

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF MINDEN, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN
IN REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MARCH 4, 2024**

The Minden City Council met at City Hall in Minden, Louisiana, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Nick Cox, Carlton Myles, Levon Thomas, Latasha Mitchell, Michael Roy, and Andy Pendergrass. Absence(s): None. Mayor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting. Prayer was offered by Levon Thomas and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Latasha Mitchell. It is noted for the record that Mayor Cox allowed both council and public comments prior to every vote.

Carlton Myles moved to adopt the minutes of the Minden City Council Regular Session held on February 5, 2024, as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Willie Combs, Jr. 217 Main Street Minden, Louisiana 71055	217 Main Street Lots #58 & 59, Williamson Jones Survey of Minden in NE/4 of NE/4 Sec. 28-19-9, Strip 20 x 130 ft. Adj. on West Side of Lot #58, Strip 10 x 120 ft. Adj. on South Side of Lots #58 & 59 & Strip 10 x 130 ft. Adj. on East Side of Lot #59 in NE/4 of NE/4 Sec. 28-19-9 (Formerly Alleys)
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With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 60 days of March 4, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Essie Lee Carter Newman c/o Debra Sinville Post Office Box 19423 Shreveport, Louisiana 71149	1105 Linden Street Lot #10, Blk. "U", Rosedale Subdiv.
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With no party representing the property owner present at the time that this item was heard, Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to appoint a curator in this matter. The motion was duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Lela Mae Washington Edwards 500 Front Street Minden, Louisiana 71055	406 Plateau Street Lot #1, Blk. "5", Harrell Heights & Strip 6 x 42 ft. Adj. (Formerly an Alley) in SW/4 of NW/4 Sec. 27-19- 9
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Tonkon Williams was present representing Lela Mae Washington Edwards' property. Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to issue an order declaring the property condemned and further order the demolition of any structures located thereon and the cleaning of the lot within 120 days of March 4, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was as unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

The following action was taken regarding condemned property:

Rosa Jackson 604 Lee Street Minden, Louisiana 71055	604 Lee Street South 25 ft. of Lots #6 & 7 & North 23 ft. of Lots #26 & 27, Blk. "11", Harrell Heights (Being a Lot 48 x 80 ft.)
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Eloise Sanders was present representing Rosa Jackson's property. Andy Pendergrass moved to table this matter until the Minden City Council April Regular Session. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Latasha Mitchell and duly seconded by Andy Pendergrass, the council unanimously awarded Bid No. 01-2024 – Construction of Minden Utilities & Control Center Office to the lowest qualified bidder meeting all requirements, Testament Construction Services, LLC. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Carlton Myles, the council unanimously voted to table awarding Bid No. 02-2024 – Street Improvements Project until the Minden City Council April Regular Session. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Latasha Mitchell moved to adopt a Resolution Declaring Certain City of Minden Property as Surplus and Fixing the Terms of Sale, as presented. This resolution is to surplus water meters. The motion was duly seconded by Michael Roy and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to adopt a Resolution Rescheduling the Minden City Council April 2024 Regular Session, as presented. This resolution reschedules the Minden City Council April Regular Session from April 1, 2024 to April 2, 2024. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Andy Pendergrass and duly seconded by Michael Roy, the council unanimously authorized Mayor Cox to execute an Engagement Agreement to retain the services of Katherine W. King of Kean Miller, LLP to serve as “outside counsel” for the City of Minden under the supervision of the City Attorney, subject to attorney review. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Carlton Myles moved to authorize Mayor Cox to execute an Exchange Deed for the exchange of property between the City of Minden and the Webster Parish School Board, subject to attorney review. The motion was duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Michael Roy moved to decommission and level the Clerk Street Water Plant, subject to attorney approval. The motion was duly seconded by Levon Thomas and the vote was unanimously in favor. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Upon motion by Carlton Myles and duly seconded by Latasha Mitchell, the council unanimously confirmed Branthonny Brown as a full-time police officer in the Minden Police Department, subject to passing all applicable tests. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

City Clerk Melaney Langford presented the Budget/Financial Report for the month of January 2024. No motion was required.

Fire Chief Brian Williams presented the Fire Report for the month of February 2024. No motion was required.

The Police Report for the month of January 2024 was unanimously accepted, as presented, by motion of Michael Roy and second by Latasha Mitchell. Abstention(s): None. Absence(s): None.

Announcements and council comments were heard. The meeting was then adjourned.

Nick Cox, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melaney Langford, City Clerk