

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council Members of the City of St. George,
State of Louisiana, held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 5:00 pm at the
St. George City Hall, 14100 Airline Hwy, St. George, LA 70817**

I. Preliminary Business:

1. Call to Order: Mayor Yates called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
Mayor Yates led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call:

Present: Council Member Monachello, Council Member Cook, Council Member Edmonds, Council Member Himmel, Council Member Heck

Absent: None

3. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Council Member Himmel, seconded by Council Member Cook to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024 Council Meeting.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

4. Program Director Scot Byrd presented a report summarizing IBTS services for the City of St. George for October, November and December 2024.

II. The following Ordinances were introduced for Public Hearing and Final Vote to be held on January 28, 2025:

1. To enact Title 2, Chapters 1-6 relative to streets, alleys, sidewalks, and right of ways and to provide for related matters by Council Member Monachello.

2. To enact Title 9, Chapter 1, Section 5 to provide relative to occupational license tax for veteran-owned businesses and to provide for related matters by Council Member Himmel.

3. To levy the 2% sales and use tax upon the sale at retail, use, lease or rental, consumption, and storage for use or consumption, of tangible personal property and upon the sale of services and for the assessment, collection, payment thereof and dedication of proceeds and purposes for which proceeds may be expended, as authorized at the December 7, 2024 election and to provide for related matters by Council Member Heck.

III. The following Ordinances were introduced for Public Hearing and Final Vote to be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 for Zoning Cases:

1. CU24-02 Conditional Use Permit (10051 Siegen Lane)

An Ordinance to grant a Conditional use permit for construction and operation of a new building and additional parking on 3.13-acres in R (Rural), A2 (Single Family Residential) and A2.1 (Zero Lot Line Residential) with an existing religious institution. (**Applicant:** MR Engineering & Surveying for Acacia Church)

2. Z24-02 R and C2 to HC1 or HC2 (16251 Perkins Road)

An Ordinance to rezone a 6.81-acre parcel from R (Rural) and C2 (Heavy Commercial) to HC1 (Heavy Commercial One) for construction and maintenance of new Commercial Buildings.

(**Applicant:** Picou Brothers Construction Company for New Land Holdings)

IV. New Business, items for Public Hearing and Action:

1. Motion by Council Member Himmel, seconded by Council Member Edmonds to reorder the agenda to take item #6, to set the annual compensation for City officials and to provide for related matters, out of order.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

Public comment was opened for the ordinance.

The following citizens were not in favor of the ordinance:

Chris Rials, Valerie Gibson, Scott Bergeron, Shaun Wyche, Perry Tate, Leslie Davis, Frank Koch, Dustin Booley, Pennie May Landry, David Madaffari, Wendy French, Lewis Richerson,

The following citizens were in favor of the ordinance:

Josh Hoffpauir, Gerry Tarleton, David Madaffari, Norman Browning, Alan Breazeale.

Public comment cards were received from the following who did not wish to speak:

Ann Bergeron, Chuck Lawman, Eileen Stradley and Juliette Daulerive

Motion by Council Member Heck, seconded by Council Member Monachello to amend the ordinance introduced December 10th, 2024 to set the annual compensation for City officials and provide for related matters by adding an annual salary for the City Clerk of \$24,000 to be effective immediately and retroactive to their hire date.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

Motion by Council Member Cook, seconded by Council Member Monachello, for a second amendment to the proposed ordinance to reduce the salary of mayor to \$160,000, reduce the salaries of council members to \$36,000, set the police chief salary at \$140,000 and provide for a 2% cost of living increase each year for current office holders, with salary reset to the original amounts for new office holders.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel

NAYS: Heck, Edmonds

The vote on the amendments to the Ordinance to set the salaries for City officials was recalled to receive public comment on the amendments.

Public comment was opened on the first amendment to add an annual salary for the City Clerk. No comments were made on the amendment for annual compensation for the City Clerk for fiscal year 2024-2025, retroactive to their hire date.

Mayor Yates called for a vote first amendment that was motioned by Council Member Heck.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

Public comment was opened up again for the second amendment by Council Member Cook and the following citizens spoke against the ordinance: Michael Barrett, Shaun Wyche, Chris Rials, Pennie May Landry, Wendy French, Michael Wallace, Valerie Gibson and Michael Lala.

Mayor Yates called for a vote on the second amendment motioned by Council Member Cook.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel

NAYS: Heck, Edmonds

Motion by Council Member Heck, seconded by Council Member Monachello to approve the ordinance setting the salaries of City officials with the aforementioned two amendments.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel

NAYS: Heck, Edmonds

2. Motion by Council Member Edmonds, seconded by Council Member Himmel to reappoint Chris Rosenthal to the St. George Fire Protection District.

A public comment period was opened and no one elected to speak.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

3. A State of Louisiana flag was donated by Glen Duncan with Providence Engineering to the City of St. George.

4. Mayor Yates announced appointments for committee with Council Member Cook as chair, Council Member Monachello as co-chair, and three residents of St. George-Joey Coco, Rusty Schultz and Chad Roberson.

5. Chief Schultz reported on Hazard Mitigation Plan, recommending a contract with Metric Consulting.

A public comment period was opened and an unidentified citizen asked a question about insurance rates and Alan Carr asked a question about incident command.

Motion by Council Member Heck, seconded by Council Member Monachello to approve the resolution to approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan and provide for related matters.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

5. Motion by Council Member Heck, seconded by Council Member Himmel to extend the contracts with IBTS through June 30, 2025 and to provide for related matters.

A public comment period was opened and no one elected to speak.

AYES: Monachello, Cook, Himmel, Edmonds, Heck

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Meeting minutes were approved on January 28, 2025



Dustin Yates, Mayor

Attest:



Lorraine Beaman, City Clerk