

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RUSTON HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2008, AT 5:30 P.M., IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS/COURTROOM, 2ND FLOOR, CITY HALL, 401 NORTH TRENTON, RUSTON, LOUISIANA

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ruston was held Tuesday, September 2, 2008, at 5:30 p.m., in Council Chambers/Courtroom, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 401 North Trenton, Ruston, Louisiana.

A quorum was present, notice having been duly served. Mayor Dan Hollingsworth, Aldermen Jedd Lewis, Elmore Mayfield, Jim Pearce, Levell Thurman and Alderwoman Marie Riggs were present.

Mayor Dan Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., and Alderman Levell Thurman gave the invocation.

I. ADOPT:

A. AGENDA.

Alderman Jim Pearce made a motion, seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2008, REGULAR MEETING.

Alderman Levell Thurman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield, to approve the Minutes of the August 16, 2008, Regular Council meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

II. ADMINISTRATION:

A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. ____ OF 2008, AUTHORIZING CITY TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TIPTON ASSOCIATES AND ASHE BROUSSARD WEINZETTLE IN CONNECTION WITH A COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN.

Lewis Love said that approval of the proposed agreement with Tipton Associates and Ashe Broussard Weinzettle would be the next step in the process of development of a comprehensive Master Plan for the City of Ruston. He added that funding is available from this fiscal year and next. Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to authorize the agreement with Tipton Associates in connection with a comprehensive Master Plan. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 591 of 2008)

B. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. ____ OF 2008, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA TO ADVERTISE FOR AND GRANT AN OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASE.

Bill Carter, City Attorney, stated that this resolution would authorize the City to advertise for and grant an oil, gas and mineral lease on City Property involving four sections of the City pursuant to the exhibits attached to the resolution showing City property and streets. After discussion, motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to adopt the resolution authorizing the City to advertise for and grant an oil, gas and mineral lease in accordance with law and pursuant to special terms and conditions designated by the City. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 592 OF 2008)

III. LIGHT & POWER:

- A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. ____ OF 2008, AUTHORIZING CITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STEAM PLANT SUBSTATION ADDITIONS.

Darrell Caraway was present to answer the Council's questions and recommended that the contract for construction of the Steam Plant Substation Additions Project be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis, to adopt the resolution authorizing the contract. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 593 OF 2008)

- B. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. ____ OF 2008, AUTHORIZING CITY TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PPM CONSULTANTS, INC., FOR SERVICES RELATED TO SOIL SAMPLING AT THE RUSTON DIESEL POWER PLANT.

Darrell Caraway said that the City desires to test the quality of soil and materials in and around the Ruston Diesel Power Plant and that PPM Consultants, Inc., had submitted a proposal to conduct soil sampling activities. Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to adopt the resolution authorizing the agreement with PPM Consultants, Inc., for soil sampling services at the Ruston Diesel Power Plant. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 594 OF 2008)

- C. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. ____ OF 2008, AUTHORIZING CITY TO ENTER INTO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH UTILIWORKS FOR ADVANCED METER READING ASSESSMENT PHASE II.

Darrell Caraway said that the City desires to provide a professionally designed and integrated program for the collection of meter reading data for the consumption of water and electricity for City residents and recommended an agreement with UtiliWorks for program management and implementation of an Advanced Meter Reading Assessment Phase II. Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to adopt the resolution authorizing the agreement for advanced meter reading assessment Phase II. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 595 OF 2008)

IV. CODE ENFORCEMENT:

- A. REQUEST PERMISSION TO START THE PROPERTY CONDEMNATION PROCESS AS REQUIRED BY ORDINANCE FOR THE STRUCTURES LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner</u>
1107 East Line Ave.	Yvonne Woods, et al
816 Johnson St.	Willie Joe Brown
814 Johnson St.	Willie Joe Brown

Mitch Dufour recommended that the listed properties be demolished, removed or improved to meet current Building Code and requested permission to start the property condemnation process on these structures. After discussion, motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve the request. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

V. PLANNING AND ZONING:

- A. PUBLIC HEARING.

Jim Hays was present to review the Zoning case saying that the applicant had requested to rezone his property located at 203 North Farmerville Street and requested a change from R-3 Multi-family residential to B-3 General Business zoning to accommodate it being used for a medical supply service. He stated that

the entire area has a Future Land Use of High Intensity Commercial and would qualify for rezoning as requested. Hays stated that the Zoning Commission had reviewed and discussed the application on July 21, 2008, and voted unanimously to recommend approval.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:49 p.m. Having no one from the audience to comment, he closed the public hearing at 5:49 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

B. CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. ____ OF 2008, AMENDING CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA BY CHANGING CERTAIN OF THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES PROVIDED FOR THEREIN.

Case No. 1005: Application to rezone
Applicant: Danny Jones/Advanced Medical Supply
Location: 203 North Farmerville Street

Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS
ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO. 1560 OF 2008)

C. PUBLIC HEARING.

Jim Hays and Pat Doane were present to discuss the petition to annex 547 acres abutting the eastern corporate limits of the City of Ruston along Interstate Highway 20 between Farmerville Highway and Rough Edge Road (Planning Case No. 1008). He stated that the City is in need of a new transportation corridor between the eastern corporate limits of the City and Rough Edge Road which can be accomplished by the construction of service roads on the north and south sides of Interstate 20 and that these roads are needed to facilitate transportation as well as to provide for additional expansion and growth of the City. Hays reported that the Planning Commission had conducted a public hearing at their August 18, 2008, meeting and that there were no comments made by the public.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:51 p.m. Michael S. White of Shreveport, Louisiana, and owner of property in the vicinity of the proposed annexation, asked the Council what the benefits would be to his family if this area was annexed into the City limits? After further discussion, he Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

D. CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. ____ OF 2008, ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 547 ACRES OF LAND INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA.

Alderman Jim Pearce made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS

ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO. 1561 OF 2008)

VI. FINANCE:

A. PUBLIC HEARING.

Emmett Gibbs was present to explain the two millage ordinances and stating that every four years, the Tax Assessor is required by law to reassess all property and the City is required by law to levelize the total amount of property tax collected by rolling back the millage to an amount which will generate the previous year's property tax revenue. He further stated that this year the City has an option to roll forward the millage which would increase the amount of property tax received by the City. (Roll forward General Fund millage to 6.04 mills will result in 2008-2009 property taxes of \$909,181. Roll forward the RPAR millage to 3.00 mills would result in 2008-2009 property taxes of \$385,063.)

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Having no one from the audience to comment, he closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

B. CONSIDER AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. ____ OF 2008, LEVYING AND IMPOSING TAXES ON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA.

Alderman Jedd Lewis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS
ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINED: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO. 1562 OF 2008)

C. PUBLIC HEARING.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:11 p.m. Having no one from the audience to comment, he closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

D. CONSIDER AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. ____ OF 2008, LEVYING AND IMPOSING TAXES ON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA, AND CALLING FOR SUCH MILLAGE RATE INCREASES BY TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA, REQUIRED IN

PARAGRAPH C OF SECTION 23 OF ARTICLE VII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF LOUISIANA. (Roll Forward)

Alderswoman Marie Riggs made a motion, seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS
ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINED: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO. 1563 OF 2008)

E. PUBLIC HEARING.

Emmett Gibbs was present to comment on the ordinance and answer questions pertaining to the Budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:13 p.m. Having no one from the audience to comment, he closed the public hearing at 6:13 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

F. CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. ____ OF 2008, ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2008, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, FOR THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA.

Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS
ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO. 1564 OF 2008)

G. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR BUDGET YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2007, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2008:

1.	From:	General Fund – Animal Control Dept: Heating 140125 5420	<1,800>
	To:	General Fund – Animal Control Dept: Salaries – Regular 140125 5110 Employee Insurance 140125 5130	600 1,200
2.	From:	General Fund – Civic Center: Salaries-Regular 120113 5110	<2,800>

	To:	General Fund – Civic Center: Salaries – Overtime 120140 5110	2,800
3.	From:	Section 8 Vouchers Fund Balance	<3,850>
	To:	Section 8 Vouchers Fund – Administration: Salaries – Regular 7220 5110 Travel 7220 5160	950 2,900
4.	From:	General Fund – Fund Balance	<144,000>
	To:	General Fund – Police Department: Salaries – Regular 130116 5110 Salaries – Overtime 130116 5112 Gas, Oil, & Diesel 130116 5530	69,000 38,000 37,000
5.	From:	General Fund – Economic Development	<6,000>
	To:	General Fund – Economic Development Dept: Supplies 120150 5280 Dues & Subscriptions 120150 5735	3,500 2,500
6.	From:	Ambulance Fund: Salaries – Regular 5510 5110	<6,500>
	To:	Ambulance Fund: Gas, Oil & Diesel 5510 5530	6,500
7.	From:	Airport Fund: State Funds 54 4302	<6,000>
	To:	Airport Fund: Capital Assets 5410 5810	6,000
8.	From:	Electric System Fund – Revenues: Fuel Adjustment 50 4517	<3,325,500>
	To:	Electric System Fund – Fuel & Energy – Energy 5017 5221	3,325,500
9.	From:	General Fund – Street Dept: Maintenance of Streets 140121 5350	<45,000>
	To:	General Fund – Street Dept: Gas, Oil, & Diesel 140121 5530	45,000
10.	From:	Electric System Fund – Maintenance: Maint. of Distr. System 5013 5315	<11,000>
	To:	Electric System Fund – Maintenance: Salaries – Overtime 5013 5112	11,000
11.	From:	General Fund – IT Department: Supplies 120140 5280	<1,550>
	To:	General Fund – IT Department: Salaries – Regular 120140 5110 Employee Benefits – FICA Tax 120140 5129 Municipal Retirement 120140 5120	1,200 100 250
12.	From:	Purchasing/Warehouse Fund: Heating 6210 5420	<600>
	To:	Purchasing/Warehouse Fund: Salaries – Regular 6210 5110	600
13.	From:	Workers Compensation Fund – Revenues: Interest 60 4810	<8,814>

	To:	Workers Compensation Fund: Insurance 6010 5745	8,814
14.	From:	Water System Fund: Production Dept. – Chemicals 5211 5210 Distr. Dept. – Maint. of ROW 5212 5345	<55,000> <10,000>
	To:	Water System Fund – Production Department: Utilities 5211 5410	65,000
15.	From:	Ambulance Fund: Revenues – Fire Grant 55 4325	<8,978>
	To:	Ambulance Fund: Capital Assets 5510 5810 Equip. to be Acct. for 5510 5286	3,735 5,243
16.	From:	General Fund – Planning & Zoning Department: Consulting 120126 5650	<2,000>
	To:	General Fund – Planning & Zoning Department: Salaries – Overtime 120126 5112 Travel & Training 120126 5160	1,000 1,000
17.	From:	General Fund – Solid Waste Dept: Salaries – Regular 140122 5110 Maint. of Bldgs & Grounds 140122 5300 Auto & Truck Repair 140122 5520	<25,000> <10,000> <25,000>
	To:	General Fund – Solid Waste Dept: Gas, Oil, & Diesel 140122 5530	60,000

Emmett Gibbs was present to answer the Council's questions pertaining to the budget amendments. With no further discussion, Alderman Elmore Mayfield made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to approve the listed budget amendments. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

VII. ADJOURN MEETING:

There being no further business, the meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

10-06-08
APPROVED

ATTEST:

EMMETT GIBBS, CLERK

DAN HOLLINGSWORTH, MAYOR