

**TOWN OF MANY**  
September 17, 2019  
**Regular Session**

Public Hearing was held at 5:15 p.m., September 17, 2019 prior to the Regular Council Session for the purpose of public comments on Ordinance #17 of 2019, Clerk's Salary; and on Ordinance #18 of 2019, Any Ticket in the Jurisdiction of City Court should be sent to Mayor's Court and not District Court; and on Ordinance #19 of 2019, Incurring of debt and issuance of \$146,000 of Limited Tax Bonds; and a Public Information Meeting to discuss Grant funds from USDA for Trackhoe-\$33,700.00. With no comments from the public, hearing was closed with a motion by Jackson; seconded by Corley. Vote unanimous.

The Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Many met in regular session, Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 5:19 p.m. at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Ken Freeman, Mayor Pro-Tem James Kennedy, Council Members Gay Corley, Bobbie Jackson and Anita Darwin. Alderwoman Darwin joined the meeting at 5:24 p.m. Absent was Mary Brocato. Also present were Town Clerk Amie Brown, Chief of Police Roger Freeman, Officer Carla Nicks, Grant Writer Jane Hardwick, Payroll Clerk/HR Manager Karla Williams, Water Superintendent Joshua Darden and Street Supervisor Michael Moore.

Mayor Freeman called the meeting to order. Prayer was offered by Mayor Freeman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Freeman.

**Minutes:** Minutes for August 20, 2019 Regular session meeting was approved as written with a motion by Corley; seconded by Kennedy. Vote unanimous.

**Amend Agenda:** Motion to amend the agenda to add as #17 under New Business to review and award bid for asphalt millings at the airport was made by Kennedy; seconded by Jackson. Vote unanimous.

**Open to Public Comments relating to items on agenda:** None

**Guest(s):** Shelly Salter – Sabine Parish Clerk of Court Candidate  
Rodney Schamerhorn – Candidate for State Representative District 24

**\*Anita Darwin joined the meeting at this time**  
Darryl Bardwell – Solinsky Group – Boston Mutual Insurance

**Old Business:**

- 1. Adopt Ordinance #17 of 2019 – Clerk's Salary:** Passed with a motion by Corley; seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.
- 2. Adopt Ordinance #18 of 2019 – Any Ticket in the Jurisdiction of City Court should be sent to Mayor's Court and not District Court:** Passed with a motion by Darwin; seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.
- 3. Adopt Ordinance #19 of 2019 – Incurring of debt and issuance of \$146,000 of Limited Tax Bonds:** Passed with a motion by Kennedy; seconded by Corley. Vote Unanimous.
- 4. Public Information Meeting – Grant funds from USDA for Trackhoe - \$33,700.00:** Mayor Freeman reported this grant was to buy a trackhoe for the street department and asked if anyone had any questions. Alderwoman Corley asked if this would be a new trackhoe to which Town Clerk Amie Brown replied yes. There were no further questions.
- 5. Renew Theater Contract for Mary Bozeman - 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020:** Town Clerk Amie Brown reported that Alderwoman Brocato made changes which were highlighted in yellow. Passed with a motion by Corley; seconded by Kennedy. Vote Unanimous.
- 6. Parish Wide Trash Bash set for September 21st – 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM:** Mayor Freeman asked the council members if they would get with their districts to help, or to get a group together to help, pick up trash and we would have the city crew come around and pick the trash up.

**New Business:**

- 1. Resolution #12 of 2019 – 6 Year Capital Improvement Plan for Airport:** Passed with a motion by Darwin; seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.
- 2. Set up non-interest bearing checking account at BOM for USDA grant funds – Town must deposit \$11,300.00:** Passed with a motion by Kennedy; seconded by Corley. Vote Unanimous.

- 3. Halloween Date & Times – Halloween is on Thursday, October 31st:** Halloween trick or treating will be on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>: Businesses from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with neighborhood/church trick or treating from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Chief of Police Roger Freeman concurred. Passed with a motion by Corley; seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.
- 4. Discussion on Delinquent Occupational Licenses:** Payroll Clerk/HR Manager Karla Williams presented the council with a list of businesses that are delinquent on their occupational licenses. She reported that she has been in contact with the LMA to see how we need to move forward and was waiting to hear back from them. Mayor Freeman told her to get with the Town Attorney tomorrow morning and see how we go about collecting these and about sending out demand letter. Alderwoman Corley asked if she could share the list with the Sales & Use Tax Office to which Mayor Freeman told her “absolutely”. Mayor Freeman asked Alderwoman Corley to please work with Karla and the Town Attorney to make sure we do not send out letters to someone that is no longer in business.
- 5. Human Resources – No department is to work a newly hired employee until cleared by HR:** Mayor Freeman asked Payroll Clerk/HR Manager Karla Williams to type up a memo for himself and Chief Freeman to sign stating they would not work a newly hired employee until cleared by HR to eliminate any problems. Mayor Freeman reported that we have contacted our insurance company and all council members were provided with the email response from the insurance company which stated that no passengers are covered. Police Chief Freeman asked about several instances of “community policing” in which they usually provide transportation for such as an accident, or a broke down motorist. Mayor Freeman stated that the insurance company said that police departments can do it but the passenger would not be covered if there was an accident and he would not want to put the citizens at risk if there was an accident so he does not want to take any chances and suggests not doing it and asked the council if they felt the same. Alderman Kennedy asked what if something happened to someone on the side of the road in the city limits and no ambulance is there right then and you put them in the police car and take them to the hospital they wouldn’t be covered to which Mayor Freeman said that’s what the insurance company said. Alderwoman Corley said we would just be taking a chance at getting them to the hospital and hope there is no accident. Alderman Kennedy said we need to get with the insurance company to which Mayor Freeman said we would check back with them and get clarification because we do not want to put our citizens at risk of liability. Mayor Freeman also reported that a copy of the email from the insurance company was provided to each employee for them to read and sign. Alderman Kennedy asked if you could take your spouse with you to a meeting to which Mayor Freeman replied they would not be covered in a city vehicle but they can accompany you and you could take your own private vehicle, the room would already be paid for but the spouse would not be covered under the food and entertainment expenses.
- 6. Reports:** Council was presented with the **Profit & Loss Performance Budget** for August 2019; the **Payables Log** for August 2019 with evidence of invoices paid; balanced & reconciled **Bank Statements** for August 2019; **Overtime report** through August 2019; Verification of Federal & Louisiana **Taxes paid** for August 2019; and Verification of **Insurance paid** for August 2019. All reports were accepted as written with a motion by Kennedy and seconded by Corley. Vote unanimous.
- 7. Chief’s Report with update on warrants and theft of utilities:** Police Chief Freeman provided a report to the Council on activity for the last 30 days for Many Police Department. Officer Carla Nicks provided the council with an updated warrant list. Mayor Freeman asked Officer Nicks if she could get a report on how much has been collected from the collection agency on unpaid tickets and she said she would get that information together.
- 8. Sales Tax Report-Increase of 16.66% over July 2018:** Alderwoman Corley reported. Next meeting is this Thursday; they have reviewed about 20 applicants for the Deputy Administrator position and one has been selected but she suggested to the board that Nolan should have the authority in the hiring. Mayor Freeman asked if the company putting in the new piping is paying sales and use tax to which Alderwoman Corley replied yes. Mayor Freeman said he wonders if that is why the sales tax has been so high and said he would have to think that Market Basket closing the Zwolle store has helped. Alderwoman Corley stated that Nolan has done a fantastic job in collecting the taxes.

- 9. Tourism Report:** Alderwoman Jackson reported there was no meeting but the room night sales were up 9% and she attended the Lt. Governor's Summit and it was very nice and she learned a few things.
- 10. Cultural and Historical District Report:** Alderwoman Brocato was not available to give a report. Mayor Freeman reported that she is moving forward on getting people to donate items for the Museum and getting close to the opening.
- 11. Airport:** Mayor Freeman gave a report that he met with the FAA earlier this month and they have a plan on the expansion of finishing the runway and moving the road; there is still four million dollars' worth of expansion to be done and they think in 5 years it will be complete so that jet planes can land; they are already receiving questions from small businesses that build stuff for airports about locating a small factory on the property which will help us in economic development. Mayor Freeman stated that it is not costing us, the state puts up 10% and the Feds put up 90% of the cost and money at the airport is generated by sales tax on aviation fuel nationwide and does not come from the street or water departments.
- 12. Zoning:** Zoning Administrator Amie Brown reported there was no zoning meeting for the past month
- 13. Grant Report:** Grant Writer Jane Hardwick reported that she applied for a grant through Chesapeake for the Fire Department; working on a grant from the Shreveport Regional Arts Council; and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation has awarded us a grant of \$20,000 to replace the playground equipment at the ballpark. She said when she talked to Norman Booker he asked her to mention that the playground needs to be fenced. Mayor Freeman asked Town Clerk Amie Brown to make a note of it for tomorrow's staff meeting. Mayor Freeman reported that in March of next year we will pay our last note of indebtedness and the people of Many will owe nothing and he has asked the engineers to start working on replacing the piping from the city limits out to the plant because we are having a lot of water breaks there; we will then try to pass a tax to pay for it but will also continue to look for grants to fund this. Alderwoman Darwin asked about the water fountain at the ballpark not working. Mayor Freeman asked Water Superintendent Josh Darden to check into getting it fixed. Alderwoman Darwin added that the community is looking great and the city staff is doing a good job keeping it up.
- 14. Street:** Street Supervisor Michael Moore gave a report that they have been helping mow at the airport; mowing at the Fairgrounds and cleaning out the debris at the bridge; side arming; pulling shoulders; and cleaned out three canals that were stopped up from debris. Alderwoman Corley asked if after the roads have been repaved if it is a road that had speed bumps would the speed bumps be put back down. Mayor Freeman asked Mr. Moore to get with the council person first and see if they want the speed bumps put back down. Mr. Moore mentioned there are rubber speed bumps that are nice and have a lifetime warranty. Mayor Freeman asked him to get prices on asphalt speed bumps versus the rubber speed bumps. Alderman Kennedy asked if we can work with the Police Jury to clean out the creeks. Mayor Freeman said we have talked with Mr. Ruffin two years in a row to set up a schedule for his crew and our crew to clean out the ditches while they are dry. Alderman Kennedy suggested getting help from the Corps of Engineers. Mayor Freeman stated that was a good idea and we would give them a call. Alderwoman Jackson stated the creek behind her house is not draining and it causes flooding and the mosquitoes are awful.
- 15. Animal Control:** Animal Control Officer Bobby Hughes did not attend the meeting
- 16. Water:** Water Superintendent Joshua Darden reported that HIS should be out of here by Thanksgiving; we are in the middle of the chlorine burnout; and been doing work at Patrick Lane; they took a training class given by TMB at the water plant; and the company should be out in a week or two to put the overflow pipe on our elevated tank. Mayor Freeman reported that Josh passed both of his Wastewater tests. Alderman Kennedy stated that he has a smell in his cold water in the mornings and asked when the last time the water hydrant at the end of Kenilworth was flushed. Mayor Freeman asked Mr. Darden to make sure it gets flushed. Mayor Freeman added that improvements and upgrades are being made to the water plant which should be completed sometime in October. Alderwoman Corley asked will the water tanks ever be painted in the near future to which Mayor Freeman replied that it costs \$142,000 and he plans on including that when he replaces the water lines. Alderwoman Darwin asked if we were still under a burn ban and she was told yes.

**17. Amendment: Review and Award Bid for Asphalt Millings at the Airport:** The only bid we received was from the Sabine Parish Police Jury at \$5.00 per cubic yard. Mayor Freeman stated this is a low number and he would like to check and see if the town can bid to use on our roads as a base. Motion was made to reject the bid and re-advertise by Corley; seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.

Next scheduled Regular Council Meeting is on October 15, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:23 p.m. was made by Corley and seconded by Jackson. Vote Unanimous.

---

KENNETH FREEMAN, MAYOR

---

AMIE BROWN, TOWN CLERK