

MINUTES

SLIDELL CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 13, 1988

6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Council President Van Sandt. All members were present.

Councilman Berault removed Item G. 3., Rue Rochelle Roadway Improvements from the consent calendar. Councilman Salvaggio removed Item No. G. 5., Used Back Hoe and Trailer from the consent calendar.

Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilman-at-Large Singletary, moved to adopt the consent calendar as amended.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the August 23, 1988, Meeting.

B. Proposed Ordinances:

1. **Item No. 88-09-1295:** An ordinance approving the millage assessment valuations identified in Resolution R88-32, which sets forth adjusted millage rates for 1989, (Van Sandt/Singletary, both by request).

NOTE: A Public Hearing will be held on the above listed ordinances on Tuesday, October 11, 1988 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

C. Proposed Resolutions:

1. **R88-50:** A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with the D.O.T.D. to reimburse the City of Slidell for lease payments made on commuter parking lots through its "Park and Ride" Program, (Berault/Martinez).
2. **R88-51:** A resolution designating authorized signatures for the purpose of check writing for the City of Slidell, (Van Sandt/Singletary, both by request).

D. Approval of Liquor Licenses:

1. Club La Bamba

E. Approval of Special Function Liquor Licenses:

1. Greater Slidell Area Chamber of Commerce - Trade Fair

F. Appointments:

1. Martha Caruso - East St. Tammany Events
Center Commission (Van Sandt)
2. Darryl Warner - East St. Tammany Events
Center Commission (Van Sandt)
3. Kenneth Arnold - Municipal Employees Civil
Service Board (Berault)

G. Bids and Request to Purchase:

1. Eighth Street Water Line Extension
2. St. Joseph Street Ditch Labor and Materials
3. Culvert Rehabilitation

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H. Project Acceptance:

1. First Baptist Church Water Line Extension
2. West Hall Avenue Roadway Improvements (Phase I)

I. Change Order:

1. West Hall Avenue Roadway Improvements (Phase I) - \$3,059.91

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

BIDS

Councilman Berault explained Item G. 3., the bid for the Rue Rochelle Roadway improvements, stating that the bid came in extremely low. He added that the City Engineer and Consulting Engineer advised him that all specifications will be met. The City Engineer stated that the project will be inspected daily by both himself and the consulting engineer.

Councilman Berault, seconded by Councilman Salvaggio, moved to accept the bid of Magnolia Construction Company in the amount of \$195,966.25, per the recommendation of Administration, for the Rue Rochelle Roadway Improvements.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Salvaggio explained Item G. 5., the bid for a used trailer and back hoe. The Council Administrator provided the Council Members with correspondence relative to this item. There was a general Council discussion.

Councilman Salvaggio, seconded by Councilman Barthelemy, moved to accept the low bids of Crawler Supply in the amount of \$31,950 for the backhoe and \$4,950 for the trailer, as recommended by administration.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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BID

Councilman Barthelemy, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, moved to reconsider Item G. 6., an emergency bid for replacement of sewerage lift station pump.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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The City Engineer explained that the sewerage lift station pump burned up last week, and it is an emergency situation due to the hurricane season, to replace the pump as soon as possible.

Councilman Barthelemy, seconded by Councilman Salvaggio, moved to declare an emergency situation and authorize the purchase of a sewerage lift station pump from Parson and Sanderson, Inc., in the amount of \$8,500.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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REGULAR AGENDA

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Councilman Salvaggio explained Resolution R88-52, a resolution ordering and calling for a special election to be held in the City of Slidell, State of Louisiana, on November 8, 1988, to authorize the incurring of debt and issuance of bonds of said City; making application to the State Bond Commission; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. He stated that the \$3 Million of bonds issued in 1982 at 12% would be refinanced at a rate of approximately 8% - 8-1/2% with an assessment service of \$5.5 Million to \$6 Million of debt over a period of six (6) additional years. This will be used for sewer and water system revamping. Jerry Osborne, City Bond Attorney, also advised the Council that it will be necessary to make an amendment to R88-52 wherein the amount of \$3 Million would be changed to \$3,300,000 to enable retirement of more than \$3 Million worth of debt. He stated that a special election would have to be called for November 8, 1988. A general Council discussion followed.

Councilman Salvaggio, seconded by Councilman-at-Large Singletary, moved to make the following verbal amendment to R88-52:

Page 2, Line 19: Delete "Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) and replace with "Three Million Three Hundred Dollars (\$3,300,000)".

Page 4, Line 66: Delete "Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) and replace with "Three Million Three Hundred Dollars (\$3,300,000)".

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Salvaggio, seconded by Councilman-at-Large Singletary, moved to adopt Resolution R88-52 as amended.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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TABLED ITEMS

PROPOSED CLOSURE OF LAFAYETTE STREET

Councilman Van Sandt briefly brought the Council up to date on this item. He stated that traffic controls were put into effect shortly after residents of the Blevedere Subdivision voted to close Lafayette Street by a vote of 91-14. The proposed closure point would be where the commercial and residential properties meet on Lafayette Street. The recent traffic count taken shows that the number of cars using the street is still very high, and motorists do not obey the traffic regulations. Mr. Clyde Trent, President of the Belvedere Homeowner's Association, addressed the Council. He presented the Council with a short video tape of the traffic problem on Lafayette Street.

There was a general Council discussion with Councilman Salvaggio proposing that the closure of Lafayette Street be instituted for a period of ninety (90) days. He added that traffic should be monitored on Indiana, 7th and 9th streets. Mr. Clyde Trent stated that he would provide for the monitoring of traffic.

Councilman Van Sandt, seconded by Councilman Washington, moved to barricade Lafayette Street for a period of up to ninety (90) days at the division of commercial and residential properties, along with monitoring of the traffic count and a review after the ninety (90) days period.

ROLL CALL	7 Yeas	2 Nays (Callahan) (Barthelemy)	0 Absent	CARRIED
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The Council recessed the meeting for a short break at 7:55 p.m., and returned at 8:05 p.m.

TABLED ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Item No. 88-07-1285, an amendment to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, to establish operational requirements for wrecker companies, was considered. Also presented were Amendments A through K to Item No. 88-07-1285.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Berault, made a motion to reconsider Amendments G and H.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Berault, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to withdraw Amendments A through H to Item No. 88-07-1285.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Berault, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to adopt Amendment I to Item No. 88-07-1285.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman-at-Large Martinez explained amendment J, which provides first preference on the Slidell Police Department Wrecker Log for wrecker services within the City of Slidell who are paying ad valorem taxes. There was a general Council discussion.

Councilman Barthelemy introduced Amendment M to Item No. 88-07-1285, which also addressed preferences. There was a discussion.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved to adopt Amendment J to Item No. 88-07-1285.

ROLL CALL	6 Yeas	3 Nays (Barthelemy) (Salvaggio) (Williams)	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Barthelemy withdrew Amendment M to Item No. 88-07-1285.

Councilwoman Williams withdrew Amendment K to Item No. 88-07-1285.

Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to adopt Item No. 88-07-1285 as amended.

ROLL CALL	8 Yeas	1 Nays (Williams)	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Item No. 88-07-1287, an amendment amending Chapter 2. Administration, of the Code of Ordinances, to add a provision for advertising for public bids, various insurance coverages and professional services for the City of Slidell, and Amendments A through C and Amendment X to Item No. 88-07-1287 were brought before the Council.

Councilman-at-Large Singletary, seconded by Councilman Callahan, moved to table Item No. 88-07-1287 until the meeting of September 27, 1988.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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TABLED ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Item No. 88-07-1288, an ordinance amending Chapter 9. Crimes - Miscellaneous, Section 9-52. Adoption of Highway Regulatory Act of the State of Louisiana, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, relative to cargo covers, and Amendment A to Item No. 88-07-1288 were brought before the Council. There was a brief discussion with Councilman Callahan stating that he has reviewed with the Police Department, the possibility of the City of Slidell weighing trucks, with the use of portable scales, and retaining any fines collected. He requested that this item be tabled until the meeting of September 17, 1988.

Councilman Callahan, seconded by Councilman Washington, moved to table item No. 88-07-1288 and Amendment A until the meeting of September 27, 1988.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Item No. 88-07-1291, an ordinance amending Chapter 20* Water of the Code of Ordinances, to provide for a discount to the handicapped/disabled, and Amendment A to Item No. 88-07-1291 was brought before the Council. Councilman Callahan briefly explained the definition of a handicapped/disabled person as stated in Amendment A to this item. There was a brief discussion regarding the exact placement of this proposed ordinance in the Slidell Code of Ordinances. Councilman Callahan asked that this item be tabled until the meeting of September 27, 1988, but requested the Council to consider the adoption of Amendment A to this item.

Councilman Callahan, seconded by Councilman Washington, moved to adopt Amendment A to Item No. 88-07-1291.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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Councilman Callahan, seconded by Councilman Berault, moved that Item No. 88-07-1291 be tabled until the meeting of September 27, 1988.

ROLL CALL	9 Yeas	0 Nays	0 Absent	CARRIED
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ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Caruso advised the Council that the proposed water/sewer rate increase will not be as high as originally thought, if the debt refinancing proposition is passed in the November 8, 1988, election. He added that there still may be a need for a small increase in these rates. The Mayor also stated that tomorrow, September 14th, there would be a meeting regarding the approach of Hurricane Gilbert. He issued an invitation to the Council to attend.

Councilman Salvaggio stated that radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. He asked the City Engineer is there has been a check of this area yet by either the D.E.Q. or the E.P.A. The City Engineer stated that he would check into the matter.

Councilman Barthelemy advised the City Engineer that since the bid for the St. Joseph Street Ditch was so low, he would like him to start negotiations with the contractor for the next phase of the project.

Councilwoman Williams expressed her thanks to the Slidell Police Department, and especially to the Slidell City Employees for the time and effort they extended filling sand bags for approaching hurricanes. Mayor Caruso added thanks also to the Slidell Reserve Police.

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12 **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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14 **DEMOLITION OF COUNTRY CLUB WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

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16 Councilwoman Williams explained that this treatment
17 plant is not being used and could become a danger and health
18 hazard. She added that she has funds remaining in her Capital
19 Fund Budget to cover the cost of the demolition by Saucier
20 Construction Company.

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22 Councilwoman Williams, seconded by Councilman Salvaggio,
23 moved to accept the bid of Saucier Construction in the amount of
24 \$6,690 for the demolition of the Country Club Wastewater Treatment
25 Plant.

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27 **ROLL CALL** **9 Yeas** **0 Nays** **0 Absent** **CARRIED**

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30 **TRUCK ROUTES**

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32 Councilman Van Sandt briefly explained the problem the
33 City has regarding truck traffic within the City of Slidell. He
34 stated that Senator Hinton and Representative Scogin advised the
35 Council that establishing a "No Truck Route" in the City would
36 help to alleviate some of the problems. There was a brief
37 discussion of the definition of trucks, with Councilman Barthelemy
38 stating that we should not forget that many trucks have to make
39 local deliveries within the City. Councilman Van Sandt asked the
40 Council Administrator to investigate the State law.

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42 **FISCAL REFORM**

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44 Councilman Berault received a request from the Chamber
45 of Commerce to allow a representative to speak on the subject of
46 fiscal reform. Mr. Tom O'Connor addressed the Council. He stated
47 that the subject of fiscal reform deals with the entire tax
48 structure of the State, and that Governor Roemer's fiscal reform
49 package is very good and the whole concept needs to be passed.
50 Councilman-at-Large Martinez and Councilman Berault provided input
51 on the homestead exemption issue. Councilman Berault also
52 discussed sales tax in relation to reduction in millage. The
53 Council took this matter under advisement.

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55 **BLACK WATER**

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57 Councilman Callahan advised the Council that for the
58 past ten (10) days he has received many complaints on the
59 condition of the Slidell water in regard to odor and a black
60 residue. City Engineer, Stan Polivick, stated that Montgomery
61 Engineering recommended the dosage of chlorine to be used and that
62 all six (6) City wells are in compliance, and that the black residue
63 should pass through the system very soon. He added that monthly
64 samples are sent to the State Health Department for evaluation.
65 There was a general Council discussion with a request being made
66 to have the water tested in various neighborhoods throughout the
67 City on a routine basis. The following verbal resolution was
68 proposed:

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70 Councilman-at-Large Martinez, seconded by Councilman
71 Berault, requested that the City Administration draw up a proposal
72 for the testing of City wells on a routine basis, along with the
73 testing of water at various other locations throughout the City,
74 with the intention of balancing the chlorine treatment for taste
75 and color of the water.

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77 **ROLL CALL** **9 Yeas** **0 Nays** **0 Absent** **CARRIED**
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19 Since there was no further business to discuss, the
20 meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.
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22
23 *Richard B. Van Sandt*
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25 Richard B. Van Sandt
26 Councilman, District C
27 President of the Council
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30 *Davis Dautreuil*
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32 Davis Dautreuil
33 Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council
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