the meeting and will allow five minutes for anyone to call in to make public comments. The mayor thanked the board for working together this past year, for their support and creativity for the city.

- It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr. to hire Ms. Kayla A. Currie as a Non-Certified Probationary Police Officer.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Delores W. Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to hire Mr. Coshair D. Houston as a Dispatcher Trainee for the Police Department.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was carried.

Part III. Old Business

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the following:

Ordinance #01203023-1

Ordinance authorizing the incurring of debt and issuance of a Taxable Excess Revenue Bond, Series 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$547,000, by the City of Grambling, State of Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was carried.

- Attorney Ronald Lattier gave the difference of an appointed chief of police versus an elected chief of police.

Appointed Chief of Police

- ❖ The mayor administers and supervises the police department.

Elected Chief of Police

- ❖ An elected chief makes recommendations to the mayor and board for appointment of police personnel.
- ❖ The elected chief has authority to control or administer the day-to-day operations of the police department.

- Attorney Ronald Lattier stated that an ordinance for Short Term Rentals will be ready for the February 2024 meeting. Attorney Lattier is working with Council member W. Delores Smith and Mrs. Mary Gipson, Planning & Zoning Chairman.

- Mayor Alvin Bradley stated that damage to Webster Street & Stadium Drive occurred over the holiday, and it took several days for the lines to be located but both streets have been repaired.
- The Board accepted the plat presented by Mr. Gordan Ford, Principal Lincoln Preparatory School of the new street leading to Lincoln Preparatory School and the Traditions Subdivision. The street was dedicated for public use and for any public purpose in the City of Grambling. Mr. Ford requested that the street be named in honor of the late **Dr. Birdex Copeland, Jr.**, Dr. Copeland was one of the founders of the charter school.
- It was moved by Council member Delores W. Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Council of City of Grambling, domiciled in the City of Grambling, Grambling, Louisiana, that Mayor Alvin Bradley is hereby authorized and empowered to execute any and all contracts of whatever kind on behalf of the City of Grambling with the State of Louisiana, Facility Planning and Control Department.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

Yea: Council members John Brown, Jr., Cathy H. Giles, Jerry Lewis, DeVaria H. Ponton, and Delores W. Smith

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- Attorney Ronald Lattier stated that the City and Grambling and Grambling Economic Development Corporation are going back to court in the city's continuing effort to dismantle the corporation. Attorney Lattier stated that GEDC failed to file a compulsory report by the deadline, the attorney stated statutes dealing with non-profit economic

development corporations that appear to give local governing authorities the power to terminate the corporation.

Announcements

- The Mayor announced that city hall will be closed Monday, January 15, 2024, in observances of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.
- Council member DeVaria H. Ponton reminded the Medicaid Members to make sure contact information is up to date.
- Mrs. Beverly Crawford wants the community to support Grambling Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Friday, February 2, 2024, for the Red Dress Gala for American Heart Association, American Heart Month, and National Wear Red Day.

It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adjourn this meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Alvin Bradley, Sr., Mayor

Pamela J. Stringfellow, LMMC



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