

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 8, 2024

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall—13600 Aydell Lane on Monday, July 8, 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jimmy Watson, followed by prayer led by Councilman Richard Wales. Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, commenced with the roll call of the council members.

The following council members were present: David Clark, Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Milton-Major and Richard Wales.

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt/approve the minutes of the June 24, 2024 council meeting. There were no comments or objections.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to approve said minutes.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The City of Walker finance director, Mike Cotton, reviewed the May 2024 finance report before the council. He reported that sales tax increased by 5%. A gas revenue report was not available for the July meeting. Mr. Cotton reminded the council that gas revenue increased by 22% in June.

A motion was called by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Wales, to enter into a public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Clark presented the Ordinance for Annual Budget Amendment No. 4; Magnolia Dr. Canal Crossing Replacement.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Griffin, Ordinance 07-2024-01; Annual Budget Amendment No. 4, was approved.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

A motion was made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Cook, to close the public hearing.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, brought before the council the Resolution to Adopt the Community Development Block Grant (CDGB).

Upon a motion made by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Wales, the CDBG-DR Policies & Procedures Adoption resolution was approved as presented.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Watson called for a motion to lift the agenda for the Walker Police Department.

A motion was made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Cook, to lift the agenda to review the new hire candidates for part-time positions as dispatchers and administrative helpers.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief David Addison requested for the council's consideration the hiring of Inga Guitreau. Ms. Guitreau is an experienced dispatcher and has successfully gone through the application process at Walker Police Department.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Wales, Ms. Guitreau was approved for part-time employment.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Addison introduced dispatch candidate, Lindsey Lambert, before the members of the council. Ms. Lambert has prior dispatch experience and has gone through the application process.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Major, seconded by Mr. Clark, Ms. Lambert was approved for part-time employment.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Addison introduced dispatch candidate, Greenlee Hilton, before the members of the council. Ms. Hilton has successfully completed the application process.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, Ms. Hilton was approved for part-time employment.

YEAS: Clark, Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

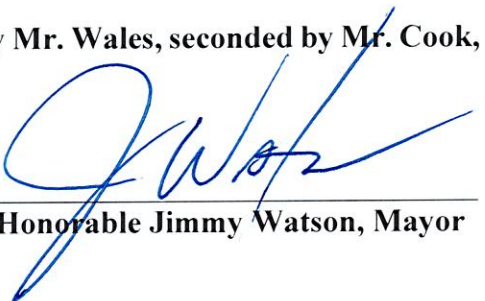
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Additional Comments

- ◆ Mayor Watson commented on the fireworks display and other fun activities held at Sidney Hutchinson Park on Saturday, June 29th celebrating the 4th of July.
- ◆ The Moving Vietnam Memorial—The Wall that Heals will be on display at Sidney Hutchinson Park September 12th – 15th, 2024. There are planned activities and observances for the duration of the three-day visit.
- ◆ The new pavilion is in the final stages of completion.
- ◆ The disc-golf course project will be underway soon. Over \$40,000 has been donated for this project that is sponsored by one the groups of the Chamber of Commerce 2024 Leadership Class.
- ◆ Mayor Watson recognized Tammy Payton as Walker’s newest graduate of the 2024 Chamber Leadership Class.
- ◆ Mayor Watson conducted an overview of City of Walker projects, grants and loans that the city plans to utilize for repairs and improvement. Approximately \$19 million in funding assistance has been awarded which will partially or completely cover the cost of ten projects.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn the July 8, 2024 council meeting.



The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk