**MINUTES. CITY OF GRAMBLING, GRAMBLING, LOUISIANA.**

***Public Hearing & Monthly Meeting***

***May 2, 2024***

Mayor Alvin Bradley opened the Public Hearing of the City of Grambling on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 5:45 p.m.; the purpose of the public hearing was to get input from the citizens concerning the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 0307024-1

INTRODUCE AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAMBLING TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS GOVERNING THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FOR LODGING OR SLEEPING PURPOSES, AND REGULATE ALL PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, PROPERTY OWNERS, OPERATORS, AND GUESTS.

After the aforementioned information was presented and explained, the hearing was opened to discussion from the citizens. There were no other comments.

Mayor Alvin Bradley, Sr. opened the regular session of the Grambling City Council on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Grambling City Hall. Pastor Barry Calahan 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 not present. Attorney Todd Benson was present. It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the agenda dated May 2, 2024, with the necessary addition of hiring a policeman 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 unanimous vote in favor of the addition 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 April 4th and Minutes of Special-Called Meeting dated April 10th, 2024.

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.

Mr. Quyntyn Johnson, Senior Vice President of Operations LV Petroleum, announced the opening of TA Travel Center in the City of Grambling, May 29th. The facility will hire 60 to 80 full-time employees and it will have a lot of new amenities in the facility.

* Chief Tommy Clark, Jr. encouraged the citizens to not confront juveniles about issues, just call the police department. Chief Clark also reminded the citizens to remember to lock vehicles and remove all valuables. All Lights are restored on Interstate 20. Policeman Fabian Carter graduated from the Post Academy.
* Planning & Zoning, Mrs. Mary Gipson Chairman reported that the following:
* Mr. Lawrence Rogers Plaza will have 7 spaces in the plaza.
* Public Works- Mrs. Mennet Black gave the following report:
* Public Works employees are getting ready to get new uniforms.
* Council member John Brown, Jr. will give the Public Works employees training for their new Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
* Safety Barriers with lights are going to be purchased.
* The Public Works Department will take care of the potholes in the city.
* Water Department-Mrs. Marjorie Prudhomme encouraged the citizens to make sure they are enrolled in CivicReady, there are approximately 166 people registered on Civic Ready. Mrs. Prudhomme announced that City Hall closes at 5:00 p.m. on the days of disconnection because of failure to pay your water bill, until the next business day.
* Ms. Toni Jackson- Financial Report- Ms. Jackson reported that the numbers are in line with the budget. The audit for the year 2023 will begin mid-May.
* Mayor Alvin Bradley stated that he and Council member Jerry Lewis, Council member John Brown, Jr., and Mr. Tommy Woods interviewed two applicants for Fire Chief, and a recommendation will come later. Fire Fighter Alexio Hargrove attended a Fire Conference.

**Part III. Old Business**

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

***ORDINANCE NO. 0307024-1***

***AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAMBLING TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS GOVERNING THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FOR LODGING OR SLEEPING PURPOSES, AND REGULATE ALL PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, PROPERTY OWNERS, OPERATORS, AND GUESTS.***

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 IV New Business****:**

* It was moved by Council member DeVaria Ponton and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles the approval for New Construction of a Plaza for Mr. Lawrence Rogers (4 Million Dollar Project). Council member DeVaria Ponton wanted it noted that Mr. Lawrence Rogers committed to building up his property on Main Street.

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 Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles to adopt the following:
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Duck Pond Lane)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Eula Lane)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Nora Lane)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Meredith Lane)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Rock Creek Drive)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Fairway Lane)
* Resolution- Approving Acceptance of Street Name (Clear Springs Drive)

***\*\* Each street dedicated was shown on a Plat of Dedication which is also adopted.***

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 Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr.to hire Mr. Jakobe Stevens as a non-certified policeman pending the results of the psychological test, effective May 22, 2024.

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**

* Council member Delores Smith announced that the Pinkie C. Wilkerson Life Development Center will be expanding it’s summer reading program this year, because of $96,000 state appropriation won in 2023. There will be 6 locations, it will be June 3- June 7, 2024.
* Rev Patrick Madden, Pastor of Saint Benedict Catholic Church will be presented a plaque from the city for 50 years of service.
* Wildlife & Fisheries will host a Women’s conference on May 28, 2024.
* Council member DeVaria Ponton thanked all the volunteers who assisted with the Keep Louisiana Beautiful cleanup.

It was moved by Council member Cathy H. Giles and seconded by Council member DeVaria Ponton to adjourn this meeting at 7:15 p.m.

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**Alvin Bradley, Sr., Mayor Pamela J. Stringfellow, LMMC**

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