

## MINUTES

### CITY OF NEW ROADS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

August 6, 2019

The New Roads City Council met in regular session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at the City Hall in New Roads, Louisiana. Mayor Cornell Dukes called the meeting to order. A roll call resulted as follows:

**PRESENT:** Vernell Davis, Kurt Kellerman, Joy Nelson, Theron Smith and Kirk White

**ABSENT:** None

Notice of this meeting was duly exercised and mailed per bylaws:

#### Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of July 16, 2019

The minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 16, 2019 were submitted for approval.

The reading of the minutes was waived.

Motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Kellerman.

**RESOLVED**, That the minutes be adopted in their entirety.

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

**YEAS:** Smith, White, Nelson, Kellerman and Davis

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

Mayor Dukes recognized several representatives from Congressman Graves' office.

#### Engineer's Report

Cletus Langlois reported that the closeout of the Major Parkway Lift Station project would be addressed at the next council meeting. He mentioned that cost estimates for repairs at the Fairfields and Pointe Breeze lift stations would be presented at that time.

#### Jason Chauvin of Catholic of Pointe Coupee – Discussion on placing school flags near the schools

Mr. Chauvin appeared before the council to request permission to place school flags along Poydras and Napoleon Streets.

Motion by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Kellerman and Mr. Davis.

**RESOLVED**, That the current ordinance be suspended to allow for the flags and that the number of flags be limited to ten.

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

**Nathan Cobb – Parish Public Works Director – Update on City Projects**

Mr. Cobb was not in attendance.

**John Morrison – Presentation of 2018 Audit**

John Morrison appeared before the council to present the 2018 audit report.

**Tommy Lejeune of Faulk & Winkler – Financial Update**

Mr. Lejeune gave a financial report for the period January to June, 2019.

**Nathan Leonard – Police Department Concerns**

Mr. Leonard voiced his frustration with the Police Department in solving burglaries of his home and drugs in his neighborhood.

**Discussion of Agreement for Emergency Assistance by and between the LEPA Member Cities**

Motion by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Smith.

**RESOLVED**, That the city enter into the agreement for emergency assistance by and between the LEPA Member cities.

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

**Discussion of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City and St. Augustine Catholic Church**

Motion by Ms. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Smith.

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the Congregation of the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the City of New Roads, Louisiana, through which the city will continue to be allowed free use of the above property for any of its purposes, in consideration for which the city will, without compensation, continue to mow and otherwise maintain the grass on said property.

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

**Discussion of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City and LA Division of Administration Office of Community Development**

Mayor Dukes explained that the Office of Community Development requested use of the civic center to conduct a public meeting on the Pecan Acres Project.

The Mayor encouraged all council members to support this endeavor. The new housing development is a \$12,000,000.00 project that will have a considerable impact on the economic growth of the city and parish.

Mr. White stated that “as you know I did not support the cooperative endeavor agreement with the Council on Aging because that this would happen exactly what I said would happen. I said what are you going to do the next time somebody wants to come and ask for free rent. We are tasked as this public body, we are tasked to maintain that building and paying the expenses. Yes, it’s a meeting. Ms. Nelson says it’s no charge, there’s no expenses. Well there are expenses. You’re gonna have to heat and cool the building. We’re gonna have to clean it. We’re gonna have to maintain it after its done. One of my same arguments that I made with the council on aging it’s gonna apply to here because I did say if you do for one you’re gonna have to do it for all. And with that, I’m gonna be opposed”.

Mr. Smith stated “that I was under the impression that there wasn’t a place to meet, they needed a place to meet. So to be clear that they’ve been meeting. So now I’m kind of in a position of seconding the motion but I’m about to really vote against because if there is a meeting place this is viable, I don’t see the need to use the civic center for free when they already have a place. Now if it turns out that something is gone on and they can’t use that place, then we can revisit this”.

Further discussion resulted in a motion by Ms. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Davis.

**RESOLVED**, That the city not enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Louisiana Division of Administration Office of Community Development, for use of the Scott Civic Center.

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

<b>YEAS:</b>	Davis and Nelson
<b>NAYS:</b>	Kellerman, Smith and White
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

On a vote of 2-3-0-0, the motion carried.

Adoption of Resolution amending a previous resolution of the City Council of the City of New Roads, Louisiana, adopting the railroad corridor crossing safety project through which certain railroad crossings with the city will be closed.

Motion by Ms. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Davis.

**RESOLVED**, That adoption of the resolution be deferred to the next city council meeting.

On a vote of 5-0-0-0, the motion carried.

#### George Miller – Announcement of New Roads Cultural District Designation

George Miller announced that the city’s application for the City of New Roads Cultural District was approved by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

#### Council Reports

Ms. Nelson thanked everyone for their participation in the Back-to-School event. She also requested a maintenance schedule for the restrooms at Emmitt Douglas Park.

Mr. Smith also commented on the condition of the restrooms.

Mr. Davis reported that the crossing guard stationed at Rosenwald Elementary has requested a new uniform and a sign.

#### Committee Reports

Mr. White reported that the contractor for the airport rehabilitation project has been terminated.

#### Mayor’s Report

Mayor Dukes reported on the need to ensure that all city parks are ADA compliant. In closing, he commented on the healthy financial position of the city and thanked the department heads for their efforts in “doing more and spending less”.

**With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

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**Cornell Dukes  
Mayor**

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**Lynette H. Nelson  
Secretary-Treasurer**