MINUTES
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VIVIAN TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
112 W. ALABAMA AVE.
VIVIAN, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Festavan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION - Alderman Samuel Hodge opened the meeting in prayer.

PLEDGE - Mayor Festavan led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL - VERIFICATION OF QUORUM - Board of Aldermen present for Roll Call were James Martin, Denise Alexander, Samuel Hodge, Raymond Williams, and Robert Green, Jr. Following Roll Call the Town Clerk verified that a quorum was present.
Also present were other elected officials and/or staff members: Mayor Ronnie Festavan, Police Chief Ryan Nelson, Town Clerk Kellie Morris and Town Attorney Douglas Dominick.

APPROVE AGENDA - Motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Raymond Williams, seconded by Samuel Hodge; all approved.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were none.

2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - Financial report including budget-to-actual comparisons was presented by Mayor Festavan. Following the report and discussion, a motion to accept as presented was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved.
Mayor Festavan also gave the following status on the following audit findings: **1)** 2024-001 Finding - Budget; newly hired consultant will keep a closer eye on this to prevent this in the future, **2)** 2024-002 Finding - Late submission of audit report; the yearly audit was submitted to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor on March 31, 2025, **3)** 2024-003 Material Weakness - Bank Reconciliations; newly hired consultant has reported that all of the bank reconciliations are up-to-date, and **4)** 2024-004 Material Weakness – Utility Fund Accounts Receivable; "During our audit, we noted that the utility fund accounts receivable per the subsidiary billing software was not being reconciled to the general ledger. Significant additional time was needed to reconcile the accounts receivable per the general ledger to the subsidiary billing software, and material adjustments were required to reconcile the accounts receivable balance per the general ledger."; working to correct this finding and will make report at the June 9, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion to approve the Minutes for the April 14, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting was made by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved.

4. **THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 8 OF 2025 OF THE TOWN OF VIVIAN, LOUISIANA -** A Resolution declaring movable property as surplus and assigning for online sale/auction to the LPS Municipal Surplus Property Program.

5. THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WILL CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE OPENING OF A NEW CHECKING ACCOUNT - FOR THE NW LA SWIM COMPLEX; revenues & expenses.
Motion to open a new checking account was made by James Martin, seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved.

6. RE-HIRING OF POLICE PERSONNEL - THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WILL CONSIDER THE CHIEF OF POLICE'S RECOMMENDATION TO RE-HIRE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL FOR THE VIVIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT: Jeremiah Carroll - Full-time Officer - $18.00 per hour.

6. RE-HIRING OF POLICE PERSONNEL - cont'd.

Police Chief Nelson stated that after discussion with Jeremiah Carroll, he was recommending that he be re-hired as a PART-TIME Officer at the rate of $18.00 per hour. Motion to approve Chief Nelson's recommendation was made by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved.

- **ZONING & CONDEMNATION MATTERS - Officer Bobby Smith**

A. THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY FOR CONDEMANTION: 1) 308 W. Moore St. - Robert Kovacs, property owner, was present on behalf of this review. Following questions, answers and discussion Officer Smith recommended that the matter be continued. Motion to continue at the August 11, 2025 Regular Council Meeting was made by Denise Alexander, seconded by Robert Green, Jr.; all approved.

B. REVIEW OF CONDEMNATION LIST - 1) 209 McArthur Dr., **2)** 425 S. Pecan St., **3)** 224 W. Virginia Ave., **4)** 113 N. Walnut St., **5)** 121 Milner St., **6)** 308 W. Moore St., **7)** 9384 Hosston Rd., **8)** 520 W. Georgia Ave., **9)** 304 E. Oklahoma Ave., **10)** 602 N. Pine St., **11)** 616 Magnolia St., **12)** 207 E. Texas Ave., and **13)** 421 E. Texas Ave..
During review of the List and discussion the following actions were taken: **1)** 209 McArthur Dr. - Motion to remove from the list was made by Denise Alexander, seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved: **3)** 224 W. Virginia Ave. - Motion to remove from the list was made by Denise Alexander, seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved.

C. ZONING/CONDEMNATION REPORT - All properties were reported on during prior Agenda item, B. Review of Condemnation List.

- **CODE ENFORCEMENT MATTERS - Officer Johnnie Hough**

A. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT - Officer Hough gave the following written and oral report: 11 (eleven) properties; 1 (one) case closed, 4 (four) new cases opened, and 1 (one) new case would be heard in Environmental Court on Wednesday, May 21st. Additional property discussed was **1)** 917 S. Pine St.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Festavan gave a report on the following: **1)** Personal Financial Disclosures for elected officials are due in Baton Rouge by Thursday, May 15th, and **2)** the asbestos abatement and demolition of 602 N. Pine St. and a brick wall located on the corner of E. Louisiana Ave, and SW Front St.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOARD OF ALDERMEN - There were none.

ADJOURN - Motion to adjourn was made by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Raymond Williams; all approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

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Kellie Morris, Town Clerk

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Ronnie Festavan, Mayor
May 19, 2025