

MINUTES

MAY 10, 1988

SLIDELL CITY COUNCIL

6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the president. All members were present.

Councilman Van Sandt removed Item C. 6. from the consent calendar. Councilman Berault removed Item C. 4. from the consent calendar. Councilman Salvaggio removed Item C. 5. from the consent calendar.

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Barthelemy, moved to suspend the rules to introduce and add Item No. 88-05-1275 to the consent calendar.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilman-at-Large Martinez, moved to adopt the consent calendar as amended.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the April 19, 1988, Special Meeting, April 19, 1988, Town Meeting, and the April 26, 1988, Regular Meeting.

B. Proposed Ordinances:

1. Item No. 88-05-1270: An ordinance amending Chapter 11, Article 111. Weeds and Noxious Growths and Deposits*, Sections 11-50, 11-51, and 11-52, (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).
2. Item No. 88-05-1272: An ordinance rescinding and re-enacting Section 17-68.1. Requirement of Bond, and adding new Section 17-49.1. Alternative Means of Enforcing Collections, to Taxation and Licenses. (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).
3. Item No. 88-05-1273: An ordinance Amending Chapter 2. Administration, to correctly state the City's contribution for employees' health insurance, and to add a provision for advertising for public bids on various insurance coverages, (Singletary/Van Sandt, by request).
4. Item No. 88-05-1274: An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2078, adopting a revised Pay Plan for Municipal Employees Civil Service and Municipal Police Employees Civil Service of the City of Slidell, (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).
5. Item No. 88-05-1275: An ordinance authorizing Mayor Salvatore A. Caruso, or his representative, to enter into an Inter-Governmental Agreement with St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 1, (Van Sandt/Callahan, both by request).

NOTE: A Public Hearing will be held on the above listed ordinances on Tuesday, June 14, 1988 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

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C. Proposed Resolutions:

1. **R88-23:** A resolution requesting that a right hand turn lane be constructed on Gause Boulevard at its intersection with Robert Road, going North on Robert Road, (Singletary/Van Sandt, by request).
2. **R88-24:** A resolution requesting that a right hand turn lane be constructed on Gause Boulevard heading West, and turning right onto Rue Rochelle heading North, (Singletary/Berault).
3. **R88-25:** A resolution requesting permission and support for the construction on Rue Rochelle of a right hand turn lane onto Gause Boulevard heading West, and that it become part of the City's Rue Rochelle project, (Singletary/Berault).

E. Approval of Liquor Licenses:

1. Stage Coach Saloon - 1302 Front Street

F. Bids and Request to Purchase:

1. Sanitary Sewer Line Rehabilitation - \$77,351.25

G. Project Approvals:

1. Country Club Fire Hydrant Installation
2. Pump Station No. 25 Force Main Extension

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilman Berault led a brief discussion on Item R88-27, a resolution directed to the Legislators of the State of Louisiana requesting that they reject any request for a reduction in State Supplemental pay for police officers. Councilman Van Sandt reminded the Council that supplemental pay for police was instituted to reimburse cities for traffic control and accident investigation on State highways within the cities.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez stated that the Council will take an objective look at the salaries of those employees of the police department not addressed in Resolution R88-27, in the event of State supplemental pay cuts.

It was determined by the Council that a verbal amendment was necessary for Resolution R88-27. Councilman Berault, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved that the words "line duty" should be inserted before the words "police officer" throughout Resolution R88-27.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Barthelemy, moved to adopt Resolution R88-27 as amended.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED):

Councilman Salvaggio discussed Resolution R88-28, a resolution requesting all utility companies to notify the Slidell City Council before starting any major construction or repairs in any area of the City of Slidell. John Braun of C.L.E.C.O. addressed the Council on emergency repair work. Councilman Salvaggio assured Mr. Braun that the utility companies can perform any emergency repairs needed, and then contact the Council as soon as possible thereafter.

Councilman Salvaggio, seconded by Councilman Washington, moved to adopt Resolution R88-28.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Barthelemy briefly discussed Resolution R88-29, a resolution authorizing Mayor Salvatore A. Caruso, or his representative, to sign a Permit agreement with the Great Southern Railroad Company for grade crossings. City Attorney Elaine Guillot explained to the Council that in 1982 the railroad did an inventory of crossings and sent agreements to the City to sign. These agreements were never signed, and they are being presented once again. Railroad representative, Mr. A.D. Bryson, addressed the Council. He stated that the only cost to the City of Slidell will be to replace the asphalt around the crossings every 6-8 years.

Councilman Van Sandt, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved to adopt Resolution R88-29.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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SUSPENSION OF RULES

PUBLIC HEARING

Councilman Van Sandt, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved to suspend the rules to bring Items 88-04-1261, and 88-04-1262 forward.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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There was a brief Council discussion on Item No. 88-04-1261, an ordinance authorizing Mayor Salvatore A. Caruso to accept dedication of a right-of-way from the Southern Railway Systems for an extension of Lafayette Street and 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. City Engineer Stan Polivick explained the proposed crossing in relation to the traffic flow on Lafayette Street. He recommended an island be installed at this intersection to force the traffic either left or right, and not directly onto Lafayette Street. He also recommended making Lafayette Street one way into the Belvedere Subdivision from Highway 11.

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1261 and 88-04-1262. Appearing from the public to speak in favor of closing Lafayette Street at Highway 11 were the President of Belvedere Homeowners Association Clyde Trent, Norman Martin, C.B. Brown, Lillie Martin, Pierre Broussard, Jack Brown, and Peggy Sansalone. Mr. Trent presented the Council with a traffic survey taken by the Belvedere Homeowner's Association. Appearing to speak in opposition to the closing of Lafayette Street was Theo Ratliff. Mike Saucier, a representative of the Crossings Development, advised the Council that the Crossings Development would like to see Lafayette Street remain open to traffic. There was a lengthy discussion of traffic problems on Lafayette Street. It was determined that it may be feasible to place a removable barricade on Lafayette Street at its intersection with Highway 11. This could provide emergency entrance to the street by police and fire departments. Mayor Caruso stated he is in agreement with the removable barricade, and he would have the City Engineer look into that possibility.

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PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED):

There was a general discussion with Councilman-at-Large Martinez suggesting that Police Chief Max Rodriguez be notified of the traffic problems in Belvedere. He requested the homeowners association conduct another survey in a month to determine if the strict enforcement of traffic laws improves the situation.

Councilman Salvaggio, seconded by Councilman Van Sandt, presented the following verbal resolution in regard to Item No. 88-04-1261:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that Chief of Police Max Rodriguez be notified of traffic violations in the area of Dale Street and Lafayette Street, in regard to stop signs, no left/right turn signs, and traffic speeding, as indicated on the attached survey taken by the Belvedere Homeowners Association.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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It was also determined by Councilman Van Sandt that a vote would be taken to poll the Belvedere residents regarding the removable barricade for Lafayette Street. He asked that the City send out a ballot to each household in Belvedere. The vote would be counted and a 51% majority would rule.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Van Sandt, moved to table Items 88-04-1261, and 88-04-1262 until the meeting of May 24, 1988, in order to send the ballot regarding Lafayette Street to the inhabited households of Belvedere Subdivision, with a 51% of the vote ruling. Said ballots are to be opened in the presence of Council President Van Sandt.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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At 8:05 p.m. Council President Van Sandt called for a brief recess. The Council returned at 8:20 p.m. to resume the meeting.

TABLED ITEMS

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-03-1256, The Revenue, Operating, and Capital Budgets for fiscal year 1988-89, and Amendment A to Item No. 88-03-1256.

Council Administrator Davis Dautreuil explained the budget with recommended adjustments. He also distributed a fact sheet of budget highlights. There was a brief council discussion.

Appearing to speak was Herman Waschka on behalf of the Slidell Senior Citizen's Center. He thanked the Council for their support and asked them to try to help the center again this year.

Councilwoman Williams introduced Amendment B to Item No. 88-03-1256. She explained that this amendment would increase the salary of Art Director Suzanne Parsons to \$26,000. Mayor Caruso, Councilman Berault, Councilman Salvaggio, and Councilman Van Sandt spoke in favor of the increase as justifiable. Councilman Callahan spoke in opposition to the increase. Councilmen Barthelemy, and Washington also expressed their concern over the proposed increase. Also appearing from the public to speak in favor of the increase was Mr. Dunbar.

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TABLED ITEM (CONTINUED):

Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Salvaggio, moved to adopt Amendment B to Item No. 88-03-1256.

ROLL CALL 4 Yeas 5 Nays 0 Absent DENIED

Councilman Callahan, seconded by Councilman Barthelemy, moved to adopt Amendment A to Item No. 88-03-1256.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to adopt Item No. 88-03-1256 as amended.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1255, an ordinance rezoning a parcel of property located at the corner of Fremaux and Third Streets, Lots 4 & 5 of Square 4, from A-6 Single Family Urban to C-2 Neighborhood Commercial, as petitioned by Mr. Bill Baker d/b/a Jebisu, Corp. Mr. Bill Baker appeared before the Council to discuss the rezoning request.

Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved to adopt Item No. 88-04-1255.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1257, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2139, which amends Ordinance No. 2117, Raffles, Bingo, and Keno Licensing, Section 13-3/4 - 6. Commercial Lessor's License. Appearing from the public to speak was Kevin Kiser of The Regency. Mr. Keiser explained that the groups presently playing bingo at The Regency were all local groups. He added that by extending the number of monthly games to eighteen (18), he could add an additional local group to the number. Also appearing from the public to speak was Mark Dyer of the Boys Club. Mr. Dyer explained that through the bingo games, the Boys Club has enjoyed a reliable source of income enabling the group to break ground on a new club. Also appearing was Ralph Moran of the Lyons Club. Mr. Moran asked the Council to approve the additional number of permitted games. He added that the Lyons Club also received a source of income from their bingo games which provides funds to send patients to the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in New Orleans.

Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to adopt Item No. 88-04-1257.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1258, an ordinance accepting the dedication of a utility servitude from Northshore Limited Partnership.

Appearing from the public to speak was Mark Saucier of Maurin Ogden. He explained that the utilities are in place and the servitude needs to be dedicated.

City Attorney Elaine Guillot stated that there would be no charge to the City, and it would give the City the right-of-way.

Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved to adopt Item No. 88-04-1258.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

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PUBLIC HEARINGS (CONTINUED):

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1259, an ordinance repealing duplicate ordinances which annex certain properties along Airport Road. Since no one from the public appeared to speak, the public hearing was closed.

City Attorney Elaine Guillot explained that these properties were annexed twice in connection with the sales tax suit litigation and it is no longer necessary for them to be annexed in duplicate.

Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilman Barthelemy, moved to adopt Item No. 88-04-1259.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

As advertised, a public hearing was held on Item No. 88-04-1260, an ordinance of the City of Slidell which sets forth and designates the adjusted millage rates, and Amendment A to Item No. 88-04-1260.

Since no one from the public appeared to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Finance Director David Squired briefly explained that State law requires adoption of millage rates for debt service consolidation. He added that in the past, there were separate ordinances, but now they are together in one ordinance.

Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilman Martinez, moved to adopt Amendment A to Item No. 88-04-1260.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilman Martinez, moved to adopt Ordinance No. 88-04-1260 as amended.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Council Administrator Davis Dautreuil stated that he has a request from Administration for Council approval for appropriation of funds for the Olde Towne Revitalization Contact.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved that the Slidell City Council lend Administration \$7,000.00 of the City Council budget which will be replaced at such time as budget amendments are in place. Also, to give the Mayor authorization to proceed with the signing of documents for the Olde Towne study.

ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED

Councilman Salvaggio questioned the City Engineer on the status of the W-15 Canal during the recent flood. He reminded him that hurricane season was approaching, and asked if he sees any future problems.

Councilman Washington asked the City Engineer why the portion of Bayou Patasat has dried up behind the grave yard. The City Engineer explained that improvements to the sump area at the City Barn and the cleaning of the bayou permits better drainage.

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14 LEGISLATIVE COMMENTS (CONTINUED):
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16 Councilman-at-Large Singletary asked the City Engineer
17 for a progress report on the installation of chlorine treatment
18 equipment for the black water problem. He advised Councilman-
19 at-Large Singletary that the equipment would be received next week
20 and the project should be on line in June. He added that there
21 has been a delay in receipt of the equipment.
22

23 Councilman Berault asked the City Engineer if the
24 meeting date has been set for the Bon Village and Heritage
25 Homeowners Associations regarding the Rue Rochelle street project.
26 The City Engineer stated that a date of June 8, 1988, has been
27 picked.
28

29 Councilman Barthelemy asked the City Engineer if the
30 West Hall Milling bids have been advertised. The City Engineer
31 replied that June 7, 1988, is the bid receipt date. He added that
32 the City is presently cleaning the sewer lines under the roadway.
33

34 Councilwoman Williams asked why the work has ceased on
35 the Robert Road street lights. Councilman Salvaggio replied that
36 the original contractor left and he was replaced with a new
37 contractor, and the light standards would be installed on May 15th or
38 16th.
39

40 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS
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42 Mayor Caruso thanked Councilman Berault for helping to
43 resolve the Jazz Fest problems.
44

45 The Mayor acknowledged the fact that he has received many
46 complaints regarding the colors of the fire hydrants in the City.
47 He stated that fire hydrants were painted bright colors to aid in
48 location.
49

50 Mayor Caruso expressed his thanks to the Council for adopting the
51 budget, and especially thanked Council Administrator Davis
52 Dautreuil for a job well done while working on his first budget
53 with the City. The Mayor proceeded to briefly discuss the City's
54 financial condition. He added that the sales tax suit settlement
55 and the location of the Manufacturer's Retail Outlet in Slidell
56 will help the City greatly.
57

58 Mayor Caruso also discussed the recommendations of the Water/Sewer
59 Rate Study and his hopes for implementation of some of the
60 recommendations.
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62 The Mayor ended with a brief discussion on the cost of the
63 Parish/City sales tax suit.
64

65 EXECUTIVE SESSION
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67 Councilman Van Sandt, seconded by Councilwoman Williams,
68 moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel.
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71 ROLL CALL 9 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent CARRIED
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16 EXECUTIVE SESSION (CONTINUED):
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18 The Council entered into executive session at 10:30 p.m.
19 and returned at 12:00 midnight.
20

21 Since there was not further business to discuss, the
22 meeting was adjourned.
23

24
25 *Richard B. Van Sandt*
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27 Richard B. Van Sandt
28 Councilman, District C
29 President of the Council
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31 *Davis Dautreuil*
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33 Davis Dautreuil
34 Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council
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