



PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2025 AT 5:30 O’CLOCK P.M.

The Council of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana met in Regular Session at its meeting place, the Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 200 South Jefferson Street, DeRidder, Louisiana on Monday, January 27, 2025 at 5:30 o’clock p.m. President Wayne Godfrey Sr. called the meeting to order, Councilmember Danny Reynolds led the Invocation and Councilmember Keith Hooper led the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America. The roll was called by the Clerk as follows: Councilmember John Marcello, Councilmember Keith Hooper, Councilmember John Hyde, Councilmember Monte’ Woods, Councilmember Danny Reynolds, Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Wayne Godfrey Sr. Also present were: Randy Larken, Mayor; Charlie Lestage, City Attorney; and Glenna Luther, Clerk of the Council.

5. **Visitors’ Docket.** Michael Nichols, a resident of Pitkin, addressed the Council with his concerns regarding Carbon Capture & Injections.

7. **Adoption of Minutes.** President Godfrey announced that the January 13, 2025 minutes have been distributed and there being no corrections, the minutes were approved by the Council.

Councilmember Marcello asked for a moment of silence out of respect and in remembrance of Ms. Opal Holaway who was a loyal and long-time employee of the City, and who passed away this past weekend.

13. **Ordinances.**

A. **Introductions.**

1. **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO ANY AND ALL CONTRACTS AND DO AND PERFORM ANY AND ALL THINGS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH FUNDING FROM THE KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL TRASH RECEPTACLE GRANT AWARD SO AS TO FUND TRASH RECEPTACLES FOR PLACEMENT IN HIGH-LITTER PUBLIC SPACES THROUGHOUT THE CITY; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

Councilmember Reynolds made the motion to introduce the above-entitled Ordinance as read by Mr. Lestage and Councilmember Marcello offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember John L. Hyde; Councilmember Monte’ Woods; Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Wayne Godfrey Sr.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been approved, the Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing in Regular Session on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:30 o’clock p.m.

13. **Ordinances.**

B. **Public Hearings.**

1. **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE BEAUREGARD PARISH POLICE JURY SO AS TO ALLOW THE POLICE JURY TO SERVE AS THE FINANCIAL SPONSOR OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT, SUBMISSION AND MANAGEMENT OF APPLICATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE HIGHWAY 27 SEWER MAIN**



FROM ABOVE GROUND TO BELOW GROUND; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Lestage. President Godfrey opened the public hearing, there were no comments from the public or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Hyde made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Labue offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember John L. Hyde; Councilmember Monte' Woods; Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Wayne Godfrey Sr.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been approved, the Ordinance was adopted as **Ordinance No. O-2025-5**; Charter Series, as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. O-2025-5
CHARTER SERIES**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH THE BEAUREGARD PARISH POLICE JURY SO AS TO ALLOW THE POLICE JURY TO SERVE AS THE FINANCIAL SPONSOR OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT, SUBMISSION AND MANAGEMENT OF APPLICATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR THE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE HIGHWAY 27 SEWER MAIN FROM ABOVE GROUND TO BELOW GROUND; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder, Louisiana ("City") and the Beauregard Parish Police Jury ("Police Jury") desire to work together to accomplish a valuable public service by relocating the sewer main on Highway 27 from above ground to below ground; and

WHEREAS, City desires to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement ("CEA") with the Police Jury so as to allow the Police Jury to serve as the financial sponsor of the City to facilitate the development, submission and management of applications to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security ("GOHSEP") for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program ("HMGP") funding for said project; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of City desires that City enter into said agreement with the Police Jury pursuant to the CEA, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council of the City authorizes the City, through its Mayor, to enter into a CEA with the Police Jury so as to allow the Police Jury to serve as the financial sponsor of the City to facilitate the development, submission and management of applications to GOHSEP for the HMGP funding, for the relocation of the Highway 27 sewer main from above ground to below ground, all as set forth in Exhibit "A" hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 27th day of January, 2025 by the City Council of the City of DeRidder in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers at DeRidder, Louisiana.



ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

WAYNE GODFREY SR.
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

2. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE AMENDED OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES, OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF DERIDDER, LOUISIANA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023.

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Lestage. President Godfrey opened the public hearing, there were no comments from the public or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Reynolds made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Woods offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

- YEAS: Councilmember Monte’ Woods; Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember John L. Hyde; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Wayne Godfrey Sr.
- NAYS: None.
- ABSENT: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been approved, the Ordinance was adopted as **Ordinance No. O-2025-6**; Charter Series, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. O-2025-6
CHARTER SERIES

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE AMENDED OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES, OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF DERIDDER, LOUISIANA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2023.

SECTION 1: BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council sitting in regular session duly convened that the operating budget of revenues and expenditures of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana for fiscal year October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 be amended as follows, to-wit:

IN DOLLARS

GENERAL FUND REVENUES:

City Taxes	\$1,614,200
Licenses/Permits	715,200
Intergovernmental/Grants	2,078,800
Fees/Charges	247,100
Interest/Rent/Dividends/Loan Proceeds	168,500
Miscellaneous	49,800
Other Financing Sources	<u>5,628,700</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$10,502,300

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

General Administration Department	\$1,689,000
Police Department	3,847,800
Fire Department	3,032,900
Transportation Department	269,100
Recreation Department	484,900
Other Financing Uses	<u>1,317,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,640,700



EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)
Expenditures over Revenues (\$138,400)

Beginning Fund Balance \$3,233,800
Ending Fund Balance \$3,095,400

SALES TAX FUND REVENUES:

Sales Tax Collections \$11,183,600
 Interest & Dividends 70,700
 State of Louisiana 18,200
 Federal/State Grants 725,400
 Miscellaneous Revenue 3,100
 Other Financing Sources 48,000
TOTAL REVENUES \$12,049,000

SALES TAX EXPENDITURES:

Sales Tax Administration Department \$2,108,900
 Street Department 2,954,200
 Other Financing Uses 6,433,300
TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$11,496,400

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)
Revenues over Expenditures \$552,600

FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING \$4,526,600
FUND BALANCE – ENDING \$5,079,200

UTILITY FUND REVENUES:

Sewer Fees & Taps \$1,096,300
 Penalties 72,900
 Water Sales, Taps & Service Fees 2,201,200
 State Testing Fees 50,100
 Miscellaneous Income 46,500
 Other Financing Sources 759,600
 State Grants 842,600
 Interest & Dividends 67,500
TOTAL REVENUES \$5,136,700

UTILITIES FUND EXPENSES:

Utility Administration Department \$805,000
 Utility Maintenance Department 2,315,400
 Wastewater Treatment Plant Department 957,000
 Water Plant Department 707,600
 Other Financing Uses 46,200
TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,831,200

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)
Revenues over Expenditures \$305,500

FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING \$8,645,800
FUND BALANCE – ENDING \$8,951,300

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same, are hereby repealed.



THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 27th day of January, 2025 in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers by the City Council of the City of DeRidder at DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

WAYNE GODFREY SR.
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

15. Reports. Mayor Larken reported on the following: He has met with Avon Knowlton with Louisiana Armed Forces Alliance; will be attending the Regional Planning Commission Board Meeting on Wednesday; has scheduled a meeting with DeRidder Baseball/Softball in preparation for the upcoming season; was honored to attend and present a Proclamation for the Ebonites Club at the Martin Luther King, Jr. event held last Sunday; that the adjudicated hearing process has kicked off again for 2025 and thanked Tommy Landry, Martin Scott, Janet Vincent and Hearing Officer, Adam Bone, and the citizens of DeRidder for cooperating and working to clean up the City; and information regarding water meters should be complete before next meeting and out to the Council for a workshop. Holly Buxton reported that the auditor is present at the City and so far so good, Council has been provided with December financials and everything is going great. At the request of Councilmember Marcello, Roy Keen expanded on his written Utility Report provided to Council before the meeting. Councilman Hyde confirmed with Mr. Keen that there were few issues with the recent freeze. Fire Chief Harlow reported that the City survived the freeze without any major incidents on the fire side, addressed safety preparation for equipment and monitoring systems for manholes, Mardi Gras banners went up across the City and the North Side generator will be delivered this coming week. Councilmember Woods thanked the Mayor, the Chiefs and her district for help with a few things in her area and expressed her appreciation for Glenna Luther for keeping the Council abreast of everything with a variety of emails.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 o'clock p.m.

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

WAYNE GODFREY SR.
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL