

CITY OF PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA
PUBLIC HEARING & COUNCIL MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
November 12, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Mayor Joe Bishop and the Council of the City of Pineville, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 910 Main Street, Pineville, Louisiana

1. Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order.
2. Councilman Martin gave the invocation.
3. Councilman Dorn led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Roll Call Present: District 1 Vacant
 District 2 Councilman Kevin Dorn
 District 3 Councilwoman Christy Frederic
 District 4 Councilman Tom Bouchie
 District 5 Councilman Nathan Martin
 Absent: None
5. The floor was open for public comment on any agenda item and there were none.
- 6.. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2024, regular meeting as published. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to accept the minutes of the October 30, 2024, special meeting as published. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Dorn to accept the financial report as read by Finance Director, Mr. David Humphries. Mr. Humphries reported that both our sales tax and occupational license collections were up year-over-year; 5.43% and 15.71% respectively. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
9. Ms. Cindy Rushing, Rapides Parish School Board Early Childhood Director, gave a presentation on available scholarships for Rapides Parish residents/children age three and under. Her organization works with 35 childcare centers, and Head Start/Pre-K programs within Rapides Parish. They have a tuition assistance program through a State grant and partnerships with The Rapides Foundation, The Orchard Foundation, the Rotary Club of Alexandria, and the Rapides Parish School Board. The program offers assistance to families who cannot afford to pay for a quality early childhood education. Through grants and fundraising efforts, they raised \$4.7M to serve 300 to 350 children ages birth to three. Those scholarships are free to families who qualify. Visit www.rapidesearlychildhoodnetwork.com to submit an application online.
10. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to table the recognition of Captain Shane Kessler and Captain Michael Richard of the Pineville Fire Department for their life saving efforts on August 24, 2024, during a structure fire. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
11. CONDEMNATION HEARING for 2024-041, regarding the multi-family home near the corner of Bell Street and Mills Road, described as .56 AC IN SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST; 215' X 114', owned by Corine H. Roland ET AL, listed with the address of 116 Jo Ann Drive, Pineville, Louisiana 71360, according to the Rapides Parish Tax Assessor records. City Engineer, Mr. Tom David, reported this is a continuation of the request of the owner and no one representing the owner was in attendance. Mr. David stated the City received a letter from J Roland Enterprises outlining improvements to the property that have been made. Mr. David requested for another extension to be able to speak with the Rolands about the property.

At that time he can make a recommendation. However, if there is no representation, he will recommend the property be condemned because it is in bad condition. Mayor Bishop explained Mr. Roland has been in touch with the administration regarding the property and has filed for permits. It is believed our building inspector will be able to provide a report through the permitting process.

A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to grant an extension for this hearing to the December meeting. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

12. **ZONING COMMISSION REPORT:** Zoning Commissioner, Mr. David, stated that it is the Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve a petition for annexation of 0.97 acres of property located at 2514 Donahue Ferry Road, belonging to Darren and Mary Lee Green, Mr. David noted the petitioner requested to be zoned as R-1 (Residential) and the Commission has no objections. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to accept the recommendation. Councilman Bouchie stated that Mr. Green thought he was already in the City Limits, so this action will correct the record. Mayor Bishop emphasized this action will help to square up the City Limits along Donahue Ferry Road. No other comment was heard from the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea:	Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

13. **ZONING COMMISSION REPORT:** Regarding a petition for variance of setback requirements relative to property located at 230 Dillon Street, belonging to Inner-city Revitalization Corp. Mr. David stated it was the Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve this petition. He said the variance request is to reduce the setback requirements, for the lot on the corner of Dillon and Sanders Street, from 20' to 12'. Additionally, Mr. David pointed out during the Zoning Commission Meeting, it was discovered the entirety of the property along Dillon Street owned by Inner-city Revitalization Corp (which includes: 206 Dillon Street, 212 Dillon Street, 216 Dillon Street, 220 Dillon Street, 224 Dillon Street and 230 Dillon Street) is currently zoned as C-3 Commercial. With the petitioner's concurrence, the Zoning Commission would like to recommend correcting this by rezoning all the property to R-2 Residential.

A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Martin to accept the recommendation. Councilman Bouchie explained he is usually against a request for variance. However, he supports this because of the improvements to Dillon Street it will bring. Councilman Dorn applauded Inner-city Revitalization Corp for their efforts to develop affordable housing in wealthy challenged communities. Mayor Bishop expressed gratitude toward the corp. as well for purchasing the property and cleaning up the neighborhood. No other comment was heard from the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea:	Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

14. **ZONING COMMISSION REPORT:** Regarding a petition for variance of the Mobile Home Overlay Ordinance to allow for a mobile home to be placed on a lot located at 417 Hickory Street, belonging to Hernandez Homes LLC, and that mobile home be allowed to be older than 5-years of age. Mr. David reported the petitioner withdrew the petition during the Zoning Commission Meeting after some robust discussion. The petition highlighted some potential updates that may need to be made to our Ordinance. Therefore, there is no action needed.

15. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to adopt an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, by adding Chapter 6, Article III, Section 6-54, to establish a Community Cat Program. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea:	Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

16. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to nominate Councilwoman Frederic as the Interim Mayor Pro-Tempore to finish the term for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea: Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

17. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Dorn to approve a resolution to amend account information for accounts held by Red River Bank. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

18. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to nominate Mr. Randy G O'Neal for appointment as Interim District 1 Councilmember in accordance with La. R.S. 18:602. Councilman Martin expressed gratitude to the several individuals who were willing to serve. However, because of Mr. O'Neal's presence at meetings over the years and the fact that he is the originator of #pinevilleproud, he is excited to make the nomination. No other comment was heard by the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea: Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

-- Mayor Bishop "thanked" former Councilmember Mary Galloway for her many years of service to the citizens of Pineville and District 1.

-- Mr. O'Neal then came forward to be sworn in by City Judge, Gary Hays. After Councilman O'Neal was sworn in, he took his place on the dais.

19. A motion was made by Councilman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute any and all documents related to entering a lease-purchase agreement with Government Capital Corporation for the purpose of financing a license plate reader, vehicles, heavy equipment and other equipment. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

20. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with North Rapides Crime Stoppers, Inc. In response to a question from Councilman Dorn, Police Chief Darrel Basco reported the (North Rapides Crime Stoppers) Board is ready to begin expenditure of funds, as soon as the agreement is done and money is transferred. The Board has done a great job of ensuring steps have taken place to be ready in January. Mayor Bishop took this opportunity to reiterate that his office and the Council are looking forward to working Marshal Rachal, Judge Hays and their staff. Chief Basco then gave kudos to Judge Hays for conceiving the idea. He also recognized State Representative Mike Johnson who helped with getting some special legislation passed and signed by the Governor for this effort. Chief Basco explained this organization is independent from the Crim Stoppers across the river. No other comment was heard by the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

21. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Dorn to approve a resolution awarding the contract for AUXILIARY POWER (GENERATORS AND SWITCH GEAR IMPROVEMENTS AT PRIMARY WATER WELLS (LAKEVIEW STREET AND O'NEAL STREET) & BOOSTER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS (JANET DRIVE, LAKEVIEW STREET AND O'NEAL STREET) and authorizing the Mayor to execute contracts, change orders and other documents related to the project between the City of Pineville and the selected Bidder. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

22. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to approve a resolution declaring the following items in the Pineville Police Department as surplus for the purpose of selling, donating, auctioning or disposing of as necessary.

DEPT	NOMENCLATURE (MODEL)	SERIAL NO.
102	1ea iPad Pro (9.7 inch)	DMPTQ3RSGXPX
102	1ea iPad Air (ME991LL/A)	DMQLPMMYF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air 2 (MGH62LL/A)	DLXPW0S2G5WQ
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLR02SF4YD
102	1ea iPad Gen 4 (MD522LL/A)	DMPKH2G9F18P
102	1ea iPad Gen 4 (MD522LL/A)	DMPJKQ5XF18P
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRR1AF4YD)
102	1ea iPad Gen 4 (MD522LL/A)	DMPKH0T6F18P
102	1ea iPad Gen 4 (MD522LL/A)	DMQJM2E2F18P
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRKUXF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRJCSF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air 2 (MGH62LL/A)	DMPPJ6VPG5WQ
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRT89F4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRQNDF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLQH9GF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRCELF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLQH2BF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air 2 (MGH62LL/A)	DLXPW0ABG5WQ
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRLJVF4YD
102	1ea iPad Air (ME993LL/A)	DMPLRWB2F4YD

There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mayor Bishop opened the floor up for any other business to come before the Council, because we are about to enter Executive Session.

- Mr. Cornelius White, of 3638 10th Street, Alexandria, “thanked” our veterans for their service (since yesterday was Veterans Day). He also expressed gratitude to the Council for how citizens are respected during the meetings.
- Councilman Dorn remarked how former Councilwoman Galloway is a close friend. He will miss her sitting next to him on the Council, as they served together for 16-years, and really appreciates her. Councilman O’Neal has big shoes to fill.
- Council O’Neal expressed appreciation to former Councilwoman Galloway for her support in him filling her spot. He looks forward to learning a lot from her and “thanked” the Mayor and Council for their support as well. He is anxious to “hit the ground running.”

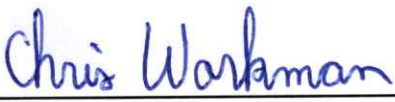
No further comments were heard.

23. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Bouchie at 7:00 p.m., to enter into an Executive Session to discuss the pending EEOC complaint filed by Brittany Poston. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

Yea: Councilpersons Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie, Martin
 Nay: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

-- Upon returning to the Council Chambers at 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Dorn to exit the Executive Session and reenter the Regular Council Meeting. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:
Yea: Councilpersons O'Neal, Dorn, Frederic, Bouchie
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Councilman Martin

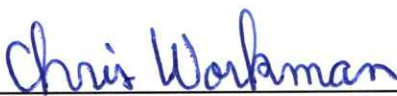
There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Dorn at 8:16 p.m. There was no Council discussion and the meeting was adjourned.


Chris Workman, City Clerk


Joe Bishop, Mayor

CERTIFICATE

I, Chris Workman, Clerk for the City of Pineville, Louisiana, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct record of the official action taken at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Pineville, Parish of Rapides, State of Louisiana, in legal session convened, on the 12th day of November, 2024.


Chris Workman, City Clerk