

CITY OF PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA
PUBLIC HEARING & COUNCIL MEETING
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
March 11, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Mayor Joe Bishop and the Council of the City of Pineville, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, beginning at 5:00 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. Councilwoman Frederic led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Roll Call
Present: District 2 Councilman Kevin Dorn
District 3 Councilwoman Christy Frederic
District 4 Councilman Tom Bouchie
District 5 Councilman Nathan Martin
Absent: District 1 Councilman Randy O'Neal None

5. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Bouchie to accept the minutes of the February 11, 2025, regular meeting as published. There were no comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

-- Mayor Bishop took the liberty to recognize Dr Mark Johnson, the newly elected President of Louisiana Christian University, who was in attendance and took to the podium. He also recognized Mr. Randy Wiggins, who was in attendance and is a candidate for the Rapides Parish Policy Jury District B seat. He thanked Pineville Marshal Murphy Rachal for attending as well.

6. The financial report was given by Finance Director, Mr. David Humphries. February sales tax was up year-over-year by 2.03% ... over \$26K. Occupational licenses were up over 18%, largely due to March 1st being the delinquent date. There were no further comments heard.

7. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance amending the budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and other matters with respect thereto. There were no comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to adopt an ordinance amending the budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and other matters with respect thereto. 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: Councilman O'Neal

8. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 28, Article I, Section 28-20, relative to Sanitation Service Charges--Schedule. There were no comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilman Martin to adopt an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 28, Article I, Section 28-20, relative to Sanitation Service Charges--Schedule. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Roll call was as follows:

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

9. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, by repealing Chapter 28, Article I, Section 28-23, relative to the rate for trash collection at housing authority. There were no comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Dorn to adopt an ordinance repealing Chapter 28, Article I, Section 28-23, relative to the rate for trash collection at housing authority. 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: Councilman O'Neal

10. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Section 40-42, 40-43, 40-44 and 40-45, to allow the Mayor, with written consent of the Council to be ratified at the following Council meeting, to determine the size of the increase or decrease of water rate adjustments, not to exceed the percentage rise or fall of the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI). City Attorney, Mark Vilar, indicated there is an error on the title of this Ordinance and requested the Council adopt the item with the amended title (they have) instead of what is written on the agenda. He assured the Council that the content of the Ordinance remains the same; only the title is incorrect. Mayor Bishop reminded those in attendance this ordinance provides for the authority to increase rates that are lower than the CPI. There were no further comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Sections 40-42, 40-43, 40-44 and 40-45, to allow the Council, by Resolution, to accept the recommendation of the Mayor regarding the size of the increase or decrease of water rate adjustments, not to exceed the percentage rise or fall of than annual Consumer Price Index. 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: Councilman O'Neal

11. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Section 40-46, 40-47, 40-48 and 40-49, to allow the Mayor, with written consent of the Council to be ratified at the following Council meeting, to determine the size of the increase or decrease of sewer rate adjustments, not to exceed the percentage rise or fall of the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI). City Attorney, Mark Vilar, indicated there is an error on the title of this Ordinance and requested the Council adopt the item with the amended title (they have) instead of what is written on the agenda. He assured the Council that the content of the Ordinance remains the same; only the title is incorrect. Mayor Bishop reminded those in attendance this ordinance provides for the authority to increase rates that are lower than the CPI. There were no further comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Martin to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Sections 40-46, 40-47, 40-48 and 40-49, to allow the Council, by Resolution, to accept the recommendation of the Mayor regarding the size of the increase or decrease of sewer rate adjustments, not to exceed the percentage rise or fall of than annual Consumer Price Index. 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: Councilman O'Neal

12. PUBLIC HEARING was held for the adoption of an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Section 40-52, relative to rate adjustments to water consumption charges for residential and commercial customers. Mr. Vilar indicated there have been some changes in the law since this was introduced last month. He requested the Council to hold this over for the next meeting to give him time for further review. There were no further comments heard.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Dorn to table an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 40, Article II, Section 40-52, relative to rate adjustments to water consumption charges for residential and commercial customers. 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: Councilman O'Neal

13. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to approve a resolution accepting the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Roy Fore to the position of Chief of Police. Mayor Bishop informed the audience that seven members of the Pineville Police Department took the test and they all passed. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

14. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Dorn to approve a resolution declaring the following items in the Animal Control, Fire, Public Works and Community Services Departments as surplus for the purpose of selling, donating, auctioning, or disposing of as necessary.

DEPT	NOMENCLATURE (MODEL)	SERIAL NO/VIN.
104	1ea 2013 Ford F150	VIN# 1FTMF1CM1DKE67099
105	1ea Husqvarna Riding Mower, Model YTH22V46	SER# 042214D032527
105	1ea Husqvarna Riding Mower, Model YTH22V46	SER# 042214D032522
105	1ea 2013 Ford Explorer	VIN# 1FM5K8AR8DGB15806
105	1ea 2007 Fire Safe Trailer	VIN# 1F9BD36247S217737
110	1ea Brother Printer, Model HL-L3290CDW	SER# U65177F2N824719
113	1ea 2011 Ford F150	VIN# 1FTMF1CMXBKD82355
114	1ea 2017 International 4300 Loader	VIN# 1HTMMMMN6HH490768
116	1ea 2018 Ford F150	VIN# 1FTEX1C59JFA08773
118	1ea Porta Potty Trailer	UNKNOWN

Mayor Bishop explained we are donating the Porta Potty Trailer to the Rapides Parish Sheriff's Department, who will make repairs and we can still utilize it. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

15. A motion was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to approve a resolution to accept the contract of Diamond B Construction Company, LLC, for the project entitle *RUNWAY REHABILITATION AT PINEVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT* as "Substantially Complete." City Engineer, Tom David, explained this has been a two-year process and the runway is expected to last for 20-years. The project cost about \$2M and all the money came from the State's Department of Aviation. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

16. A motion was made by Councilman Dorn and seconded by Councilwoman Frederic to approve a resolution to accept the contract of Central Electric Co. of Alexandria, Inc., for the project entitled *AUXILIARY POWER GENERATORS AND SWITCH GEAR IMPROVEMENTS AT PRIMARY WATER WELLS (CAPPELL STREET, LA HWY 107, JANET DRIVE AND PAPERMILL ROAD)* as "Substantially Complete." Mr. David explained the City received a compliance order from the State to have these auxiliary power generators installed and now we are well prepared for outages with generators on 6-7 wells. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

17. A motion was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Martin to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance to amend and modify the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 38, Article VI, Section 38-162, relative to vehicle speed limits including all school zones and an exception for Pineville High. Mayor Bishop explained this is to allow the speed limit for the Pineville High School Zone to be increased to 20 miles per hour, due to the hill on Claiborne Street. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

18. A motion was made by Councilwoman Frederic and seconded by Councilman Dorn to introduce and accept for publication an ordinance renewing the franchise agreement granting to ATMOS Energy Corporation (a Texas and Virginia corporation with its principal office in the municipality of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas) and its successors and assigns the franchise and rights to conduct in such municipality the business of acquiring, maintaining, constructing, laying, repairing, removing, replacing, installing, operating, and disposing of a gas system for the sale, transportation, and distribution of natural gas within and beyond the municipal boundaries of the municipality and to the residents and businesses located therein for light, heat, power, and any other purposes and the right to use the present and future streets, roads, highways, alleys, bridges, public ways, and immovable property in such municipality and owned or controlled by such municipality for such purposes; prescribing the terms and conditions to which such franchise and rights are subject; and prescribing the term of such franchise and rights. Mayor Bishop explained this is just to renew the Franchise Agreement with ATMOS Energy, which is at 4%. There were no further comments heard. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mayor Bishop opened the floor up for any other business to come before the Council. Councilman Bouchie and Dorn "thanked" all the City employees for their hard work in putting on the Mardi Gras Parade and the Mardi Gras on the Red celebration. On a personal note, Councilman Dorn expressed appreciation to Pineville First Responders. Mayor Bishop also "thanked" City employees for their hard work serving the citizens of Pineville. He let attendees know that we recently placed picnic tables and BBQ pits at the riverfront flag pole for folks to enjoy themselves by the river. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bouchie and seconded by Councilman Martin at 5:29 p.m. Councilman Dorn prayed the benediction.



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 11th day of March, 2025.



Chris Workman, City Clerk