

MINUTES. CITY OF GRAMBLING, GRAMBLING, LOUISIANA.
Public Hearing & Monthly Meeting
July 6, 2023

Mayor Alvin Bradley opened the Public Hearing of the City of Grambling on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 5:45 p.m.; the purpose of the public hearing was to get input from the citizens concerning the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 0703023-1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 13-03-01013-2, CITY OF GRAMBLING CRIMINAL CODE, TO IMPLEMENT A REDUCED MUNICIPAL PENALTY FOR MISDEMEANOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA, TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL, OR CHEMICAL DERIVATIVES THEREOF, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO, CONSISTENT WITH 2021 La. HB 652 (amending La. R.S. 40:966)

Attorney Ronald F. Lattier gave an update of the amendment. Council member Jerry Lewis asked if a person is a repeated offender how would it be taken care of? The attorney stated that he wants the city to follow the state law. There were no other concerns about the Ordinance.

The public hearing was closed at 5:55 p.m.

Mayor Alvin Bradley, Sr. opened the regular session of the Grambling City Council on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Grambling City Hall. Council member John Brown, Jr. 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 John Brown, Jr. to amend the agenda to add the Approval of the Recommendation from Planning & Zoning to rezone property on Hwy 80 South from Residential to Multi-Family.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy Giles to amend the agenda to add the Approval to hire Mr. Amari McCray, as a Non-Certified Fire Fighter.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			

Council member Jerry Lewis	X
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X
Council member Delores W. Smith	X

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy Giles to amend the agenda to add the Approval to hire Ms. Charity Hampton, as a Communications Dispatcher and Mr. Nicarlo Tidwell, as a Non-Certified Policeman.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member Jerry Lewis to adopt the agenda dated July 6, 2023, with the necessary additions.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton to adopt the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting for June 1, 2023.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

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.

Part III. Old Business:

- It was moved by Council member John Brown, Jr. and seconded by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton the Approval to adopt the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 0703023-1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 13-03-01013-2, CITY OF GRAMBLING CRIMINAL CODE, TO IMPLEMENT A REDUCED MUNICIPAL PENALTY FOR MISDEMEANOR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA, TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL, OR CHEMICAL DERIVATIVES THEREOF, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO, CONSISTENT WITH 2021 La. HB 652 (amending La. R.S. 40:966)

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr. the Approval to accept the Recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission to rezone property on Hwy 80 South from Residential to Multi-Family, with all necessary changes according to the city’s guidelines that need to be approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Council. (Elliot Jones, owner presented a picture of the Project Type of the property for Hwy 80 Luxury Duplexes).

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

Part IV New Business

- It was moved by Council member Delores Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles the approval to hire Mr. John Murray, CPA, CGFM, LaPorte CPAs & Business Advisors as auditors for the year 2022.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Delores Smith and seconded by Council member Cathy H. Giles the approval to change August’s Monthly meeting from August 3, 2023,

to August 14, 2023, at 6:00, because of LMA Annual Convention in Alexandria, Louisiana.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr. to accept the report for the Sale of Immovable Surplus Property (Vehicles), the following are the amounts received:

Vehicle	Amount Received
• 1993 GMC Dump Truck Vin #500662	\$1,377.77
• 1998 Dodge Dakota Vin #564417	\$1,377.77
• 2008 Ford Crown Vic Vin #123139	\$177.77
• 2008 Dodge Ram 1500 4 X 4 Vin #161934	\$777.77
• 2009 Dodge Charger Vin #642272	\$377.77
• 2000 Chevy Silverado Vin #102300	\$750.00
Total Amount Collected	\$4,838.85

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member John Brown, Jr. the approval to hire Ms. Charity Hampton, as a Communications Dispatcher and Mr. Nicarlo Tidwell, as a Non-Certified Policeman.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

- It was moved by Council member Jerry Lewis and seconded by Council member Cathy Giles the approval to hire Mr. Amari McCray, as a Non-Certified Firefighter.

Roll call or yea/nay was as follows:

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Council member John Brown, Jr.	X			
Council member Cathy H. Giles	X			
Council member Jerry Lewis	X			
Council member DeVaria H. Ponton	X			
Council member Delores W. Smith	X			

The motion was carried.

Announcements:

- Council member DeVaria Hudson gave an update about the “*Community Gardner*” and she is soliciting volunteers and financial support from the community.
- Council member John Brown, Jr. gave an update on the CivicReady Alert System.

It was moved by Council member DeVaria H. Ponton and seconded by Council member Jerry Lewis to adjourn this meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Alvin Bradley, Sr., Mayor

Pamela J. Stringfellow, LMMC



“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”