

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 30th, 1981
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by President of the Council, Salvatore A. Caruso. All members were present with the exception of Councilmen Martin and Martinez. Mayor Hart was present.

As advertised, a public hearing was opened in connection with Item No. 81-4-308, a proposed ordinance raising the monthly rate for water services. Mr. Jack Boyd, Director of Sewerage and Water, spoke addressing the overall condition of the water situation saying there were not enough employees to service a city the size of Slidell, the equipment was inadequate for the size water and sewer system Slidell had, and there were several critical areas, one being low water pressure. Mr. Boyd urged the Council to adopt the proposed ordinance in order to maintain adequate sewer and water service in the City.

Councilman Hinton questioned the specific reason for the proposed \$1.75 rate increase to which Mrs. Virginia Roe, Director of Finance, stated the increase was to meet operating expenses and keep the escrow fund current.

Mr. Willis McDonald, Bonding Attorney, addressed the Council speaking on the financial problems of the sewer and water system and stated the system was not supporting itself at the present \$6.00 per month rate.

Mr. Steve Hauss addressed the Council stating he felt no builder should have to pay to have water lines extended to their property.

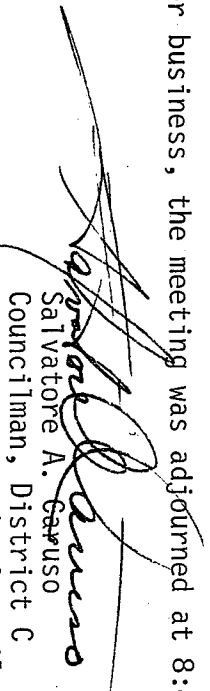
As no one else indicated a desire to speak, the public hearing on Item No. 81-4-308 was closed.

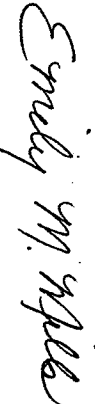
Councilman Hinton leaves the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Mr. McDonald spoke on the financing of water meters saying he felt the only way to finance them would be to get the supplier of meters to carry the debt over a ten year period and then it would have to get the approval of the State Bond Commission. One other alternative was to issue sales tax bonds if an election was held.

A general discussion was held regarding the financing and installation of water meters. In closing, Councilwoman Wood pointed out that the proposed budget for the 1981-82 fiscal year would have to be amended or the proposed ordinance raising the water rates would have to be adopted in order to operate the utility fund.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.


Salvatore A. Caruso
Councilman, District C
President of the Council


Emily M. Mills
Clerk of the Council