

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, AUGUST 8, 2023 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 and Alderman Randall Reed

There were absent: Alderwoman Connie Thibodeaux

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 JULY 11, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Officer Judson Venezia updated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen on the following structures:

1621 W. Magnolia Ave. – demolished by contractor hired by City

501 S. Mallet St. – demolished by contractor hired by City

640 N. 2nd Street – demolished by contractor hired by City

MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION AND/OR BUSINESS:

Dr. Tony Baltakis, president of the Eunice Library Board, updated the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen on the plans for the Library, the inclusion of the Eunice Library as a member of the State Library system which will provide consultative assistance and training, and future improvements planned for the Eunice Public Library.

The Mayor announced that Mr. Todd Ortego had resigned from the board of the Cajun French Music Association's Hall of Fame and Museum in Eunice. The Mayor nominated Ms. Angelle Bellard to be appointed to the vacated seat on the Eunice Board.

It was moved by Alderman Chad Andrepont, second by Alderwoman Germaine Simpson and carried to concur with the Mayor's recommendation and appoint Angelle Bellard to the Eunice Board of the Cajun French Music Association's Hall of Fame and Museum in Eunice.

Police Chief LeBouef announced that Police Sergeant Quintin Doyle has been elected by his fellow Police Officers and support staff to serve as their representative to the Eunice Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board.

It was moved by Alderman Randall Reed, seconded by Alderman at Large Marion "Nootsie" Sattler and carried to acknowledge the election of Sgt. Quintin Doyle to the Eunice Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board.

The Mayor announced that the St. Landry Parish Registrar of Voters would be holding a Voter Registration Drive in Eunice. They will set up in the lobby of the Eunice City Hall to register voters on Wednesday, August 9th from 2 pm to 4 pm and Thursday, August 10th from 9 am to 12 noon.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business on Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman Andrepont and carried to adopt Resolution 0823(A), calling for an election to authorize the City to levy a hotel occupancy tax.

It was moved by Alderman Andrepont, seconded by Alderwoman Simpson and carried to accept the City Hall Roof Replacement project as substantially complete.

Alderwoman Simpson announced that the Elizabeth Reed Foundation, Family and Community Education, a 501(c) non-profit ground, formerly known as the Parents Reach Out organization had their annual school supplies give-away on Saturday, August 5th at the Southeast Community Center. The group plans to have another event to provide school uniforms to children and ask that anyone who wishes to donate can do so at B-1 bank or can call 337-466-3050 to donate money that will be used to purchase school uniforms to be given to students in need throughout the school year.

Alderwoman Simpson announced that the Daisie Mae Foundation will be sponsoring an "After School Tutorial Program." Each local school has an after school tutorial program however, they are limited in the number of students can participate. The Daisie Mae Foundation's Program will allow provide a program for the children who were not able to register for their school's program. Flyers for this program are not yet ready but Alderwoman Simpson will send flyers to all the churches and will have them at the Mayor's office once they are printed.

Police Chief Kyle LeBouef informed the Board of his recommendation of transfers and promotions for the Police Department.

It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman Andrepont and carried to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police and authorize the transfer of Dustin Broussard from the position of Police Jailer to the position of Police Officer Recruit.

It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police and promote Sgt. Quitin Doyle to the position of provisional Police Lieutenant.

It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to concur with the recommendation of the Chief of Police and promote Sgt. Sebastian Noel to the position of provisional Police Lieutenant.

Police Chief Kyle LeBouef gave a report of the Eunice Police Department's activities for the month of July, 2023.

Fire Chief Chaise Brown addressed the Board concerning the Eunice Fire Department's current Rescue vehicle. Fire Chief Brown suggested that the current City truck assigned to the Fire Chief be modified to act as a new Rescue vehicle for the Department and Chief Brown would be given a vehicle allowance to use his personal vehicle for his duties as Fire Chief. The cost to modify the City's current Fire Chief vehicle into a Rescue vehicle by updating the Rescue vehicle's equipment would be approximately \$32,682.00 without a Ram, with the addition of a Ram the project cost would be \$42,637.00. The City's Fire Chief truck currently has 24,000 miles on it and by using this vehicle it saves the City from purchasing a new truck to act as the Rescue truck.

It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to approve the Fire Chief's request and authorize funds in the amount of \$42,637.00 for new equipment to be used to convert the current Fire Chief's truck into a new and updated Rescue Truck for the Eunice Fire Department.

It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Andrepont and carried to concur with the Mayor's recommendation and authorize a vehicle allowance in the amount of seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) monthly to Fire Chief Brown for use of his personal vehicle while performing his duties of Fire Chief of the Eunice Fire Department.

The Mayor advised the Board that currently the positions within the Fire Department are Firefighter/Operator, Captain and Fire Chief. There are three Captains assigned to each of the three (3) shifts. Because of this it is possible that there could be an issue of one Captain giving orders to another Captain if the Fire Chief is not on scene. Creating another promotional position, such as District Chief, would prevent this from happening and currently the Fire Department has two (2) vacant positions.

Fire Chief Brown concurred with the Mayor that another promotional position above Captain would eliminate a possible chain of command conflict between Captains. The position of District Chief would be a promotion over Captain and there would be one District Chief per shift, a total of three (3) positions. Chief Brown presented the Crowley Fire Department's civil service District Chief classification and duties description of their position of District Chief, however, it was presented simply as an example and the City of Eunice's classification of District Chief would be tailored to the Eunice Fire Department's needs.

It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to concur with the recommendation of Chief Brown and approve the addition three (3) promotional civil service classifications of District Chief to the Eunice Fire Department.

Fire Chief Chaise Brown gave a report of the Eunice Fire Department's activities for the month of July, 2023.

MONTHLY REPOTS

It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to approve payment of the City's bills for the month of July, 2023 and acknowledged that the Board has received the City's financial reports.

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

Ginny Moody, City Clerk

Scott A. Fontenot, Mayor