

**City of Harahan
6437 Jefferson Highway
Mayor and Harahan City Council
Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: December 16, 2021

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Baudier opened the hearing at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilman Jason Asbill, Councilman Tommy Budde, Councilman Eric Chatelain, Councilman Craig Johnston, Councilman Carrie Wheeler, Mayor Tim Baudier, Police Chief Tim Walker, Finance Director Todd Tournillon, City Attorney Scott Stansbury, Municipal Clerk Nicole Lee, Deputy Clerk Carrie Heustis
Absent: Fire Chief Todd St. Cyr

Councilman Asbill made a motion to amend the agenda to take up New Business #4 at this time.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Motion was seconded by Councilman Wheeler to amend the agenda to take up New Business #4 now.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

NEW BUSINESS #4

Recognition and Appointment of Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector.

Councilman Asbill asked for a point of privilege for each council member to recognize Nicole Lee.

Each Council Member and Police Chief Walker spoke.

Nicole Lee was recognized for her 17 years of service with the City of Harahan and the Mayor presented her with a plaque.

Councilman Wheeler made a recommendation to appoint Carrie Heustis as the new Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector. Councilman Asbill seconded this recommendation.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Carrie Heustis was sworn in as the new Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT/PRESENTATION

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Chief Walker - Current State of the Harahan Police Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Reading of the Minutes of the Council Meeting on November 18, 2021.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilman Chatelain, seconded by Councilman Wheeler to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES

Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting on November 18, 2021.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilman Asbill, seconded by Councilman Wheeler to approve the minutes.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/MINUTES APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS

None

RESOLUTIONS

None

ORDINANCES FOR APPROVAL

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Budde:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 17

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1909, the annual Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2021 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

1. Bryan St Cyr

Councilman Asbill made a motion to amend the 2021 budget Line 23 Column H to the amount of \$2,307,063.00 which was the original 2021 budget amount.

2. Maurizio Francescon

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Council Discussion:

1. Tommy Budde

2. Jason Asbill

3. Craig Johnston

4. Carrie Wheeler

Motion by Councilman Asbill, seconded by Councilman Johnston to amend the 2021 budget Line 23 Column H to the amount of \$2,307,063.00 which was the original 2021 budget amount.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston,

NAYS: Wheeler

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Motion by Council Budde to add a new line item for transaction costs on the \$2,000,000.00 loan for \$21,000.00 seconded by Councilman Johnston.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/LINE ITEM IS CREATED.

Motion by Councilman Wheeler to proceed with the vote of the Ordinance 2021-17 as amended with two amendments.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/ORDINANCE ADOPTED

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Wheeler and seconded by Councilman Asbill:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 18

An Ordinance adopting the annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2022 for the City of Harahan, Louisiana.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Councilman Asbill proposed an amendment to the 2022 Budget to increase Capital Fund line 341-4-110-44010 Hardware to \$60,000.00 and to increase line item 341-4-110-44020 Software to \$20,000.00 to update the servers at City Hall.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Motion of amendment was seconded by Councilman Johnston.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Councilman Budde proposed an amendment to the 2022 budget to increase account line item 010-4-124-48520 Interest Expense by \$50,000.00.

Councilman Budde then withdrew his proposal.

Councilman Budde made a motion to increase sales tax revenue by \$30,000.00 in order to fund the Parade Expense line item \$30,000.00.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

This motion was seconded by Councilman Johnston.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Motion by Councilman Asbill to proceed with the vote of the Ordinance 2021-17 as amended with two amendments.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/ORDINANCE ADOPTED

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Chatelain and seconded by Councilman Wheeler:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 19

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of Harahan to execute an agreement with the Board of Trustees of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System.

Councilman Chatelain made a motion to defer this.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Council Discussion:

1. Eric Chatelain

2. Jason Asbill

Motion was seconded by Councilman Budde.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE DEFFERED

Motion by Councilman Asbill for a 5-minute recess seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/RECESS GRANTED

Recess started 8:28PM

Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Baudier at 8:37PM

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Asbill and seconded by Councilman Wheeler:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 20

An Ordinance providing for the creation of a new Accrued Liabilities Committed Fund Balance within the General Fund of the City of Harahan Budget and providing for the funding and policies of the Fund.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Council Discussion:

1. Jason Asbill

Motion by Councilman Asbill to defer seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE DEFFERED

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Chatelain and seconded by Councilman Budde:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 21

An Ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of not exceeding Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) of Hurricane Recovery Revenue Notes of the City of Harahan, State of Louisiana, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Councilman Asbill made a motion to add Exhibit A behind Page 11 the Gulf Coast Term sheet. Motion was seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

Jason Akers with Foley & Judell, the city's retained bond council, offered a suggestion for the motion made by Councilman Asbill.

Councilman Asbill then amended his motion to amend this ordinance to add the terms Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Company, New Orleans, Louisiana in the definition of Purchaser on page 4. Also, on page 4 to add the words 3.17% per annum as the interest, and to include Exhibit A behind Page 11.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Council Discussion

No Council Discussion

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Mayor Baudier went back to proposed Ordinance 2021-21 with amendments

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote; the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/ORDINANCE ADOPTED

Councilman Asbill thought they were voting on adopting the amendments and not the full ordinance as amended. He then requested to go back to Council Discussion on the full ordinance as amended. He was advised that the ordinance was already adopted. Councilman Asbill then asked to reconsider the vote.

Council Discussion:

1. Jason Asbill

Mayor Baudier then asked if they could revote.

Scott Stansbury advised that since Councilman Asbill was confused as to what the vote was on, they could reopen the vote.

Motion by Councilman Asbill to defer, motion to defer was not seconded so they moved to the vote.

Motion by Councilman Budde to Reconsider the vote on Proposed Ordinance 2021-21 as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Wheeler.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: Asbill

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/ORDINANCE ADOPTED

The following Ordinance was proposed by Councilman Asbill and seconded by Councilman Wheeler:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 22

An Ordinance providing that the Harahan Municipal Code be supplemented to fix the amount of compensation of the Municipal Officer of the City of Harahan as required by L.R.S 33:381A.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Council Discussion

1. Tommy Budde

2. Jason Asbill

3. Mayor Baudier

4. Carrie Wheeler

5. Eric Chatelain

6. Tommy Budde

7. Craig Johnston

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill

NAYS: Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE FAILS

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION (FIRST READING)

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 – 23

An Ordinance providing for the creation of a new ARPA Revenue Special Fund within the City of Harahan Budget and providing for the funding and policies of the Fund.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 -24

An Ordinance providing for the creation of a new FEMA Revenue Special Fund within the City of Harahan Budget and providing for the funding and policies of the Fund.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021 -25

An Ordinance providing for the deposit of insurance claim proceeds into the Capital Projects Fund.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2021-26

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds to provide for incentive pay in response to Covid-19.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Todd Tournillon, Finance Director – monthly financials with budget to actual comparisons.

Mr. Tournillon presented the City's financials for the month of November.

2. Board of Adjustment dismissal and appointments.

Councilman Asbill says that 5 of the current Board of Adjustment members are expired and those members need to be replaced. He also discusses the attendance records of the members and proposes that they start making some of these appointments.

Motion by Councilman Asbill to nominate Andrew Case to replace Rick Helwig.

Seconded by Councilman Johnston.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/RICK HELWIG WILL BE REPLACED BY ANDREW CASE

Motion by Councilman Johnston to renominate Richard Kittok, seconded by Councilman Wheeler.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Appointment withdrawn temporarily pending confirmation that Richard Kittok would still like to be on the board.

Motion by Councilman Asbill to remove Shane Crouchet, seconded by Councilman Budde.

Mayor Baudier opened the public hearing.

No one spoke.

Mayor Baudier closed the public hearing.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/SHANE CROUCHET IS REMOVED FROM THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

Councilman Asbill asked to keep this on the agenda for next month under Old Business in the hopes that we will have more nominations.

3. Civil Service Board Administrative appointment.

Gerry Brady, the administrative appointment for the Civil Service Board, unexpectedly passed away in November. Since this position is a council appointed position the Civil service board is requesting an appointment from the council for his replacement.

Motion by Councilman Wheeler to defer this to the next meeting, seconded by Councilman Chatelain.

Mayor Baudier called for the vote, the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

APPOINTMENT DEFERRED

ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- 1. Maurizio Francescon**
- 2. Rebecca Jefferies – The Blake**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary's report for November, 2021

Total revenues \$310,788.00

REPORTS

Police Chief Walker

Fire Chief St. Cyr - Absent

Councilman Asbill

Councilman Budde

Councilman Chatelain

Councilman Johnston

Councilman Wheeler

Mayor Baudier

PAY BILLS

Bill's paid in November, 2021

Total expenditures \$780,356.71

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURN

Motion by Councilman Johnston and seconded by Councilman Asbill to adjourn the meeting at 9:20PM

Mayor Baudier called for the vote; the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Asbill, Budde, Chatelain, Johnston, Wheeler

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSES/MEETING ADJOURNED

A. The following matter involving pending litigation may be considered

(Court, Case Number, Parties):

- 1. Wood Materials LLC, Wood Resources LLC v. City of Harahan, 24th JDC, Case 761-783, Div. "K"**
- 2. Michael Wright v. City of Harahan, et al, US District Court, Civil Action No. 19-13529, Sect. F (5)**
- 3. Mary Eler v. City of Harahan and Veolia Corp and ABC Ins. Co., 24th JDC, Case 757-888, Div. "F"**
- 4. Ronald Lightell v. Harahan Police Dept. and City of Harahan, Civil Action No. 20-cv-672**

B. The following matter involving prospective litigation for which formal written demand has been made may be considered.

C. The following matters involving discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of:

Name:

Submitted by: *Carrie Heustis*

**Carrie Heustis, City Clerk
(Electronically Signed)**