**EUNICE, LOUISIANA**

**OCTOBER 10, 2023**

**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, OCTOBER 10, 2023 at six-thirty (6:30) o’clock p.m., at their regular meeting place, the Eunice City Hall.

6:15 pm PUBLIC HEARING to hear views on proposed Ordinance 0923(A) – Loitering.
Mr. Paul Feavel of Eunice spoke in favor of the Ordinance.
No other comments were made and the Public Hearing was closed.

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 SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

 The Mayor announced that the property at **230 East Ash Avenue** had not been repaired by the owner and the “**Notice of Show Cause Hearing**” would be sent to the owner.

 The Mayor announced that the property at **641 Halsey Street** had not been repaired by the owner and the “**Notice of Show Cause Hearing**” would be sent to the owner.

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

The Mayor announced that Trick ‘n Treating will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 6 pm to 8 pm.

 The Mayor announced that the annual “Fall into Downtown” Street Dance will be held on Thursday, November 9, 2023 beginning at 6 PM on South 2nd Street at Walnut Avenue.

 The Mayor announced that the 24th Annual “Noel on the Prairie” shopping weekend will be held on November 11 and 12, 2023 with many local businesses participating in this popular annual event.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

 Alderman Reed spoke on his proposed Ordinance prohibiting loitering, stating that he had received complaints from downtown businesses of people standing on the sidewalks rather than coming into the businesses or staying in their vehicles.

It was moved by Alderman Randall Reed, seconded by Alderman Chad Andrepont and carried to adopt Ordinance 0923(A), prohibiting loitering in the City of Eunice.

 Alderwoman Simpson read a Traffic Study which she had requested from Chief of Police Kyle LeBouef to be conducted on East Maple Avenue, between the intersections of MLK Drive and Vivian Street during morning school traffic.

TRAFFIC STUDY: Requested by Alderwoman Germaine Simpson at the 09/12/23 meeting.
East Maple Avenue from Natalie Street to South Vivian Street:
During morning “school traffic” a total of fifty (50) vehicles were observed.
Four (4) traffic stops were made for traveling 10 mph over the 25 mph Speed Limit.

Average speed of vehicles observed were 8 to 10 mph over the 25 mph Speed Limit.

 After discussion with Chief LeBouef on results of study Alderwoman Simpson advised that she would direct the Street Department Supervisor to erect more 25 mph Speed Limit signs along East Maple Avenue in the area of the traffic study and have the Police Department monitor speeds along that route during times when children are waiting at bus stops along that route.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

 Mr. Siffert requested a temporary Variance to Ordinance 18:133 prohibiting the use of campers as living quarters or dwellings. Mr. Siffert will be building a home at 1531 Darrell Street and requested a Variance to live in a camper on the property once construction has begun and until the home is completed.

 It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to grant the Variance to Ordinance 18:133 to Mr. Siffert at 1533 Darrell Street for six (6) months, beginning at time of construction of his house. Mr. Siffert may request an extension should his house not be completed within six (6) months.

 It was moved by Alderman Andrepont, seconded by Alderman Reed and carried to introduce for consideration Ordinance 1023(A), establishing a School Speed Zone on Sittig Road at 865 Sittig Road for the Eunice Christian Academy School.

 It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderwoman Connie Thibodeaux and carried to authorize the Mayor to begin a study of the Sewer Department’s costs and revenues for the purpose of determining revenue to use for construction of a new Wastewater Plant.

 Alderwoman Simpson requested a Traffic Study by the Police Department for the streets around the old Highland Elementary, now known as the Highland Early Learning Center.

 Mr. David Hidalgo with Aucoin & Associates addressed the Board on the Eunice Municipal Airport.

 It was moved by Alderwoman Thibodeaux, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to adopt Resolution 1023(A) - the 2024 five (5) year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for planned projects for the Eunice Municipal Airport.

 Mr. Hidalgo advised that Alderman Reed had requested that the next item on the Agenda concerning the Airport be put on hold.

 It was moved by Alderman at Large Sattler, seconded by Alderwoman Simpson and carried to table the next item on the Agenda, a Resolution accepting the North Runway Obstruction Removal Project as substantially complete.

 Alderman Reed announced that on Friday, November 3, 2023, from 10 am to 12 noon, Mrs. Elizabeth Bergeron and Hope Healthcare and Hospice will host a Senior Health Fair at the newly renovated Eunice Walking Park with free blood pressure and sugar checks, ocular health information and Medicare education. Fyzical Therapy and Balance Center employees will also be there to demonstrate proper use of the new exercise equipment at the Walking Park.

 Chief of Police Kyle LeBouef made employee recommendations to the Board.

 It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to concur with the Police Chief’s recommendation and hire Kenya Norwood as a Provisional Communications Officer.

 It was moved by Alderman Andrepont, seconded by Alderwoman Thibodeaux and carried to concur with Police Chief LeBouef’s recommendation and hire Lyndon Marsh as a Probational Police Officer.

 It was moved by Alderman Reed, seconded by Alderman Andrepont and carried to concur with the recommendation of the Police Chief and accept the resignations of Officer James Bell, Dispatcher Laila Ivory and Jailer Alaysia Skinner.

 Police Chief LeBouef announced that he had appointed Officer Stephanie Myers as School Resource Officer.

**MONTHLY REPOTS**

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

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

 Alderman at Large Sattler asked the Fire Chief if Eunice was still under a “burn ban.” Chief Chaise Brown stated that the Parish had re-instated the Burn Ban and it was currently still in effect.

 Fire Captain Jeremy Faulkner spoke about the implementation of a Junior Firefighter Program in the Eunice Fire Department for young adults, with a minimal participation age of 16.

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

 It was moved by Alderman Sattler, seconded by Alderman at Large Sattler and carried to adjourn.

Ginny Moody, City Clerk Scott A. Fontenot, Mayor