

MINUTES
SLIDELL CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 19, 1988
8:15 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Councilman Van Sandt. All members were present with the exception of Councilman Salvaggio.

Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved to accept the consent calendar.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Proposed Ordinances:

1. Item No. 88-04-1261: An ordinance authorizing Mayor Salvatore A. Caruso to accept dedication of a right-of-way from Southern Railway Systems for an extension of Lafayette Street, (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).
2. Item No. 88-04-1262: An ordinance revoking and vacating any tacit or formal dedication of a railroad crossing near the intersection of U.S. Highway 11 and U.S. Highway 190, (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).

NOTE: A Public Hearing will be held on the above listed ordinances on Tuesday, May 10, 1988 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

B. Special Function Liquor Permits:

1. Slidell Evening Lyons (April 22 & 23)
2. Slidell Evening Lyons (May 21 & 22)

6. Regular Agenda

1. Olde Towne Revitalization

7. Executive Session

1. Sales Tax Suit (Williams)

ROLL CALL	8 Yeas	0 Nays	1 Absent (Salvaggio)	CARRIED
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REGULAR AGENDA

Councilman Callahan read a statement regarding his feelings on the Olde Towne Revitalization Project. He then explained that the flooding problems in his district should be corrected before any funds are spent on a study for Olde Towne. He added that many projects in the districts are unfunded, and roads are in bad shape. He stressed that with the poor financial condition of the State, the City of Slidell may loose some of its tobacco tax. He would like resources to be fully utilized for the City's top projects.

Councilman Washington stated that he has been in Slidell for the last fifty-two (52) years and he would like to see Olde Towne helped to become a thriving area once again.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez briefly explained the five (5) phases of the proposed Olde Towne Revitalization Contract. He stressed that the City Council will have the authority to monitor all transactions. He added that an investment in Olde Towne would increase the tax base, and help all Councilmanic Districts.

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Councilwoman Williams made a statement as the Centennial Chairman regarding the Olde Towne Revitalization Project. She asked everyone to open their eyes and look at their heritage in the Olde Towne area. She added that we should help our old area of the city and look at it as an investment for all of Slidell. She also said that since this project will be started in the Centennial Year, it would be a living monument of the last one hundred (100) years.

Councilman Berault stated that as a former City Planner he can attest to the fact that the most successful revitalizations have taken place in old areas. One example of this is the Old New Orleans Warehouse District. Councilman Berault added that he would encourage participation in the revitalization of Olde Towne on a continuing basis.

Councilman Berault, Van Sandt, and Singletary all added their approval to the proposed project.

At this time, 8:40 P.M., Councilman Salvaggio entered the meeting.

Mayor Caruso commented on the Priority Convention Report. He read out aloud several questions and answers from the report regarding the physical condition of Olde Towne. One of the questions asked was if the physical condition of the Olde Towne area had a negative impact on the City. The Mayor stated that 66.9% replied yes, and 33.1% replied no. He proceeded to ask the Council to approve the revitalization project.

Councilman Salvaggio stated that he does have a problem in spending \$120,000 on a select area with only hopes for it to expand. He added that he gives his firm support to help supplement the proposed pay loss of the Slidell Police Department through State budget cuts in supplemental pay. He concluded by saying he will not vote on the Olde Towne Revitalization issue since he did not sit in on the public forum held in the City Auditorium.

Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilman Van Sandt, moved that the Slidell City Council authorizes the Mayor to enter into a professional service agreement with Walter J. Skayhan, III, and Associates, Inc., for the revitalization of the Olde Towne Area, and that said project be funded first with any excess surplus above \$116,000 for fiscal year 1987-88.

ROLL CALL	7 Yeas	1 Nay (Callahan)	1 Abstained (Salvaggio)	CARRIED
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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Van Sandt, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved to enter into executive session to discuss the sales tax suit.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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The Council entered into executive session at 8:45 P.M. and returned at 9:25 P.M.

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved to suspend the rules to introduce Resolution R88-19.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman-at-Large Martinez, read Resolution R88-19, regarding the City's withdrawal from the sales tax suit. Councilman Barthelemy, seconded by Councilmen Berault, Van Sandt, and Washington, moved to adopt Resolution R88-19.

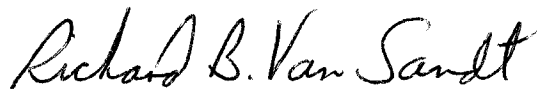
ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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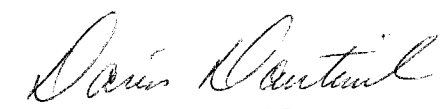
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13 SUSPENSION OF RULES (CONTINUED)
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16 Council President Van Sandt read an official statement
17 of the Slidell City Council regarding the City's withdrawal from
18 the sales tax suit, and made it a part of the official minutes of
19 the Council.
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21 Since there was no further business, the meeting was
22 adjourned at 9:35 P.M.
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26 Richard B. Van Sandt
27 Councilman, District C
28 President of the Council
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32 Davis Dautreuil
33 Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council
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