

The Town Council of the Town of Haynesville met in special session on Monday, April 8, 2024 in the Council Room at City Hall, 1711 Main Street, Haynesville, LA. The following were present:

Mayor Roderick Hampton

Visitors: Jeffery McNeill, William Wright, Sharon Swearingen, Larry Hill, Shane Huffstetler, Garrett Hedgepeth, Linda Beene, Shrocke Beene

Council: Mae Williams
Linda Holyfield
Betty Richardson
Dewatha Malone
Matt Faulkner

City Clerk Penny Fields

Asst. Clerk Courtney Tell

Chief of Police Anthony Smith

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hampton. Prayer was given by Mayor Hampton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call	District 1	Mae Williams	Absent
	District 2	Linda Holyfield	Present
	District 3	Betty Richardson	Present
	District 4	Dewatha Malone	Present
	District 5	Matt Faulkner	Present

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING A RESOLUTION FOR THE LOUISIANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (LCDBG) PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING SIGNATORY AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF HAYNESVILLE – The resolution was read by Clerk Penny Fields. On a motion by Betty Richardson, seconded by Dewatha Malone, to adopt resolution. Motion passed.

4 Yeas (Holyfield, Richardson, Malone, Faulkner) 0 Nay 1 Absent (Williams)

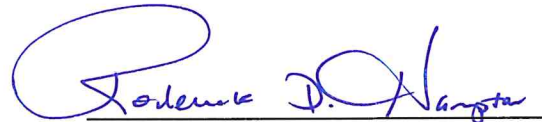
LEASE – PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR HAYNESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT – Officer Jeff McNeill and Chief Smith led a discussion regarding the proposed lease-purchase agreement with Ford Motor Co. to lease three vehicles. Chief Smith emphasized the urgent necessity for these vehicles due to the high maintenance cost associated with the current fleet. Councilwoman Mae Williams enters the meeting during discussion. Discussion on the cost of the lease, the cost of the needed equipment, the time the vehicles will be ready once they arrive at JPS Ford, etc. Clerk Penny Fields had recommended that at this time the town only lease one vehicle and apply for a grant to assist with purchasing another vehicle. Two proposals were presented: Lease 3 vehicles @ \$4,482.58/month with a residual to purchase for \$43,188.98 and lease 2 vehicles @ \$2,992.79/month with a residual to purchase for \$28,792.65. Councilwoman Williams questioned if other officers understand that there will be no room for raises if we purchase these vehicles. Chief Smith stated the vehicles are needed and that he couldn't blame our officer left for a higher paid department. After discussion, on a motion by Linda Holyfield, seconded by Matt Faulkner, to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with Ford Credit Municipal Finance to lease-purchase 2 vehicles for the police department and to seek grant funding for an additional 2 vehicles. Motion passed.

5 Yeas (Williams, Holyfield, Richardson, Malone, Faulkner) 0 Nay 0 Absent

Shrocke Beene addressed the council and commended the police officers for how she was treated when she needed assistance and stated that it is her opinion that they deserve raises and new vehicles.

There being no further business, on a motion by Betty Richardson, seconded by Mae Williams to adjourn. Motion passed.


Penny Fields, Clerk


Roderick Hampton, Mayor