
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, April 10, 2017 at 6:00 (six) o’clock p.m.

There were present: Mayor Charles “Chuck” Robichaux, Lendell J. "Pete" Babineaux, Curtrese L. Minix, Kenneth J. Guidry, Calise Michael Doucet and James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot.

There were absent: None.

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 “Chuck” Robichaux, who stated that the Board was ready for the transaction of business.

There was a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot to dispense with the reading of minutes of the March 13, 2017 regular council meeting and approved them as written and distributed. This was seconded by Calise Michael Doucet and motion carried.


NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

The proposed Ordinance #1099 has been introduced by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and will be considered for final passage on May 8, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The title of the proposed Ordinance is “An Ordinance to Supplement and Amend Appendix A- Zoning; Part 9, Part 14, Section 6.2.”

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot for the approval to conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on May 8, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Rayne Council Chambers at 801 The Boulevard during the next regular City Council Meeting for Ordinance #1099, An Ordinance to Supplement and Amend Appendix A-Zoning; Part 9, Part 14, Section 6.2. This was seconded by Kenneth J. Guidry and motion carried.


NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

The following resolution was offered by Kenneth J. Guidry, duly seconded by Calise Michael Doucet, and duly resolved and adopted on 10th day of April, 2017.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to enact legislation that will enable local governments to collect revenues already due that are essential to the maintenance and expansion of local and regional economies, the creation of thousands of new jobs, the enhancement of the quality of life, and the preservation of limited local revenue sources.

WHEREAS, many local governments rely on the collection of sales and use taxes to support funding to improve needed infrastructure improvements, strengthen local small businesses, create jobs for their citizens, and fund essential services; and
WHEREAS, local brick-and-mortar merchants are important parts of our communities, providing employment to residents, contributing to charities, and keeping communities vibrant; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has previously ruled that state and local governments do not have the authority to require the collection of sales tax by retailers that have no physical presence or nexus in the state (Bellas Hess 1967; Quill 1992); and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court’s precedent puts local merchants at an automatic five to ten percent competitive disadvantage by following the law and collecting sales tax at the time of purchase, while remote online retailers are not required to do so; and

WHEREAS, national studies reveal that state and local governments lose up to $30 billion each year from uncollected sales taxes from transactions involving remote internet retailers; and

WHEREAS, internet sales tax revenue could be utilized to better provide basic services, improve infrastructure, and bolster public safety, all without any additional funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has historically been reluctant to interfere with the ability of local governments to raise and regulate their own revenues, and should not undermine municipal autonomy with respect to remote sales tax collection; and

WHEREAS, technology has evolved to the point that moving the Marketplace Fairness Act or other legislation forward to allow the collection and remittance of destination rate-based sales taxes on internet transactions is not only practical but warranted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Rayne commends Congress on recognizing the importance of resolving the issue to put remote retailers and traditional ones on a level playing field; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Rayne urges Congress to pass destination rate-based legislation that would give states the option to collect from remote online retailers the same tax that local brick-and-mortar merchants currently collect; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, as well as Honorable Paul Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Honorable Bob Goodlatte, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:


NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0
This resolution was declared adopted on this 10th day of April, 2017.

Charles E. Robichaux, MAYOR

Annette R. Cutrera, CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATE

I, ANNETTE R. CUTRERA, Clerk of the City of Rayne, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Aldermen in regular session on April 10, 2017, at which time a quorum was present and voting.

By: Annette R. Cutrera, CITY CLERK

City of Rayne

There was a request by Ricky Meche to address the council about reducing the speed limit on Azalea Drive.

Announce that the millage rates(s) for the 2017 tax year will be adopted at the City Council Meeting on May 8, 2017.

On a motion by Kenneth J. Guidry and a second by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot, a Street Drive request by Frog Capital Boxing to be held on April 21, 2017 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm and April 22, 2017 from 8:00 am – 5:00pm at Hwy. 90/Texas Avenue and Hwy. 90/Hwy. 35 was approved.


NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, the City Council approved recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Commission Board for Ms. Dora M. Cole to construct a carport/garage within 20 feet of the required setback in the front of the property in an R-3 zoned address, located at 515 Martin Luther King St.


NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

There was a request by Michael Pitre to address the council about a safety concern.

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by Calise Michael Doucet, Mayor Charles E. Robichaux was authorized to execute a lease between the City of Rayne and Rayne Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture to lease the property needed to host the annual Rayne Frog Festival as described in the Act of Lease.

NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux, the owner of the property located at 803 E. Butler was given 90 days from April 10, 2017 to complete the demolition and clean the property.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion by Lendell J. “Pete” Babineaux and a second by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot, the owner of the property located at 315 N. Bradford was given 90 days from April 10, 2017 to complete the demolition and clean the property.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Curtrese L. Minix, the owner of the property located at 800 West S First St was given 120 days April 10, 2017 to complete the demolition and clean the property.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion to Lay on the Table by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Curtrese L. Minix, the owner of the property located at 806 West S First St.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion to Lay on the Table by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Curtrese L. Minix, the owner of the property located at 808 West S First St.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

On a motion to Lay on the Table by James A. “Jimmy” Fontenot and a second by Curtrese L. Minix, the owner of the property located at 210 Seventh St.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

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 Calies M. Doucet and carried.


NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Charles E. Robichaux, Mayor
Annette R. Cutrera, City Clerk