**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RAYNE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING, HELD ON December 11, 2023.**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Rayne, Louisiana, met in regular session at their regular meeting place the City Hall, Rayne, Louisiana, on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 (six) o’clock p.m.

There were present: Mayor Charles E. “Chuck” Robichaux, Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

The Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of Rayne, State of Louisiana, were duly convened as the governing authority of said City, by Mayor Charles E. “Chuck” Robichaux, who stated that the Board was ready for the transaction of business.

There was a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot to approve, correct, and dispense with the reading of minutes of the November 2023 regular council meeting and approved them as written and distributed. This was seconded by Kenneth J. Guidry, and motion carried.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by Kenneth J. Guidry a public hearing was opened for the purpose of a public discussion on:

Ordinance #2043-2023 – An ordinance to amend Chapter 22, Art. IV. Sec 22-235 entitled “Inspection fees; permit duration” and Article V. Sec 22-368 entitled “Statement of work to be done; cost of permits” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rayne to delete and repeal the fee schedule set forth in Article III Sec 22-99 as amended such that said sections shall read in their entirety as follows:

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by Calise Michael Doucet the public hearing was closed.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

The following ordinance was introduced by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux.

Ordinance #2044-2023

An ordinance amending Chapter 78 UTILITIES; ARTICLE II. – RATES AND CHARGES; Sec. 78-36. Service rates—Schedule and ARTICLE IV. – SEWERAGE; DRAINAGE; DIVISION 1. – GENERALLY; SEC. 78-110. - Review of User Fee to adjust the frequency of rate reviews and to provide for annual Consumer Price Index Adjustments to utility rates.

There was a motion by Kenneth J. Guidry and a second by Calise Michael Doucet to hold a public hearing for the January 8, 2024 City Council Meeting for Ordinance 2044-2023 and motion carried.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

The following ordinance was offered by Calise Michael Doucet and seconded by Kenneth J. Guidry.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2043-2023**

**An ordinance to amend Chapter 22, Article IV. Sec 22-235 entitled “Inspection fees; permit duration” and Article V. Sec 22-368 entitled “Statement of work to be done; cost of permits” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rayne to delete and repeal the fee schedule set forth therein and to refer to the fee schedule set forth in Article III Sec 22-99 as amended such that said sections shall read in their entirety as follows:**

**Sec. 22-235. - Inspection fees; permit duration.**

1. Duration of permit. If electrical work authorized under a permit is not commenced within 60 days after issuance of such permit or if the work is commenced and then discontinued for a period of six months from the date of the issuance thereof, the permit shall become void, and no work shall be done on the premises until a new permit is issued and all permit fees are paid. No refunds shall be made for permits that have become void. Where circumstances beyond the control of the applicant require that an extension of time be granted to complete the work, then upon application such permit may be extended at the discretion of the inspector for a period of not more than six months.
2. Inspection fees. Inspection fees shall be charged as set forth in Section 22-99.

**Sec. 22-368. - Statement of work to be done; cost of permits.**

1. Every applicant for a permit to install, add to, alter, relocate or replace plumbing, drainage systems or part thereof, or to install, alter or relocate any appliance, fixture, device or apparatus shall state in writing on the application form provided for that purpose the character of work proposed to be done, together with such information pertinent thereto, as the plumbing inspector may require.
2. Such applicant shall pay to the plumbing inspector for each permit issued and at the time of issuance, a fee in accordance with Section 22-99.

The above ordinance was adopted on a vote taken by yeas and nays entered on the minutes of the clerk as follows:

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

The ordinance is declared PASSED AND ADOPTED AT CITY OF RAYNE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, on this 11th day of December 2023.

ATTEST:

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**ANNETTE R. CUTRERA, CITY CLERK CHARLES E. ROBICHAUX, MAYOR**

The above ordinance was presented to the Mayor by the Clerk, approved by the Mayor and returned to the Clerk on this **11th** day of December 2023.

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**ANNETTE R. CUTRERA, CITY CLERK CHARLES E. ROBICHAUX, MAYOR**

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Calise Michael Doucet the City of Rayne financials for November 2023 which included budget to actual comparisons on the major funds was accepted by the Council.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by Kenneth J. Guidry a request authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with a pool repair company, based upon quotes, to repair the Green Room swimming pool to be a part of the future amendment of the general fund – Centers, Parks and Recreation Department 10/01/2023-09/30/2024 Budget in an amount not to exceed $27,100.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion Kenneth J. Guidry and a second by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot a request to re-appoint Jerry Bergeron as a member of the Rayne Planning and Zoning Committee for another term was accepted by the Council.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion Kenneth J. Guidry and a second by Calise Michael Doucet a request to re-appoint Lee Seilhan as a member of the Rayne Planning and Zoning Committee for another term was accepted by the Council.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

Mayor Robichaux announced the City of Rayne will once again have the New Year’s Eve fireworks display at Gossen Memorial Park at midnight.

Mayor Robichaux announced dates and times for fireworks for the upcoming holiday season. According to city ordinance, fireworks may be discharged December 15 through January 2, until 9:00pm, except on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve – there will be no time limit.

On a motion from Calise Michael Doucet and a second by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot a request from the Public Works Department to declare the following vehicles as surplus was accepted by the Council. 1-2002 Ford truck, vin TYR10U32PA62200; 1-1987 Chev ¾ ton truck, vin 1GBGR24K6HS154096 and 1-2003 Dodge RAM 1500, vin 1D7HA18D53J628217.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Kenneth J. Guidry the Council approved giving the City until the January 2024 to determine who legally owns the property at 802 Lyman to notify them the property needs to be repaired or demolished. Romel Charles claimed to own the property but failed to provide legal proof of ownership within 45 days of the October 9, 2023 meeting.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Calise Michael Doucet the owner of 804 Lyman – Romel Enterprises, Inc failed to secure a variance from the Rayne Planning and Zoning Committee as required by the October 9, 2023 council meeting. The council agreed that owner keep the back fence opened up and the dump truck should be removed once tagged by Code Enforcement.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Brian Seth Mouton the property located at 707 8th Street owned by Dominic Menard was represented by his granddaughter. She stated that she is in the process of opening two successions and agreed to provide proof of a plan for repair within 90 days.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by Brian Seth Mouton a request by the Knights of Columbus to hold a street drive on Friday, December 15, 2023, from 12:00pm to 5:00pm and Saturday, December 16, 2023, from 8:00am to 12:00pm on Highway 90/Texas Avenue and Highway 90/Highway 35 was accepted by the Council.

YEAS: 4 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 - James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot ABSENT: 0

The Engineer’s Report was presented by Tim Mader. There were no items presented that required action from the council.

There being no further business to come before the Council, there was a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot that the meeting be adjourned, this was seconded by Kenneth J. Guidry and carried.

YEAS: 5 - Brian Seth Mouton, Kenneth J. Guidry, Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

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**ANNETTE R. CUTRERA, CITY CLERK CHARLES E. ROBICHAUX, MAYOR**