**EUNICE, LOUISIANA**

**JANUARY 9, 2024**

**THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND ALDERWOMEN, THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF EUNICE, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY/ACADIA, STATE OF LOUISIANA**, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, JANUARY 9, 2024 at six-thirty (6:30) o’clock p.m., at their regular meeting place, the Eunice City Hall.

6:30 pm The Mayor called the Regular meeting of the City of Eunice Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen to order.

 There were present: Mayor Scott A. Fontenot, Alderman at Large Marion “Nootsie” Sattler, Alderman Chad Andrepont, Alderwoman Germaine Simpson, Alderman Randall Reed and Alderwoman Connie Thibodeaux

 There were absent: None

 The Mayor announced that a quorum was present and ready to transact business.

 There were no requests for Public Comments.

 It was moved by Alderman at Large Marion “Nootsie” Sattler, seconded by Alderman Chad Andrepont and carried to adopt the Minutes of the DECEMBER 12, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Code Enforcement Officer Judson Venezia gave the Board an update on the structure located at 641 Halsey Street. Mr. Venezia provided photo’s of the house and stated that the owner had all of the doors and windows replaced and was working on the inside of the bouse.

 City Attorney Stan Feucht asked Mr. Venezia if the house was secure from intruders now that the windows and doors had been replaced and he advised Yes, the house was secure.

 It was moved by Alderwoman Germaine Simpson, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to ask the City Attorney to delay filing the Order of Condemnation on 641 Halsey Street pending the status of the repairs and ask Mr. Venezia to continue monitoring the progress of the house and report back to the Board.

**MAYOR’S RECOMMENDATION AND/OR BUSINESS:**

 The Mayor stated that, by Ordinance, the Eunice Mayor and Board of Aldermen and Alderwoman meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm for their regularly scheduled meeting, however, the 2nd Tuesday of the month for February, 2024 will be Mardi Gras night.

 The Mayor suggested moving the February, 2024 monthly meeting of the Eunice Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen from Tuesday, February 13, 2024 (Mardi Gras Day) to Thursday, February 15, 2024 at the regular time, 6:30 pm.

 It was moved by Alderman Randall Reed, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to move the regular monthly meeting of the Eunice Mayor and Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen from Tuesday, February 13, 2024 (which is Mari Gras night) to Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

 The Mayor announced the activities happening in Eunice the five days leading up to Mardi Gras day.

 The Mayor called up Recreation Director Robert Johnson who spoke about registration for the Lil’ Mardi Gras Run on Sunday, February 11, 2024 and the activities for the kids.

 Recreation Director Robert Johnson announced that registration has begun for Coaches for the 2024 baseball/softball season. In past years the organization has come up short on the number of volunteer Coaches needed. Mr. Johnson encouraged adults to volunteer.

 Registration for players will be January 15, 2024 thru February 29, 2024. The Recreation Department has sponsorships to assist families with registration costs and these sponsorships can be applied for through the Recreation department. Parents should call the Recreation Complex Office for details.

 The Baseball/Softball season will begin April 6, 2024 and go through May 30, 2024.

 Mr. Shirley Vige of Vige, Tujaque & Noel CPA firm, presented the findings of the audit of the City of Eunice for the year 2022-2023.

 Mr. Caleb Aguillard, candidate for 27th Judicial District Court, Division B, addressed the Board and spoke of growing up in Eunice, his qualifications and why he running for the position of Judge of the 27th Judicial District Court.

 Alderwoman Connie Thibodeaux announced that the Keep Eunice Beautiful committee has scheduled a “Pre-Mardi Gras” clean-up day on Saturday, January 27, 2024. Volunteers can meet at Eunice City Hall between 8:30 and 9 am. Volunteers will be given supplies of trash bags and “grabbers” for picking up trash. Trash will be picked up from 9 am to 11 am. For more information citizens can contact Mrs. Donna Baltakis, chairman, or any committee member of Keep Eunice Beautiful organization.

 The Mayor announced that Eunice’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebrations will begin on Sunday, January 14, 2024 with a parade at 2:00 pm, starting from City Hall, then south to Maple Avenue, east on Maple Avenue onto MLK Drive, Anne Street and north on Nimitz Street, with a program at 3:00 pm at the New Zion Baptist Church with the guest speaker, Mr. Paul DeRousselle.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

 Police Chief Kyle LeBouef read the results of the traffic study of the intersection of Juanita Street and Greg Avenue, which had been requested by Alderman Randall Reed at the December 12, 2023 meeting.
Number of vehicles observed: 36
Posted Speed Limit: 25 mph
Average Vehicle’s Speed: 30 mph (with 2 of the 36 vehicles traveling over 40 mph)

Chief LeBouef observed that there was only one Speed Limit sign on Juanita Street, north of the ballpark and that it was damaged.

 Alderman Reed thanked Chief LeBouef for the report and stated that he would table any request for action now, contact the Street Department about additional speed limit signs being posted along Juanita Street and revisit the issue at another meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

 The Mayor gave an update on the status of the renovations to the Central Fire Station on Park Avenue. The architects have completed the specifications of the project and will now advertise for bids. It is hoped that the project can be completed by Summer.

**MONTHLY REPOTS**

 Chief of Police Kyle LeBouef gave a report of the Eunice Police Department’s activities for the month of December, 2023 and a report for the year of 2023.

 Fire Chief Chaise Brown was attending a meeting with Fire District 6 so the Mayor read the report of the Eunice Fire Department’s activities for the month of November, 2023.

 It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman Andrepont and carried to approve payment of the City’s bills for the month of December, 2023 and acknowledged that the Board has received the City’s financial reports.

 It was moved by Alderwoman Simpson, seconded by Alderwoman Thibodeaux and carried to adjourn.

Ginny Moody, City Clerk Scott A. Fontenot, Mayor