**MINUTES**

**FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 22, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Mandeville City Council was called to order by the Council Chairman at 6:03 p.m. followed by roll call.

**ROLL CALL - present:** Jason Zuckerman, Scott Discon, Cynthia Strong-Thompson, Kevin Vogeltanz, Jill McGuire

**Absent:** None

**Also present:** Clay Madden, Mayor; Keith LaGrange, Public Works Director; Jessica Farno, Finance Director; Cara Bartholomew, Planning Director; Elizabeth Sconzert, City Attorney; Joanna Anderson, Human Resources Director; Alia Casborne, Cultural Affairs Director; David LeBreton, City Engineer

**MINUTES:**

Adoption of the August 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Strong-Thompson and seconded by Mr. Zuckerman. With no further comment a vote was taken and the minutes were adopted unanimously.

**REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Madden said they are entering the time of year where the events start coming fast. The first trailhead concert is September 27th. There will be an amazing fall schedule for events, and he will announce them as they get closer. The trailhead market is open 9:00am – 1:00pm every Saturday.

Mr. Discon said that the Mandeville City Council seeks to appoint a commissioner to Fire Board District #4. Candidates interested in being considered for this appointment should submit a letter of consideration and/or a resume to the City Council Clerk by Friday September 6, 2024. This is a two-year term.

Mayor Madden said this is due to someone on the board resigning. They will make the official appointment at a later meeting.

Mayor Madden presented a proclamation to Juan Ambert and recognized his nomination for the Louisiana Rural Water Association, Water System Operations Specialist of the Year.

Ms. McGuire thanked him for his service and appreciated his work.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**1. Adoption of Resolution 24-47; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE RECALLING RESOLUTION 24-38 TO BE REPLACED WITH RESOLUTION 24-47 AND ENDORSING THE APPLICATION OF LISA KEIFFER, LLC FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE RESTORATION TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION PROJECT ID 20220545-RTA. (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson.

Ms. McGuire said she spoke with Ms. Bartholomew, and this was due to the advertising requirements.

Ms. Bartholomew said they had to advertise three times in the Farmer.

Ms. McGuire said it was the same application previously. Ms. Bartholomew said that was correct.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS:**

**1. Amendment to the Approved Special Event Permit and Liquor License Application for Hola Northshore – “Hispanic Heritage Festival” event to be held on September 21, 2024, from 3:00pm – 9:00pm. Location: Mandeville Trailhead, Mandeville, LA, to include a rain date of September 22, 2024 (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson

Ms. McGuire said this was already an approved event, and this was just to add a rain date.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment to the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**2. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application St. Tammany Fire District #4 – “Mandeville Fire/EMS Firefighter Challenge” event to be held on September 7, 2024, from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Mandeville Harbor, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: MPD Map & Detail, and Food & Drink Ordinance Lifted on the Lakefront, contingent upon Certificate of Insurance, MPD Map & Detail Approval, and Coordination with Police for Barricade Pickup (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson.

Representative from Fire District 4: This is the first one. They were approached by Safe Harbor as a fundraiser, so they came up with this challenge. They are combining this with their fall safety series. There will be a kids challenge that will mimic what the firefighters are doing.

Ms. McGuire said that sounds great and thinks it will be a great event. Ms. McGuire asked if this had anything to do with Fire Safety Month. The rep said it did not, it was a separate thing.

Ms. McGuire asked if this was benefitting safe harbor, the rep said it was.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**3. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application for Fontainebleau High School– “Fontainebleau High Homecoming Parade” event to be held on September 11, 2024, from 5:00pm – 8:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Lakeshore Drive and the Mandeville Trailhead, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: MPD Map & Detail Approval, contingent upon Certificate of Insurance, MPD Map & Detail Approval, and Trailhead Cleanup Plan (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Vogeltanz

Ms. McGuire said this is the second year this is happening.

Tina Rhinehart: This is the second year doing the parade. They are hoping to include more people and establish this as a tradition for Fontainebleau Highschool.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**4. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application and Liquor License Application for City of Mandeville – “Mandeville Live! Free Fridays” event to be held every Friday from September 27, 2024 – November 1, 2024, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Mandeville Trailhead – 675 Lafitte Street, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Permission to apply for ATC Permit, contingent upon ATC Permit (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson

Ms. McGuire said these were the City concerts in the Fall.

Ms. Casborne said there will be a nice lineup.

Ms. Strong-Thompson read the lineup.

Mayor Madden wanted to give a shoutout to his mother and father, Deacon John played at their wedding and will be playing at the trailhead on his mother’s birthday.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**5. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application and Liquor License Application for City of Mandeville – “Sunset Symphony – An Evening with the LPO” event to be held on October 19, 2024, from 5:30pm – 8:00pm. Rain Date: October 20,2024. Location: Lakeshore Drive – Between Coffee & Carroll Streets, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Permission to apply for ATC Permit, and Food & Drink Ordinance Lifted on the Lakefront, contingent upon ATC Permit (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Vogeltanz.

Ms. McGuire said this happens every year and is spectacular.

Ms. Casborne said they will open up with the Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestra and then the LPO will follow.

Mr. Vogeltanz said this is his family’s favorite event and wanted to thank the special event department for putting it on.

Mr. Discon asked what the theme would be, Ms. Casborne said once she gets it she will send it out.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**6. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application for CBIB - Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies – “Oktoberfest Cruising for a Cause” event to be held on October 20, 2024, from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: 140 Jackson Avenue, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Council Approval of Map, and Food & Drink Ordinance Lifted on the Lakefront, contingent upon MPD Detail Approval, Coordination with Police for Barricades, and Certificate of Insurance (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Vogeltanz

Lise Naccari, Founder of CBIB: They have had other events, but never outdoors. The last event was a gala in 2017.

Ms. McGuire said this would be by the Yacht Club, Ms. Naccari said that was correct.

Ms. McGuire asked if it would be a car show, Ms. Naccari said it would be.

Ms. Strong-Thompson asked if they would only be blocking off the small area to the Lake. Ms. Naccari said that was correct.

Ms. McGuire said the gazebo was by Jackson Avenue.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**7. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application and Liquor License Application for Mande Milkshakers – “Walk a Mile Mandeville” event to be held on October 27, 2024, from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Lakeshore Drive and the Mandeville Trailhead, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: MPD Map & Detail Approval, and Permission to apply for ATC Permit, contingent upon Certificate of Insurance, MPD Map & Detail Approval, ATC Permit, and Trailhead Cleanup Plan (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson

Ms. McGuire said this was another great event, and for a good cause.

Tina Rhinehart: This is the fifth year doing this event. The idea is to walk a mile in her shoes, down the Lakefront at sunset. There will be a party at the trailhead after and all the money will be donated to Safe Harbor.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**8. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application and Liquor License Application for Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church – “Festival of the Lake” event to be held on November 1, 2024, from 5:00pm – 10:00pm, November 2, 2024, from 11:00am – 10:00pm, and November 3, 2024, from 12:00pm – 6:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: 312 Lafitte Street, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Permission to apply for ATC Permit, and MPD Map & Detail Approval, contingent upon ATC Permit, Certificate of Insurance, MPD Map & Detail Approval, and dumpster on site for cleanup (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson

Ms. McGuire said this is her family’s favorite event. It is a great event that happens every year.

Father Doug Busch: This is the 42nd event, they have been doing this since 1982. There will be a number of bands and will be asking the Mayor to be there to open them up. There will also be food, crafts, and raffles.

Mr. Vogeltanz said the Sunset Symphony was his favorite Lakefront event, but this is their overall favorite event. He will be managing the roulette wheel if anyone wants to come out.

Mayor Madden said he will be there to open the event; it is one of his favorite events. It is a great event.

Mr. Zuckerman said he is excited for the event as well.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**9. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application for Mandeville Elementary School PTA – “Adventure Fest/Fun Run” event to be held on November 2, 2024, from 8:30am – 2:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Mandeville Elementary School, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Council Map Approval, contingent upon Council Map Approval (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Vogeltanz

Ms. McGuire said this is another great event.

Brittany Rouse: There will be a petting zoo, inflatables, the jail, a DJ, and a photo booth.

Ms. McGuire said the fun run would be beforehand. Ms. Rouse said that was correct.

Mayor Madden said it was a real fun event.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**10. Approval of the Special Event Permit Application and Liquor License Application for Mande Milkshakers – “Merry Mande Holiday Tea” event to be held on December 1, 2024, from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. Rain Date: N/A. Location: Mandeville Trailhead – 675 Lafitte Street, Mandeville, LA. Approval requests: Permission to apply for ATC Permit, contingent upon Certificate of Insurance, ATC Permit, and Trailhead Cleanup Plan (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Vogeltanz

Tina Rhinehart: This is the fourth year doing this. They invite children and parents to come, it is three hours with a three-course tea and entertainment provided. All of the proceeds will go to Angels Place.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the special event was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Ms. Farno said this would be the financial statements for the 11-month period ending July 31st, 2024. For the governmental funds the fiscal year to date revenue collected is $28.6 million which is 56% of the 2024 budget. Sales tax collections for the fiscal year to date $19.9 million, 87% of the budget for overall collections. This is $10.8 thousand less than the fiscal year to date collections for 2023.

The operating expenditures incurred to date for fiscal year 2024 total $19.1 million, 92% of the operating expenditure budget. Capital outlay to date is $7.1 million and is 125% of the capital outlay budget.

For the enterprise fund, the enterprise revenue for the fiscal year to date $4.3 million, 101.6% of the budget.

The operating expenses occurred to date during the fiscal year 2024 total $3.8 million, which is 92% excluding depreciation.

Capital outlay to date is $2.1 million, 36% of the of the capital outlay budget.

The city has 114 active employees, and they are always working to fill vacant positions.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: She could not find a copy of this online, where can they find it. Ms. Strong-Thompson said it is on the website. If you go to the finance department page it is on there.

Ms. St. Romain said you do not get the options on the phone. Ms. Strong-Thompson said if you cannot find something on your phone, use the computer.

Ms. St. Romain asked what the total current fiscal year budget. Mayor Madden asked if she was asking about the one they were in, or the one they were passing. Ms. St. Romain said both. Mayor Madden said the finance report was just given for the one they were in.

Ms. St. Romain said she did not see a total budget. Ms. Farno said the information was available online.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**2. Adoption of Ordinance 24-22; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS RELATIVE TO AND FOR ADOPTION OF THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; AND TO ESTABLISH THE ADMINISTRATION OF EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS. (Councilman Zuckerman, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked someone could walk through what the highlighting is on the paper they received today. Ms. Farno said the highlights are the numbers that were changed from the sheet prepared on July 18th.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said that the changes they had been writing down were now being reflected under the highlighted areas. Ms. Farno said that is correct.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if the red highlights meant an additional debit to the budget and the green highlights a credit to the budget. Ms. Farno said that she was just marking corrections, and not adjustments. Nothing in green will affect fiscal year 2025 numbers, they were just corrections related to the 2024 budget.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if the red highlights were material changes for the 2025 budget. Ms. Farno said they were suggestions either presented by the council or the city. There were some for the police department and some modifications to the transfers from the sales tax funds.

Ms. McGuire said in the packet they are talking about the operating budget, and it looks like what was given to them is strictly capital changes, Ms. Strong-Thompson said to keep digging. Ms. McGuire asked where the operating stopped. Ms. Farno said there were no changes to revenues.

Ms. McGuire asked if operating started with ad valorum taxes or salaries. Ms. Farno said that ad valorum changes were part of that but there were no changes so they could start with salaries.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said that part of the changes was that some overtime for the police was left off. However, it was brought to the attention of the council that Mr. Vogeltanz wanted to make a change to the salary of the Mayor. Her biggest concern is that this was at the last hour it was done last night, and they were not able to fully review what was going on. She has issues with that as this is important. She is not denying that maybe the mayor needs a raise, but she does not like how it was done.

Currently looking at the 2025 budget there was going to be a 2.46% raise for the Mayor for complete compensation. Mr. Vogeltanz asked for a $40,000 raise to salary alone, and she did some math and she came up with 20% and some other people came up with 25% - 28% of an increase and she thinks they should discuss this at a separate meeting and this be removed from the budget tonight.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked how the procedure would be for the amendments that were suggested but not made during the workshops.

Mr. Zuckerman said one way to do it would be to go through the list of items and just vote on them. Mr. Vogeltanz said that may be the fairest to the audience.

Ms. McGuire asked if they had the sheet that listed out the salaries.

Mr. Zuckerman said that what was provided this evening was a line-by-line highlight of the changes to the budget so they could take each highlighted item and vote on them.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to make an amendment to Ordinance 24-22 by increasing the total salary of the Mayor as depicted in Exhibit D and line item 10100.40000 to $140,000 a year. Mr. Zuckerman seconded the motion.

Mr. Vogeltanz said that he spent 11 minutes talking about it last night. The points he made yesterday are the points he will make tonight. If you believe that Mandeville is the best lakefront residential community in Louisiana and you like the way it is governed, then they have to pay the CEO a salary that is commensurate with the level of work they expect the CEO to do. He thinks that the current mayor has done an excellent job, but he is looking forward and to continue to recruit the best people to run, they need to pay a market rate. He worries that $105,000 will be a problem. If the council would approve this increase, he would not be the highest paid mayor in the parish or employee of the City.

Mr. Zuckerman said he agreed with the points made by Mr. Vogeltanz.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said that Parish President Cooper is the President over a parish of 380,000 people, and his salary is $177,800. His total compensation is $227,000. Mark Johnson, the Mayor of Covington has a salary of $90,669 with a total compensation of about $130,000 - $140,000. The mayor of Hammond is paid $75,500 with a total compensation of $113,389. She gets back that they were blindsided by this at the last minute with no true comparisons.

They did pass an ordinance that allows them to look at this yearly and to change it during the term. The council cannot change their compensation package until 90 days before the signup of the next election. She does agree that costs are increasing and doing a different compensation than the 2.46% may be something they want to do, but this large of an increase may not be appropriate when they are talking about letting the employees cover some of the expenses that the City is currently covering as the City currently pays for the employee and employer portion of the retirement, along with the different medical and dental packages. She would rather call for a separate meeting for this.

Mr. Vogeltanz said the reason he offered this amendment now is that an ordinance was passed that provides if the salary of the mayor is being altered it has to be done through the budget and they are in the budget right now. The mayor is the 11th highest paid person, and he worries where it puts the City down the road.

Mr. Zuckerman said he did not feel blindsided, he has been following this issue since the council before the last council when they decided to lower the salary of the mayor in 2019. He thinks this is the right thing to do.

Ms. McGuire said she is not opposed to the mayor receiving a salary increase and he should not be number eleven on the pay scale, but it is quite a jump, and she does not know how they justify it. She thinks it should be in the ballpark of 10% rather than the 20% or 25% that is being proposed.

Mr. Discon agreed with Ms. McGuire in that this may be too aggressive in one jump. Ms. McGuire said that if they did 10% it would be an increase of $10,588 which would bring it to $116,468 which would be in line with the mayor of Kenner. She would like to see him in the top five.

Mr. Vogeltanz said the top five wages were the Public Works Director at $141,978, the Assistant Chief at $130,707, the Police Chief at $120,740, the Finance Director at $120,000 and Captain at $117,957. If the mayor was the fifth highest paid, he would be making $118,000. Ms. McGuire said she would be ok with that. Mr. Discon agreed.

Mr. Zuckerman asked why the mayor should be the fifth highest paid person. There is a reason the other directors are paid those salaries, as that is what the market is for people in those positions. Striving to match Kenner is not something Mandeville should strive for; they can do better. The mayor has been underpaid due to the council decision in 2019.

Ms. McGuire said she is not going to compare the mayor to the police chief in our own municipality. They should look at other what other cities pay their mayor. She believes what she is proposing is more than generous considering Kenner is paying their mayor similar and their population is five times that of Mandeville. She does not know when the $140,000 amount came from.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said they need to review it based on other mayors, what they are doing, and the size of their city. Pulling numbers out last minute is inappropriate.

Mr. Zuckerman said if someone wants to amend the proposed amendment made by Mr. Vogeltanz, they could make a motion so that they can at least vote on that and move the discussion forward.

Ms. McGuire moved to amend the amendment made by Mr. Vogeltanz from $140,000 to $118,000. Mr. Discon seconded.

Rick Denny, 536 Lafitte: This is too quick to do this. He agrees that they can look down the road. Taking this slower is the right way to do it.

Jeff Lyons, 515 Lamarque: He agrees with Ms. Strong-Thompson. They are forgetting about the citizens. This is an elected position. His position is that no elected official should get a raise during their term. The pay does need to go up, but this is not the way to handle this. The person who orchestrated the revision was the Mayor when he was on the city council and eliminated competition when he ran. This position should not get a raise until three years from now. This is not fair to the employees when they are talking about cutting benefits. A raise should not be given, and it does not have to be done tonight.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Is the mayor a vested position where you get retirement when you leave. Mr. Vogeltanz said if you are a one term you would not have enough time to vest, and depending on the plan you may not have enough time to vest if you were a two-term mayor.

Ms. St. Romain asked if the raise was based on inflation, merit, or the surrounding region as it is a 22% increase.

Mr. Vogeltanz said the previous mayor was making $115,000 before it was lowered. The current mayor should be making at least that due to the reasons stated by Ms. St. Romain. It also seemed unusual to pay so many city employees more than the mayor. He had to pick a number, and the $140,000 is just shy of the Sidell mayor, who is the highest paid mayor in St. Tammany, and it is just shy of the highest paid city employee. This was a level that was commensurate of his responsibilities.

Ms. St. Romain said the upcoming items are going to be tax and millage increases for the citizens, which should be taken into consideration. Mr. Zuckerman said there is no increase in taxes proposed for any of those ordinances. Ms. Strong-Thompson said to keep the discussion to the topic at hand.

Ms. St. Romain said that in addition to the salary increase they were looking at a 25% property tax and millage increase.

Nicole Stanley, 154 Cindy Lou: Mandeville does not have the crime of Slidell or Kenner and has higher property values of either. Kenner has a population of about 64,000 and Mandeville has about 15,000. It is not fair to make those comparisons, and the mayor is deserving of a raise.

Ms. McGuire said the mayor of Kenner makes $115,000 and presides over 60,000 residents. Ms. Stanley said they do not have the crime or public-school issues like in Kenner. Mandeville is the prize for schools. A large portion of this is due to the Mayor. He has done a great job maintaining the small community and allowing growth. He deserves a raise.

Ms. McGuire said that is what her amendment does. There are bigger issues in bigger towns.

Ms. Stanley said he deserves appreciation for what he has done.

Mr. Zuckerman said going back to 2019, the salary was $115,000. Applying 2.5% per year would bring him up to $130,000.

Mr. Discon said he appreciated that, but they need to look at the whole picture. This is a big percentage to jump in one decision and he feels like it could set a precedent for other salaries. You could make the argument that the council clerk deserved a raise, did not get one, and left. He does not disagree that he does not need a raise, but they just started six weeks ago. He would like to take it slower.

Ms. Strong-Thompson asked what the original amendment was for. Ms. McGuire said it was for $118,000. Ms. Strong-Thompson said the total compensation package would be $181,359 excluding FICA if they give him the $118,000. She does think this should be a separate meeting.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to call the question on the motion to amend. Mr. Zuckerman seconded the motion. Ms. McGuire asked what they were voting on, Mr. Vogeltanz said they were voting on ending the debate and moving forward with the motion, and the vote must be unanimous to do so.

Ms. Myers called the roll and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Myers called the roll for the amendment to the motion which passed 3-2 with council members Zuckerman and Vogeltanz voting against.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to call the question on his amendment to amend the budget to have the salary of the mayor increased to $118,000. Mr. Zuckerman seconded the motion.

Ms. McGuire said she thought this passed. Ms. Sconzert said that was just on the amendment to the amendment. They now need to vote to include it in Exhibit D.

A member of the public voiced that there had not been public comment on the original amendment yet and State Law requires it. Mr. Vogeltanz said he should be ruled out of order and withdrew his motion.

Ms. Sconzert said the public comment would be on making the amendment to Exhibit D to incorporate some type of raise. The type of raise which has been proposed is $118,000. They are discussing a raise, but specifically of $118,000.

Jeff Lyons, 515 Lamarque: He does not think it is fair or right to give a raise during a term.

Becky Rohrbough, 2525 Lakeshore: There are directors making $110,000 while the mayor is making $109,000. There is a discrepancy. It is time to look at where they are today. The mayor is performing a task and is underpaid. She finds the $118,000 acceptable.

Mr. Vogeltanz said any raise is better than no raise. He thinks the position deserves more, but the $118,000 is good for today.

Mr. Zuckerman wanted to reiterate that applying a 2.5% COLA would bring the previous salary at $130,000.

Mr. Discon said the mayor does deserve a raise, but he is elected to represent the public and unfortunately did not receive any positive input on raises. He does disagree with the comments saying to give nothing.

Ms. McGuire agreed that the Mayor has done a phenomenal job. She sees this as a brand new term. He has gotten COLA raises, but not a raise raise. She is having a hard time with the $140,000 and this is a good compromise.

With no further comment a vote was taken on the amendment to raise the salary of the Mayor to $118,000 which passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Vogeltanz said he had three other amendments and asked if there was a format to tackle them.

Mayor Madden said that a sheet was passed out which is what Ms. Sides was working off of, and a decent way of tackling them would be to go one by one.

Mr. Zuckerman moved to amend line item 100.21.001 of Exhibit A, the Lakefront Wetlands Restoration, to add $1,000,000 to the fiscal year 2025 budget request. Ms. Strong-Thompson seconded the motion.

Mr. Zuckerman said there was throughout discussion during the budget hearings. Mr. Discon said this is a great project and has had constituents request this and he supports it.

Mr. Zuckerman said he is excited to see this project get moving.

Jeff Lyons, 515 Lamarque: A study was done on the berm, and does it go to Carondelet Street? Mr. LaGrange said it has been amended since then. Mr. Lyons asked if there was a plan to use the $1,000,000 for construction. Mr. LaGrange said it would be just for the berm. Mr. Lyons said it was a good project.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said the next line item was 100.21.002 of Exhibit A, Harbor Field Upgrades. The prior year appropriation was $902,664. Ms. Farno said these were corrections made by Ms. Sides for prior year numbers that were inaccurate.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved. Ms. McGuire seconded.

With no further comment a vote was taken and it was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said the next item is 100.22.008, Land Acquisition. This is $200,000 carried over to the General Fund column and is another correction.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved, and Mr. Vogeltanz seconded.

Ms. Farno said there was an error on the spreadsheet with the number not carried over.

Ms. McGuire asked if she wanted something assigned, if she did that now. Mayor Madden said she did.

Mayor Madden asked if Ms. McGuire could make a substitute amendment. Ms. Sconzert said the amendment on the floor is to correct an error if the amendment gets changed the correction will not occur. Ms. Strong-Thompson said they can move it to the right column first and then do the amendment.

Mr. Zuckerman said they are making amendments to the capital budget and are on the operating budget. They have not brought the capital budget to the floor.

Mr. Discon said they will move on to Exhibit B. Ms. Strong-Thompson said they were correcting a clerical error and thought they should move forward with the votes. Ms. McGuire said they could not, as the ordinance had not been brought to the floor yet.

Mayor Madden said that the first group under Exhibit B could be taken together and then go line by line. They could do them in globo.

Ms. McGuire moved and Mr. Zuckerman seconded.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said they went through them extensively in the budget meetings. Mr. Zuckerman said he had no issues.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Was there still a dedicated employee to look for grants. Mr. Discon said they did not have a dedicated grant writer, but the Mayors Assistant was multitasking.

Mr. Discon said the next item is the four corners.

Ms. Bartholomew said the Girod St. project should be landscaping and lighting.

Mr. Discon asked which one was for the underpass. Ms. Bartholomew said that was already in.

Mr. Discon said the Monroe St. Traffic Study was $128,739. Ms. Bartholomew said that was for the traffic study from Girod St. to the Causeway.

Mr. LeBreton said it was the stretch of Monroe to Causeway to the east. Ms. McGuire asked if it went to Lamarque where it dead ends. Mr. LeBreton said that is correct.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved, and Mr. Zuckerman seconded.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: What is the detail of the traffic study. Mr. LeBreton said that it was a professional services agreement that the last council passed. They are doing traffic counts along the Monroe corridor. It also includes E Causeway and the Causeway offramps.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to amend Exhibit B, line item 10100.41300 Legal Fees, to allocate an additional $250,000 to the line item and to designate and restrict these funds to be solely for legal work and cost associated with the City obtaining title, servitude, or right of access to that certain piece of property located in the southern portion of Old Golden Shores neighborhood, otherwise known as the Briggs property, on or under which the City’s current outfall drainage pipe is located in furtherance of the City contemplating the work being done in line item 700.23.001 of the Capital Budget, Old Golden Shores Drainage Improvements. Ms. McGuire seconded the motion.

Mr. Vogeltanz said he is concerned they are going to need legal fees to secure the right of access to the property no matter if the solution is amicably or through other legal means. He would like to allocate $250,000 with the understanding that if things go smoothly they may not need to spend it, but if it is needed he would like it now so they do not have to come back.

Mr. Zuckerman said he is opposed to this. This is a big issue that the administration and council have been working on for the last few years and he does not see an adverse taking though expropriation on the horizon, and thinks it is premature to allocate $250,000 to take someone’s private property. This is a much bigger discussion than they are prepared to have tonight.

Mr. Discon said he supports the endeavors of what is going on in Old Golden Shores with regards to drainage, but he does think it is premature. He thinks they are in the final stages of an agreement and after speaking with Ms. Bartholomew he believes something should be ready tomorrow. Out of respect to the legal department, and the Planning and Public Works Directors he thinks they should let them. If this does not work they can do a budget adjustment at the next meeting.

He appreciates how dedicated Mr. Vogeltanz has been to this project, but he does not want to be disingenuous to the team that is working on this.

Mr. LaGrange said there is $980,000 budgeted for the outfall. If they have to go with the expropriation route he is not using the $980,000 anyway, and they can always add to the construction dollars later.

Mr. Vogeltanz wanted to be clear that he is not suggesting to go expropriate anything. He wanted to read a letter from the City Attorney dated April 7th 2009. “Mr. Briggs has agreed to grant the City a formal written drainage servitude measuring fifteen feet in width over the culvert as finally positioned over the development of the property. This servitude will be granted by Mr. Briggs at the time his development plan for the property is finalized and approved by the City of Mandeville. This letter represents our agreement that the demolition permit will be issued on the conditions that Mr. Briggs will grant a drainage servitude as specified above etcetera etcetera etcetera”.

Mr. Vogeltanz said that was fifteen years ago and the City still does not have title and the idea that there will be an agreement in place tomorrow is news to him. He thinks this is good housekeeping, but the council does not have to vote for this.

Mr. Zuckerman said he is 100% for making something happen. The $250,000 is there right now. He is not for dedicating funds for expropriation of property if they do not know if that is how they will be moving forward. The council has not had a chance to discuss that. If they do go that route they can just do a budget adjustment at a later date.

Ms. McGuire said the City Attorney was not present last night and would like their input as well. She agrees with Mr. Zuckerman.

Ms. Bartholomew said that they met with Mr. Briggs and their attorney probably 2-3 weeks ago and said they would have something within two weeks. It is in the hands of the surveyors and engineers. She spoke with Paul Mayronne this afternoon when she learned this was to be brought up and wanted to let him and Mr. Briggs know that the plan had not changed, that the administration was still going to work with Mr. Briggs. Mr. Mayronne said he should have the plat by tomorrow or next week at the latest.

Mr. Zuckerman said the owner of the property wishes to develop it. What is in the works is development in accordance with the City ordinances so they can coordinate the development of the right of way, which he has expressed willingness to provide. The owner is at the stage where he is proposing a design for the City to review, and the details of the right of way get worked out. He feels this is premature and there are much bigger legal issues to earmark funds for if they are going to start doing that.

Ms. Sconzert said that Ms. Bartholomew and Mr. Zuckerman summed it up very well. There has been significant headway, and they have been noting but cooperative. It makes more sense to work with the property owner as they develop. There has been feedback relayed to the property owner which has been relayed to their architect.

Mr. Vogeltanz said if his amendment, even if it fails, has caused the landowner to expedite their process that pleases him greatly. He will stop complaining about this issue after 15 years when there are shovels in the ground on the $1,000,000 allocated process that they have budgeted for two year ago.

Mr. Discon said he would be excited when this is announced.

Nicole Stanley, 154 Cindy Lou: She live around the corner from the development. She has watched this debacle. It has been 15 years of waiting to see development. She appreciates the stance by Mr. Vogeltanz. She does support a safety net. It may not need to be $250,000. She would hate to see the City suffer a loss fighting someone who has been dillydallying for 15 years.

Mr. Discon said they want to make sure this takes place.

Mr. Zuckerman said it has been sitting there, but in the last four years there have been studies and the background work done to get to the resolution. Ms. Stanley said that has not transferred to the community. That is behind the scenes process.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Where does the City get their legal fees from. Ms. Farno said it is the general fund.

Mayor Madden said that nothing was brought to him on this issue when he was a councilman. He respects what Mr. Vogeltanz is doing and there is nothing wrong with a backup plan, but the staff has worked hard on this. They are in a good position with negotiations with the property owner. Ms. Sconzert, Mr. LaGrange, and Ms. Bartholomew have been working very hard on this. They had to go through what they did to get this close.

Ms. McGuire asked if this could happen within a week. Ms. Bartholomew said she has no reason to believe that Mr. Mayronne is telling anything but the truth. Ms. McGuire asked if they could get an update at the council meetings until it gets done.

Ms. Sconzert said they are still in the reviewing the plat phase.

Mr. Zuckerman agreed with what the Mayor said, but the time for funding legal expenses for expropriation is when they decide to expropriate.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment to earmark $250,000 for legal fees was denied with a vote of 1-4. Councilmembers Zuckerman, McGuire, Strong-Thompson, and Discon voted against.

Mr. Zuckerman said funding for economic development was mentioned last night and he did not see it on the list.

Mr. Discon said they discussed adding $20,000 to the budget.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved to add that to the budget, and Mr. Zuckerman seconded.

Mr. Discon said that a city the size of Mandeville should have an economic development committee. He has spoken with the Mayor about this, and maybe next year they can expand on it.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the motion was approved with a vote of 4-0. Councilmember McGuire was not present for this vote.

Mayor Madden asked if they had done the council clerk thing. Mr. Discon said that was next.

Mr. Zuckerman said there was a lot of discussion, but nobody has made any changes to the social services or non-profit line item. Mr. Discon said he believed that was going to be Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if they could take a bathroom break. Mr. Discon said they could, and a 5-minute break was taken.

At 8:33pm the meeting resumed.

Ms. McGuire moved to amend line item 10100.45100 Social Services, to be $0 and line item 10100.45700 Youth Services to be $0. Mr. Vogeltanz seconded.

Ms. Strong-Thompson recused herself from the discussion and vote as she is on the board of the Youth Services Bureau.

Ms. McGuire said it has been brought to the attention of the council that there are some non-profits that the City gives money to, and she would like to discuss a process to follow at a later meeting. She is not against giving money to any non-profits, but she would like to see their financials and a presentation of what the money would be used for.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Do non-profits generally petition for tax free status. Is that supposed to be how they are getting their break, not that the city donates to a non-profit, but by allowing them tax free status.

Ms. McGuire said she believed that was federal taxes.

Ms. St. Romain said usually municipalities do not collect taxes.

Ms. McGuire said she saw Ms. St. Romains point. This was giving money to non-profits, so they wanted to reassess. It is also worth a discussion to even give at all.

Mr. Vogeltanz said he agreed with Ms. McGuire, they need to do it fairly and have the process be transparent. If they tried to develop this process, how would it be done mechanically.

Mayor Madden said that the council could pass a resolution establishing a process to contribute to non-profits. If the council wanted to develop a system and then the finance department could operate it. The City has always collected the financials of the non-profits, and there was a time where the executive director came before the council and did a report.

Mr. Zuckerman agreed with this, and envisioned the administration coming before the council with a resolution and a proposed non-profit and they would discuss and then find it with an ordinance.

Mayor Madden said they could figure out a process and have the council debate it. There have been instances where a non-profit intermediary has been needed and he does think they can figure out a mechanism.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the motion was approved with a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Strong-Thompson had recused herself for this vote.

Mr. Discon said the only thing remaining was Exhibit C, which was a count of two Clerk I, Receptionist and the Executive Assistant wages being $81,889; Benefits $66,903; Total of $148,793. Ms. Farno said they are corrections to Exhibit C, and are not modifications to the budget.

With no further comment a vote was taken and approved with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said with everything taken care of, they can go back to the adoption of Ordinance 24-22.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved to adopt the ordinance, Ms. McGuire seconded the motion.

Mr. Zuckerman said this would be the vote on the budget as amended with the amended Exhibits B & C. He stated that the revised Exhibit F had a subtotal for the expenditures of $21,768,000. The fiscal year 2024 budget that was passed a year ago was $20,813,000 so this would be about $900,000 more in expenditures than last. He does not think there is a problem, he just wanted to be sure everyone knows that they were voting to spend more than last year.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Is the budget balanced. Ms. Farno said they are showing around $40,500,000 in revenues and $21,768,000 in expenditures for the operating budget.

Mr. Zuckerman said the capital outlay would be an additional $14,900,000 so the total projected revenue would be $40.5 million and total operating and capital expenses of $36.6 million so it is a surplus budget. Ms. Farno said that was correct, with a net fund increase of around $3.85 million.

Mayor Madden said that the budget presented last night was a surplus budget, and even after the changes tonight it is a surplus budget. There is no deficit spending, as it is illegal. You cannot spend more than you have.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**3. Adoption of Ordinance 24-23; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS RELATIVE TO AND FOR ADOPTION OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; AND TO ESTABLISH THE ADMINISTRATION OF EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS. (Councilman Zuckerman, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Discon said they go in and offer the exhibits again. Mr. Zuckerman said they have to re-do them as the ordinance was not on the floor.

Mr. Zuckerman moved to amend line item 100.21.001 of Exhibit A, the Lakefront Wetlands Restoration, to add $1,000,000 to the fiscal year 2025 budget request. Ms. Strong-Thompson seconded the motion.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Zuckerman moved to amend line item 100.21.002 of Exhibit A, Harbor Field Upgrades to correct the line item to read $902,664 in prior year appropriations. Mr. Vogeltanz seconded.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said the third one was the Land Acquisition $200,000 as a carry over to the general fund column. This was another correction.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved, and Mr. Zuckerman seconded.

Ms. McGuire said this was to just put it in the column.

With no further comment a vote was taken and approved with a vote of 5-0.

Ms. McGuire moved to make an amendment to designate some of the money for Lots 14A1 –

Mayor Madden said what they have done in the past, since they do not have the appraisals, is make a note to say that however much money is necessary of that $200,000 to go towards the land purchases as it was impossible to designate a certain amount of money as they did not have the appraisals yet.

Ms. McGuire asked if that would hold up, Mayor Madden said it was what they did last year.

Ms. McGuire moved to make a note that a portion of the $200,000 be dedicated to the purchasing of lots 14-A-1 and 14-A-2. It is 1.6 acres between Madison Street and Jefferson Street and the land is below the 5’ contour. She would also make a note that Lot B and 1E in Square 62, south of Florida Street, west of Jackson Street, north of Montgomery and west of Foy Street to dedicate money for that as well. That land is right in the watershed on Florida Street and was identified as a property to buy if it came available. The City owns land adjacent to this as well. Mr. Discon seconded the motion.

Mayor Madden said he supported Ms. McGuire with this.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said the last item for the Capital Budget is 211.21.008 which is the Golden Glen Water Line Replacement & Meter Replacement. The prior years appropriation was $3,979,789. Mr. Discon asked if this was another correction. Ms. Farno said it was. It did not modify the budget.

Ms. Strong-Thompson moved, and Ms. McGuire seconded.

With no further comment a vote was taken and approved with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if he would be making an amendment or a note. Ms. Sconzert said in the budget process there is a section for budget notes where you can give more information.

Mayor Madden said he believed Mr. Vogeltanz could do an amendment as they were not waiting for anything like an appraisal.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to amend line item 100.21.009 City Parks and Playground Improvements of Exhibit A of the Capital Budget by designating and restricting the $200,000 of the line item to be used solely for playground improvements and related work located on the City’s 12X parcel of land located at the corner of Copal Street and the service road connecting East Causeway Approach.

Mayor Madden said he was confused by the wording.

Mr. LaGrange said for clarification, if the project comes in at $150,000 he will be coming back before the council to ask them to undo what they are doing so he can spend the other $50,000 at another park. He did not know if there was a way to clean that up.

M. Vogeltanz said the money they are discussing is spread over two different line items. This line item, 100.21.009, is just for putting in the playground structure on 12X. Mr. LaGrange said it was just for the equipment, not for the schematic design.

Mr. Zuckerman seconded the motion.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe St: From the audience said they cannot see the line item and asked what the amount was.

Mr. Discon said that it is an amendment to the $200,000 already in the budget to earmark it. Mr. Vogeltanz said the money is already in the budget and is intended for this purpose, he is just earmarking it so it must be used for the intended purpose.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to amend line item 100.25.001 of Exhibit A of the Capital Budget by designating and restricting $425,000 of the $875,000 of new park design to be used solely for the schematic design of the municipal park and green space located on the City’s 12X parcel of land. Mr. Discon seconded the motion.

Mr. LaGrange said he would like them to say “design” and not “schematic design” as that will handcuff him, and if he can go further he will.

Mr. Vogeltanz said he would change his motion to substitute out “schematic”. Mr. Discon said he would re-second the motion.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment passed with a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Farno said on the updated Exhibits she gave them there are green highlights on Exhibit A in the prior years appropriations Project Spent to Date and Encumbered because this was updated as of today. She did not know if they could move to make the clerical corrections to the numbers that do not modify the Fiscal Year 2025 budget, only the presentation of the prior year numbers.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if they could just attach the piece of highlighting as an exhibit and then move to adopt what is reflected in the exhibit. Ms. Sconzert said that was fine.

Mr. LaGrange said the money has already been approved in the prior year. All this is, is just cleaning up the exhibit.

Mayor Madden said this would be a technical amendment at the State level.

Mr. Vogeltanz moved to amend Ordinance 24-23 Exhibit A, The Capital Budget by attaching as an Exhibit “Vogeltanz 1” and incorporate all the changes reflected in green highlighting to Exhibit A that is in Vogeltanz 1. Mr. Zuckerman seconded the motion.

Bretta St. Romain, 3511 Monroe: Is the high-water vehicle an expense out of the general fund. Ms. Farno said there is a matching revenue recorded in the general fund. Within the line item for Grants Revenue under the General Fund there is $350,000 for that.

Ms. St. Romain said they just see general fund on their side, but it is recorded underneath that. Ms. Farno said the matching expenditure is recorded as grants revenue.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if the City would buy the truck and then get a check from the State Government, Ms. Farno said that was correct.

Mr. Vogeltanz said that technically the comment period is only on Vogeltanz 1.

Rebecca Rohrbough, 2525 Lakeshore: Are they commenting on all the amendments or the capital budget as a whole.

Mr. Zuckerman said they already voted on all the amendments.

Ms. Rohrbough said she wants to make a comment on the rules they have attached to the ordinance to pass the operating budget. Mr. Discon said they have moved on from the operating budget and are now on the capital budget. Ms. Strong-Thompson said they were on Vogeltanz 1.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the amendment passed with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said they were now on the adoption of the ordinance as a whole.

Mr. Zuckerman said similar to the operating budget, the council last year approved a capital budget of $5.352 million. There are some great projects in the budget this year, and he voted for all of them, but there is a projected capital outlay expenditure of $14.9 million this year which is about three times what was passed last year. This was done without cutting services or raising taxes.

Ms. Strong-Thompson said due to the exceptional work by the city employees and the Mayor they have managed to secure many grants from the State that are covering a lot of this expenditure.

Mr. Vogeltanz said he supports the budget, but does not want to take away from any of the comments received about the yearly reoccurring revenues and expenditures are and how much of the general fund is being spent. These are all wise things to think about and he hopes they can either have special meetings or appoint a committee to look at those topics.

Rebecca Rohrbough, 2525 Lakeshore: On this ordinance there are certain rules listed for the utilization of capital funds. She would like them to add another one, that the discretionary portions of the capital outlay that are not covered by the grants be restrained except for essential or emergency until the $6.5 million the City is hoping to get from FEMA is in the bank. Without that money they are looking at draining the general fund. The general fund in 2021 was over $23 million, right now it appears to be at $12 million based on the operating revenue is real tight to cover the operating expenses. That is the protection and backup they need while they hold these discussions suggested by Mr. Vogeltanz. She has no objection to the projects, but they need to keep it under control.

Mr. Vogeltanz said that they have redesignated the ARPA money and the general fund balance is $16.5 million. He asked Mr. LaGrange when they would get the FEMA money and what any impediments would be.

Mr. LaGrange said there would be none that he knew of. There are four projects they are waiting to receive money on. Category B is preventative measures, which is the 48 hours leading up to a storm, and then the 24-48 hours after the storm. That category is bout $3-4 million. FEMA asked for some additional documentation which was given to them last week and so now they are just waiting on the CRC review, which is just a QAQC review. From there they will get the green light. Currently FEMA is not funding anything unless it is a current disaster, which they do every year, until October 1st. He would find it hard to believe they would not collect all the money before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked what the best guess on the amount that would go back into the unrestrictive general fund. Mr. LaGrange said whatever was spent. That is what they are trying to hone in on. Mr. Vogeltanz asked what Mr. LaGrange thought it was off the cuff. Mr. LaGrange said he had no idea. They are owed $6 million; he could not say an exact number.

Mr. Vogeltanz said the projects have been funded as they have been assessed as being necessary to help the residents of Mandeville. Even if FEMA did not give them the money, even after they passed the budget, fund the capital improvement projects, and pay all the debts for the year, there will still be a $10 million end of year general fund balance. He feels comfortable passing the budget without waiting for the FEMA money.

Mr. LaGrange said there is still the enterprise fund for emergencies.

Mr. Zuckerman said that getting past this opens the door to begin those discussions quickly on all the excess money and other funds that need to be reallocated, so they are not dancing on the line of just bringing in enough reoccurring revenue to pay operating expenses.

Mayor Madden wanted to thank the council for the work they have done on the budget. He knows it is not an easy task to get inaugurated and then jump into the budget. He also wanted to commend Ms. Farno, she has jumped in and done a great job. He thinks they are at the cusp of the greatest days of Mandeville and they have the ability to do some great things.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**4. Adoption of Ordinance 24-24; AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO REZONE A PARCEL OF GROUND WITH THE ASSESSMENT NUMBER 57627 IN SQUARE 46 OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, STATE OF LOUISIANA, FROM TC TOWN CENTER DISTRICT TO B-3 OLD MANDEVILLE BUSINESS DISTRICT AND PROVIDING FOR FURTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Ms. Bartholomew said the property owner owns three lots, the northmost are zoned B-3 and the south most lot is zoned TC. They felt it was more appropriate to zone them all B-3 as opposed to TC as the lots did not touch the Town Center.

Ms. McGuire asked if the lots faced Girod or General Pershing. Ms. Bartholomew said they face Girod, they do not touch General Pershing. Ms. McGuire said this has gone before Planning and Zoning and received a favorable recommendation.

Ms. Bartholomew said they do not like to have split zoning on one development site and the differences in what they can do are negligible, and they thought it was more appropriate to be zoned B-3.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked what the differences were. Ms. Bartholomew said all the site development criteria is essentially the same, the Town Center allows you to build closer to the street and on more of the lot. There is less landscaping and parking requirements in Town Center as well.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if there was a reason it was not all zoned Town Center. Ms. Bartholomew said they just went through that.

Vaughan Sollberger, 235 Girod, Architect: The B-3 zoning is similar to TC zoning. The main difference between them is they do not have to count parking in TC. For commercial purposes, they did not have to provide parking. They do not physically connect to the Town Center so it would not be fair to claim the free parking. There is less density in B-3 than TC.

Mr. Zuckerman said he watched the Planning and Zoning meetings, and he did not have any concerns with it.

Ms. McGuire said it sounds more restrictive to the development of the property which is responsible.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**5. Adoption of Ordinance 24-25; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF 1.221 ACRES LOT H1-C MONTGOMERY STREET, MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilwoman McGuire)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Zuckerman.

Ms. McGuire said the council authorized the Mayor to do an appraisal, this allows him to go an purchase the property.

Mr. Zuckerman said this is part of a natural drainageway under Montgomery Street. This allows the Mayor to execute the documents to transfer ownership.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**6. Adoption of Ordinance 24-26; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 23-27, THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AND FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Zuckerman, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Zuckerman said this is a budget modification to do some end-of-year cleanup to comply with State requirements.

Ms. Farno said any variances in excess of 5% require a budget amendment at year end to not violate LLA requirements.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**7. Adoption of Ordinance 24-27; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 17-28 WHICH ESTABLISHED SECTION 2-5 OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE MANDEVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO THE COMPENSATION OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Ms. McGurie and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson.

Ms. Anderson said section 2-5 was created and then redesignated 2-7 so there was some cleanup needed. There were also strict parameters in place around the clerk of council. The way it was written would not allow the salary to be set outside of the budget, so this allows the council to set the salary when the clerk is appointed.

Mr. Zuckerman said he was excited about finding someone for this position and is looking forward to the start date.

Mr. Vogeltanz asked if the clerk would get the benefit of the COLA. Ms. Anderson said it mimics everything for a regular civil service employee and gives it to the council clerk.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the ordinance was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

**1. Adoption of Resolution 24-51; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE ENDORSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LAKEFRONT LIVE OAK ADOPT-A-TREE PROGRAM CO-SPONSORED BY THE PARKS AND PARKWAYS COMMISSION AND THE OLD MANDEVILLE HISTORIC ASSOCIATION. (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Discon and seconded by Mr. Zuckerman.

Rich Adamiak, 2336 Mathis: They have been working on this going back to 2017. There are 28 trees in the program. This program is a volunteer program to do post storm assessments and measure the trees at the end of every year. It will take about 30 days to tag the trees and then roll out the program.

Mr. Discon asked who would be adopting the trees. Mr. Adamiak said he hoped to get a couple of schools or any other citizens who wanted to get involved.

Mr. Zuckerman wanted to thank Mr. Adamiak for all the work he did.

Mayor Madden commended Mr. Adamiak for the work he has done as well. There are not many communities with citizens to take the time and effort for this.

Mr. Adamiak said they tried to tag the trees in the past with 4x4 wooden posts, and those are almost gone. This tagging method is approved by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Becky Rohrbough, 2525 Lakeshore: She came to support Mr. Adamiaks efforts. The work that was put in has been fantastic. The program will solicit individuals, and she has filled out an application.

Buck Abbey, 1129 Villere: He is in support of this program. It will be the second adopt a tree program in the State. These programs are important urban forestry programs. This will be a great educational program. He thinks they need to take a good look at all the Live Oaks on the Lakefront and how they are managed. The more impact that is put on the trees, the shorter they will live.

Mayor Madden asked what the other community with an adopt a tree program was. Mr. Abbey said Black Bayour in Monroe, Louisiana.

Mr. Abbey said a lot of these programs are a way to get public trees in the hands of private property owners.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**2. Adoption of Resolution 24-52; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (GOHSEP) AN “EXPEDITIED TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE WAIVER OF LAND USE/PERMITTING FORM” IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA. R.S. 29:726(F)(3)(b)(iii)(aa) AND LA. R.S. 726(F)(4). (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Discon and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. LaGrange said this is an annual agreement to opt in to temporary housing if a disaster happens. This allows an expedited process for FEMA. This puts the City on the list for residents to get temporary housing should they deem it fit.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**3. Adoption of Resolution 24-53; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE CONFIRMING THE CITY COUNCIL’S APPOINTMENT AND HIRING FOR THE CLERK OF COUNCIL POSITION AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Discon and seconded by Ms. Strong-Thompson.

Mr. Discon said the new clerk will start on September 9th. Ms. Anderson said she will start after the council appoints her.

Mr. Zuckerman said he is excited that the new clerk is starting.

Ms. Anderson said they need to vote and appoint the new clerk.

A vote was taken, and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Discon said the new clerk was coming from Madisonville.

Ms. Sconzert said to take a time out.

Ms. Anderson asked if they wanted to say who they appointed.

Ms. Sconzert said you need to nominate and appoint her.

Mr. Discon said her name was Alicia Watts, and she was the Clerk in Madisonville. She has great accomplishments. She has been training her replacement and will start on September 9th.

Mr. Zuckerman said he thought the Council did a great job working together on the search.

Mayor Madden said he is happy they found a council clerk, and just wanted to commend Ms. Myers and Mr. Weiner for filling in and doing a great job, and for Ms. Bartholomew for loaning her employees to the Council.

**4. Adoption of Resolution 24-54; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AND KVS ARCHITECTURE FOR THE HARBOR FIELD UPGRADES DESIGN PROJECT AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Zuckerman, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Mr. Discon.

Mr. Zuckerman said this was an amendment to the contract to adjust the design fees to reflect the actual construction costs.

Mayor Madden said he visited the site yesterday and it is a jewel, it is amazing what was done there. The ribbon cutting will probably be in Mid-October to let the grass settle.

Vaughan Sollberger, 235 Girod: This is a fantastic thing for the City, and they have helped a lot. It has been terrific working with them.

Mr. Zuckerman wanted to thank Ms. McGuire. He worked closely with her under the last council to figure out what to do with it.

Ms. McGuire said it does look fantastic.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**5. Adoption of Resolution 24-55; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RICHARD C. LAMBERT CONSULTANTS, LLC FOR THE HWY 190/LA 22 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Vogeltanz)** A motion was made by Ms. McGuire and seconded by Mr. Zuckerman.

Mr. LeBreton said this is in District 2. The construction is complete, this is just an extension of time no additional dollars.

With no further comment a vote was taken and the resolution was adopted with a vote of 5-0.

**6. Introduction of Ordinance 24-28; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE ADOPTING THE ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATE FOR TAXES TO LEVY ON PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2024 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 23(B) AND (C) OF THE 1974 LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION AND R.S. 47:1705 (B) (1) AND (2). (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Discon said this was an introduction.

Mayor Madden said that he is working on a post that explaining that this is not an increase in taxes, and they are free to share it. He just wanted to make sure everyone knows that this is not raising taxes.

**7. Introduction of Ordinance 24-29; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE ESTABLISHING OTHER AUTHORIZED MILLAGE RATES FOR TAXES SUB.JECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2024 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 23(B) AND (C) OF THE 1974 LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION AND R.S. 47:1705 (B) (1) AND (2). (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Discon said this has been introduced.

**8. Introduction of Ordinance 24-30; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE ESTABLISHING THE ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATE AND ROLLING FORWARD TO MILLAGE RATES NOT EXCEEDING THE MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED RATES FOR TAXES TO LEVY ON PROPERTY SUB.JECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2024 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS OF THE CITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 23(B) AND (C) OF THE 1974 LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION AND R.S. 47:1705 (B) (1) AND (2). (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Discon said this has been introduced.

**9. Introduction of Ordinance 24-31; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANDEVILLE TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPENSATION OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. (Councilman Discon, At-Large)** A motion was made by Mr. Zuckerman and seconded by Ms. McGuire.

Mr. Discon said this has been introduced.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Madden wanted to commend the City Attorney, Planning Director, Public Works Director, Engineer, Human Resources Director, and Alia the Cultural Development Director. A lot of work goes into the budget by different departments. They could not have presented as good of a budget without their input. Mr. Vogeltanz added Kathleen Sides as well. Mayor Madden added Chief Schliem as well.

Mayor Madden appreciates the work by the directors and wanted to thank the council for supporting the budget.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Zuckerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. McGuire. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Alicia Watts Scott Discon

Council Clerk Council Chairman