

MINUTES. CITY OF GRAMBLING, GRAMBLING, LOUISIANA.
Monthly Meeting
August 14, 2023

Mayor Alvin Bradley, Sr. opened the regular session of the Grambling City Council on Thursday, August 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Grambling City Hall. Council member Jerry Lewis 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 Delores W. Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the agenda dated August 14, 2023, with the following additions: Ms. Karen Ludley and Mr. Henry Shuler, City Engineer.

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.

**The vote was unanimous to allow Ms. Karen Ludley and Mr. Henry Shuler, City Engineer to be added to the agenda.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy Giles to adopt the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated July 6, 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. There were no comments.

- Mrs. Fanese Cowan, Local Liaison, Lincoln Preparatory School, made the community aware of the National Center for Homeless Education Program for children. School-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.
- Dr. Augusta Clark presented a narrative explaining the problem/concerns with the intersection at College and Harris Avenues, the following suggestions and recommendations were offered:
 - ❖ Flashing Sign of Speed
 - ❖ Move the “dangerous intersection” sign further down the hill
 - ❖ Possibility of placing speed bumps
 - ❖ Increase the police departmental control in the area
 - ❖ Maintain regular schedule for cutting grass

The information was received all the mayor and council.

- Dr. Gordon Ford- Lincoln Preparatory School- was not present.
- President Richard Gallot, Jr. or Appointee – was not present.
- Coach Hue Jackson, Grambling State University Football, stated that recruiting this season was better than last year and he is expecting a bigger, stronger, and faster football team this year. Coach Jackson is asking for the support of the community.
- Mr. Kip Franklin, Director Lincoln Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness, was present to answer any questions concerning the 2023 Lincoln Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. There were no questions.
- Mr. Adarian Williams, GSU Update- was not present.
- Ms. Dakne Saucer, Centric Federal Credit Union, made the citizens aware of the Financial Wellness Program that is offered through the Centric Federal Credit.
- Ms. Karen Ludley, candidate for Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 2, is soliciting the support of the community.
- Mr. Henry Shuler, City Engineer gave the following status update report:

Project Description/Project Status

Wastewater Collection System Renovations (State Appropriations):

Construction on this project is ongoing.

ARPA/Water Sector Program;

WSP Round 2 P&S have been submitted to WSP and LDH. The City is awaiting authorization to bid.

Capital Outlay

The City has been awarded \$1,600,000 for water system improvements. Of this total, \$600,000 is funded with general fund cash (no bonding requirement). These funds will be available within the next 2-3 months. The remaining \$1,000,000 is Priority 5 and will require additional authorization from the Legislature.

The City was also awarded \$2,000,000 for the wastewater system expansion into the City of Ruston. These funds are Priority 5 only and will require additional authorization from the Legislature.

Appropriations

The City received \$100,000 for renovations to Central Avenue. These funds require a CEA with the State. The CEA has been submitted to the Treasury for approval.

The Engineer's report was received.

Part III. Old Business

- Council member John Brown, Jr.- gave an Update on the CivicReady Alert System. The system will communicate emergency information to the citizens.

Part IV New Business

- It was moved by Councilmember Jerry Lewis and seconded by Councilmember DeVaria H. Ponton to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LINCOLN PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, LINCOLN PARISH is a grant recipient of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding through the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Lincoln Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan and;

WHEREAS, the Plan will enable LINCOLN PARISH to better prepare for and reduce the effects of disasters and;

WHEREAS, LINCOLN PARISH formed a Steering Committee consisting of state and local governments and agencies, local organizations, businesses, and private citizens and;

WHEREAS, this Lincoln Parish Steering Committee has prepared and reviewed the Lincoln Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan, update 2016 and updated it accordingly, now titled (the "2023 Lincoln Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan") that will guide the Parish and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF GRAMBLING, LOUISIANA, in Regular Session convened on the 14th day of August, 2023, that it does hereby formally adopt the 2023 Lincoln Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

- ❖ 1. The City of Grambling formally adopts the Lincoln Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- ❖ 2. This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption and signature of the Mayor.

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.

Announcements:

- The mayor made the citizens aware of the “No Burn Ban” that is in place in the city.
- Council member DeVaria H. Ponton stated that there will be a soap making course, Saturday, August 19th and a “How to be Certified to Vote session,

It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member Jerry Lewis to adjourn this meeting at 7:00 p.m.


Alvin Bradley, Sr., Mayor


Pamela J. Stringfellow, LMMC



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