

## MINUTES

### CITY OF NEW ROADS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 6, 2021

The New Roads City Council met in regular session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Tuesday, April 6, 2021 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:

#### Public comments on agenda items

There were no public comments.

#### Consent Calendar – Approval of Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of March 16, 2021 and Special Council Meeting on March 23, 2021

The minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 16, 2021 and the Special Council meeting of March 23, 2021 were submitted for approval.

The reading of the minutes was waived.

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

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

A roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None

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

#### Pedro Leonard – Update on Fire District #5 Fire Hydrant Project

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mr. Leonard was not in attendance.

On behalf of Fire District #5, Lawrence Smith advised the city to obtain quotes and present to the fire district board for approval.

#### Discussion of CLECO Agreement

John W. Jewell reported that the agreement with CLECO will expire in May and that it will not be an easy task to terminate prior to that time. A consultant has been hired to conduct a study of the CLECO and LEPA agreements to determine the city's best options for wholesale power.

The council requested that a representative from LEPA attend the next council meeting.

**Adoption of resolution authorizing the continuation of the rental of the Cazayoux Building located at 101 Sixth Street**

Mr. Davis expressed his support for continuing to lease the building that formerly housed the police department administrative staff as the evidence storage site.

Mr. White stated that the building could be a temporary space with time to move from there to the new location on Hospital Road.

Mr. Smith stated that he is skeptical about a year long lease and suggested that the city look at more space at the new building.

Mr. Kellerman asked why the evidence cannot be moved to a secure room at the new building.

Mr. After some discussion, a motion was offered by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Nelson to maintain the building for a one year period.

A substitute motion was offered by Mr. Kellerman and seconded by Mr. White to lease the building on a month to month basis.

A roll call vote on the substitute motion resulted as follows:

YEAS: Smith, White and Kellerman  
NAYS: Davis and Nelson  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

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

**Mayor's Report**

- A. Mayor Dukes presented a bereavement plaque to Kurt Kellerman. Mr. Kellerman's father, Dr. Harry Kellerman passed away on March 29, 2021.
- B. Mayor Dukes stated that there was "wonderful news to report" and asked the city attorney to explain. Mr. Jewell reported that a lawsuit previously filed by FEMA for costs incurred during Hurricane Gustav have been dropped. Mayor Dukes acknowledged former Mayor Tommy Nelson for his assistance in this matter.
- C. Mayor Dukes announced that a 1.6 million dollar COVID funds were being directed to the city for utilities related projects.

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

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Cornell Dukes  
Mayor

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Lynette H. Nelson  
Secretary-Treasurer