

CITY OF PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA
PUBLIC HEARING & COUNCIL MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
December 10, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Mayor Joe Bishop and the Council of the City of Pineville, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, December 10, 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 Bouchie gave the invocation.
3. Councilman O'Neal led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Roll Call
Present: District 1 Councilman Randy O'Neal
District 4 Councilman Tom Bouchie
District 5 Councilman Nathan Martin
Absent: District 2 Councilman Kevin Dorn
District 3 Councilwoman Christy Frederic
5. The floor was open for public comment on any agenda item and there were none.
- 6.. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2024, regular meeting as published. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
7. Finance Director, Mr. David Humphries, read the financial report. Mr. Humphries reported sales tax was up 3.45% for the month of November year-over-year. Mayor Bishop reminded the audience that our Fiscal Year closes out July 1 and we plan to have a mid-year budget review next month. There was no Council discussion.
8. Mayor Bishop recognized 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. Mayor Bishop presented them with a Pineville Proud Award.
9. 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 hearing; the third one for this property. Mr. David reported this property is severely dilapidated and has structural/foundation issues. He applauded the effort to clean up the exterior, but he does not feel it is a candidate for rehabilitation. Ms. Roland, James Roland's wife, was present. She was there to request the Council allow her family to renovate the house, because it has been family property for a long time. The family submitted a renovation proposal to the Council. Mr. David explained he does not believe the proposal is economically feasible. Mayor Bishop indicated that he received a call from the Rapides Parish Police Jury asking the City to submit four houses to them for a demolition grant. Ms. Roland was informed the house would be included in the submission. After the discussion, Mr. David, recommended the property be condemned, with the understanding it will be submitted to the Parish for the grant, and the property owner be given 30-days to voluntarily demolish and clear the property.

A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to accept the recommendation as stated. No other comment was heard from the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
10. CONDEMNATION HEARING for Case File 2024-043, regarding the single-family home on the lot at 1904 Military Highway, owned by Reagan Boyd Nugent ET AL, listed with the address of 1250 Dorchester Drive, Unit 118, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303, according to Rapides Parish Tax Assessor records. Mr. David reported the owner has voluntarily begun demolition and it is about 80% complete. He recommended we table the hearing for 60-days to give the family more time to clear the property due to

inclement weather. Then in 60-days we can terminate the hearing process if the structure is gone. The owner, Mr. Reagan Nugent, was present and concurred with the recommendation.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to table the hearing to the February Council meeting and seconded by Councilman O'Neal. No other comment was heard from the Council. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

11. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to call for a Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 4:30pm in the City Council Chambers. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

12. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve a resolution to appoint James Graham, representing the City of Pineville, as a commissioner on the Pineville Downtown Development District Board. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

13. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to approve a resolution to confirm the North Rapides Business & Industry Alliance reappointment of Mike Tudor as a commissioner on the Pineville Downtown Development District Board. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

14. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to approve a resolution to appoint Darrell Basco, representing the City of Pineville, as a commissioner on the Rapides Area Planning Commission Board. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

15. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to approve a resolution authorizing December 26, 2024, to be observed as an additional holiday for City employees. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

16. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to approve a resolution accepting the contract of Womack and Sons Construction Group, LLC, for the project entitled *SUSEK/PINEHURST DRIVE SEWER PUMP STATIONS AND FORCE MAIN UPGRADES* as "Substantially Completed." Mr. David explained this doesn't mean the job is 100 percent complete. This action starts the 45-day lien period once it is filed at the clerk of court. There are still some minor actions the contractor must complete. This is a \$2.6M project. No further comment was heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

17. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to authorize the Mayor to commit an additional \$300,000 toward the *HUFFMAN CREEK DRAINAGE PROJECT*. Mr. David explained this is an upgrade project to our pump station that drains about 250 acres of Downtown Pineville. This project has been out for bid twice and both times coming in over budget. We are now asking for an additional \$3.9M from the State and this action will show the State our commitment to this project and improve our chances for the grant money. We have been working (to fund) this project for 5-years, that if awarded, will give us over \$10.8M. In response to the question of where this additional money will come from, Mr. Humphries explained the money will come from issued Bonds. No further comment was heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

18. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to approve a resolution to authorize individuals to execute Request for Payments and other documents pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

19. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to introduce, accept for publication, and refer to zoning a petition of rezoning for 206 Dillon Street, 212 Dillon Street, 216 Dillon Street, 220 Dillon Street, 224 Dillon Street and 230 Dillon Street, owned by Inner-city Revitalization Corp., from C-3 Commercial to R-2 Residential. Mayor Bishop explained there will be new brick houses on these lots

and Councilman Martin expressed gratitude to Inner-city Revitalization Corp. No further comment was heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

20. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Article I, Section 6-11, Subparagraph (b), relative to sterilization of animals. Mayor Bishop explained these next four items on the agenda are all related to Animal Control receiving some funding. No further comment was heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

21. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Article I, Section 6-14, relative to current rabies tags. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

22. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Article II, Section 6-37, relative to the impoundment of dogs. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

23. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, to repeal and replace Chapter 6, Article III, Section 6-53, relative to felines or cats in public places. In response to a question, Councilman Martin explained the ordinances will be published in The Town Talk and on the City website. The draft ordinances are available for viewing in the City Clerk's Office and the Council Meeting packet is a public record that can be obtained. In response to another question, the City Clerk Chris Workman explained all adopted Ordinances are uploaded to MUNICODE and viewable online in a pending status until they are codified in the Summer of each year, at which time they are placed in the Code. He reiterated they are also available through the Clerk's Office at any time. No further comment was heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

-- Mayor Bishop then requested to add an item to the agenda that will authorize the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Pineville Downtown Development District. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to add the requested agenda item. There was no Council discussion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

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

24. A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman O'Neal to approve a resolution authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Pineville Downtown Development District. 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.

- Mr. Herman Odom, 1307 Jeanie Street, explained he has an ongoing issue with overgrowth that has caused him to almost be hit backing out of his driveway several times and with drainage being stopped up that causes flooding. Mayor Bishop assured Mr. Odom that himself and Mr. James Robertson, Public Works Director, will go visit with him tomorrow.
- Mr. Cornelius White, of 3638 10th Street, Alexandria, plugged the veterans organization that meets every second Monday of the month from 5-7 at the Martin Luther King Library in Alexandria. He "thanked" Mayor Bishop and Chief Operations Officer, Darrell Basco, for going on 970AM radio and to the Council for how citizens are respected during the meetings.
- Mayor Bishop reminded everyone the Christmas parade rolls down Main Street, from the levee flagpole to the College Blvd, at 7pm, Friday, December 13th...Main Street closes at 6:30pm.
- Councilman Bouchie announced the Grand Marshal for the parade is former Councilwoman, Mayor Pro Tempore and Interim Mayor, Mary Galloway. He also recognized her for being the first female Mayor of the City of Pineville.

- Councilman O'Neal wished the Alexandria High School football team the best in the State Championship.
- Mayor Bishop reminded everyone about Christmas in the Kees at Kees Park, inviting everyone to come and enjoy the experience and spend some time with Santa Clause between 5-8pm for pictures with children and pets. Santa will be there until December 23d.
- Mr. Basco reminded everyone about Wreaths Across America this Saturday, December 14th at 11am. They will be placing wreaths on the graves of the soldiers at the National Cemetery on Shamrock Street.
- Mayor Bishop ended the comments by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

No further comments were heard.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Bouchie at 6:53 p.m. There was no Council discussion and the meeting was adjourned.



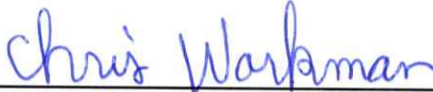
 Chris Workman, City Clerk



 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 10th day of December, 2024.



 Chris Workman, City Clerk