

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2013**

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The Council of the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 12th of March 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

With Mayor Donald R. Cravins, Sr. presiding, the meeting was called to order.

The Mayor requested the City Clerk to call the roll and the following Council members were PRESENT: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin. ABSENT: None.

A moment of silent meditation was observed and Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 02/18//2013.

On a motion by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the agenda, with the following changes: *adding under the PRESENTATIONS Section, Item No. 11-A*, "Accept the Audit Report for 2011-2012"; *adding under the CONSENTS Section, Item No. 27*, "Accept the retirement of Police Lieutenant Dwain Grimmitt, effective 02/28/2013"; *Item No. 28*, "Accept the resignation of Police Officer First Class Rosalyn Bruno, effective 03/23/2013".

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation for recognition of the Employee of the Month. The Employee of the Month chosen for February 2013 is Mrs. Mary Rose. Mrs. Rose has been employed with the City of Opelousas City Court for 40 years and just retired last Friday. She has been married for 42 years and has two sons.

Presentation by Mr. Clarence Watson, Parks & Recreation Director, regarding seven and eight year old Bidy Basketball Champions. Mr. Watson stated that last year the ten year olds were the National Champs and this year the seven and eight year olds are National Champs. He also pointed out that they are undefeated. He stated that Trent Murphy is MVP of the team. Mr. Watson thanked the coaching staff and the parents. He then presented a trophy to the City for their support.

Presentation by representatives from the Boys & Girls Club regarding club status. Ms. Adrian Giron, director at the Opelousas Boys & Girls Club, made a brief presentation. She stated that the after school program that services at least 400 children during the year between the ages of 6 to 18 years of age offers education and career development which includes tutoring and an educational computer hour. The club also has high yield learning activities, such as basketball, dominoes, or pool, which are turned into math games or educational games. There is a book club now and rewards are given for homework and grades. Right now there are approximately 117 children participating in the after school program and 85% of the children are on honor roll. The club has performing arts and has developed a dance team. Health, life skills, nutrition, and financial skills are also taught. Sports and recreation and fitness are also accented. This year the club has chartered a Basketball team. Ms. Giron thanked the Council for supporting the local Boys & Girls Club and presented a plaque to the City of Opelousas.

Presentation by Mrs. Taneshia Aaron Chenier regarding her business location at 628 S. Railroad Avenue. Mrs. Chenier spoke in reference to her permit at 628 S. Railroad Avenue. She was issued this permit previously and she feels her permit was denied unfairly by the Council at the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Mayor Cravins recommended that Mrs. Chenier get an attorney and handle the matter legally. Mrs. Margaret Doucet stated that there were individuals present at the Planning Commission meeting from that neighborhood that stated that they did not want this business in the area. Mrs. Chenier stated that there were three people present at the meeting and that it was Mrs. Doucet who labeled it as a dance hall. Mrs. Chenier stated that she had it listed as a pool hall on her application. She also stated that the people who attended stated that it was an issue of parking and problems at the business next door. She stated that she did not have any officers coming to her business for any disturbances. Mrs. Doucet stated that when Mrs. Chenier came in to the office, one of the clerks in her office issued her a permit in error for a sports bar and the permit would have to be reissued because Mrs. Chenier would be opening a snack shop. Mrs. Doucet stated that after the permit was issued, she received information that other questionable activities were going on at that location. Chief Perry Gallow stated that they received information that there was drinking on the premises after hours. Mrs. Chenier stated she allowed the customers to come in with their own alcohol because she did not have a license to sell alcohol but no one from the police department ever came to her location or ticketed her. Mayor Cravins instructed the City Attorney to look at the issue to determine whether the

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City acted properly or improperly and give an opinion relative to that issue at the next meeting so that the Council can make a decision accordingly.

Accept Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Mr. Troy Courville, City Auditor, presented a summary of the 2011-2012 audit report to the Board. He stated that the overall financial condition of the City of Opelousas has improved slight but total expenses of the City continue to exceed total revenues. Mr. Courville requested that his auditing firm's services be extended for another two years for fiscal year 2013-2014. On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to extend the contract of the Kolder and Company Auditing Firm for two years for fiscal years 2012-2014. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the Audit Report for fiscal year 2011-2012.

Discussion regarding request by Mrs. Linda Walker for payment in the amount of \$1,545.90 to pay Civil Service Board attorney fees for January and February 2013. On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum, it was resolved to APPROVE the request by Mrs. Linda Walker for payment in the amount of \$1,545.90 to pay Civil Service Board attorney fees for January and February 2013. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: Julius Alsandor.

ABSENT: None.

THE MOTION PASSES.

Presentation by Chief Perry Gallow regarding annual leave. Chief Gallow addressed the Council regarding Resolution No. 18 of 2000 which pertains to annual leave. The resolution made annual leave "use it or lose it". He is requested that this resolution be rescinded because it is illegal and it supersedes state law. He stated that vacation time can be regulated but it cannot be taken away. Ms. Karen Frank informed the Council that if the resolution is rescinded then they will have to pay out much more which will deplete the fund balance. Mayor Cravins stated that they will have to see the state law that Chief Gallow is referencing in order for the attorney to review and interpret it. Chief Gallow stated that if all employees of the Police Department are to be paid from 2000 then it would be a total of \$655,000.00. This matter will be revisited at a later date after review by the City Attorney.

Presentation by City Attorney. No presentation at this time.

Engineer's Monthly Status Report. Mr. Jarrell was not in attendance. Mr. Kim Fontenot, Public Works Director, updated the Council on the McCarthy Lane Bridge Project. He stated that the project is about twenty-five percent complete. The projected date of completion is about three months.

Presentation by Mrs. Sandra Davis regarding lease of North Park Concession Stand. Mrs. Davis stated that she has a problem with the wording of the contract she signed for the lease of the North Park Concession Stand. She stated that she does not agree with the clause that states she has non-exclusive rights to operate the concession stand. Ms. Karen Frank, City Clerk, explained to her that this means that during special events or a benefit in the Park, another group may sell concessions from their own stand with the permission of the Mayor and Council. Ms. Frank pointed out that this does not affect Mrs. Davis' use of the concession stand.

BIDS

Accept Bids for Uniforms for the Police Department (Bid #02-13). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for Bids for Uniforms for the Police Department (**Bid #02-13**), two (2) bids were received:

GUIDRY'S UNIFORMS

ITEMS

PRICE, each OVERSIZE CHG _____

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1. Long sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$39.90	NONE
2. Short sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$38.90	NONE
3. Long sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$39.90	NONE
4. Short sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$38.90	NONE
5. Long sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$56.90	NONE
6. Short sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$51.90	NONE
7. Pant, polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$57.90	NONE
8. Raincoat/reversible, black/hi-vis yellow Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$109.95	NONE
9. Rain slicker, 3 piece reversible, black/hi-vis yellow, with hood, pant	N/A	N/A
10. Jacket, water proof, wind proof, with hood and pull down reflective panels Brand Bid – as specified Style # - as specified	\$110.90	NONE

THE UNIFORM SHOP

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>PRICE, each</u>	<u>OVERSIZE CHG</u>
1. Long sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid – Southeastern Style # - Z9103	\$41.00	(18-19) \$44.90 / (19 ½ -20) \$48.80 / (Tall, Long) \$73.00
2. Short sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid – Southeastern Style # - Z9203	\$38.25	(18-19) \$41.88 / (19 ½ -20) \$45.50 / (Tall, Long) \$66.00
3. Long sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, unstitched Brand Bid – Southeastern Style # - Z9101	\$39.25	(18-19) \$39.00 / (19 ½ -20) \$46.80 / (Tall, Long) \$71.00
4. Short sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets Brand Bid – Southeastern Style # - Z9201	\$36.25	(18-19) \$39.88 / (19 ½ -20) \$43.50 / (Tall, Long) \$64.00
5. Long sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid Style #	NO BID	NO BID
6. Short sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra	NO BID	NO BID

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Brand Bid			
Style #			
7.	Pant, polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid – Southeastern (see deviation) Style # - 3001	(28-42) \$42.00	(44-50) \$46.20 / (52-54) \$50.40 / (56-64) \$56.50
8.	Raincoat/reversible, black/hi-vis yellow Brand Bid – Neese Style # - 475RSJ3	\$92.95	(2x-6x) \$101.52
9.	Rain slicker, 3 piece reversible, black/hi-vis yellow, with hood, pant	N/A	N/A
10.	Jacket, water proof, wind proof, with hood and pull down reflective panels Brand Bid – Horace Small Style# - HS3350	\$124.95	(2x) \$134.95 / (3x) \$144.95 / (4x) \$154.95 / (5x) \$174.95

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Aldermen Louis Butler, Jr., and Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder meeting specifications.

Accept Bids for Type E Multi Grade Mix and Type B Cold Mix (Bid #03-13). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for Bids for Type E Multi Grade Mix and Type B Cold Mix (Bid #03-13), two (2) bids were received:

Bidder	Price
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Material Resources, Inc.
High Performance Cold Mix
BULK

Picked up at Material Resources facility:	\$93.50 per ton.
Delivered to City Barn:	\$101.75 per ton. 25 ton minimum.

50# BAGS

Picked up at Material Resources facility:	\$9.00 per bag.
Freight will be added for delivery. Minimum 1 pallet for delivery. 48 bags per pallet.	

The EZ Street Company
High Performance Cold Mix
BULK

Delivered	\$425.00 each. 1 pallet sack – 2,000 lbs.
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50# BAGS

Delivered	\$11.00 per bag. Minimum 1 pallet – 56 bags per pallet.
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On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder meeting specifications.

Accept Bids for Chlorine (Bid #04-13). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for Bids for Chlorine (Bid #04-13), three (3) bids were received:

Brenntag Southwest, Inc. (ALTIVIA)	NO BID
DPC Enterprises, L.P.	\$680.00/one ton cylinder \$94.00/one hundred fifty pound cylinder
Harcros Chemicals, Inc.	\$700.00/one ton cylinder \$125.00/one hundred fifty pound cylinder

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder meeting specifications.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:32 p.m. regarding AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE 303 OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS ZONING ORDINANCE THAT DEALS WITH DESIGN STANDARDS TABLE – ZONING DISTRICT SET BACKS.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:36 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 01 OF 2013

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AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE 303 OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS ZONING ORDINANCE THAT DEALS WITH
DESIGN STANDARDS TABLE – ZONING DISTRICT SETBACKS

To Amend Article 303, Section 303.02 that deals with the setbacks for R1, R2, R3, and NMU Residential:

The proposed amendments include:

Minimum Front Setback as follows:

- A. R1 (Residential 1) 20 ft.
- B. R2 (Residential 2) 20 ft.
- C. R3 (Residential 3) 20 ft.
- D. NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) Residential 20 ft.

Minimum Rear Setback as follows:

- A. R1 (Residential 1) 10 ft.
- B. R2 (Residential 2) 10 ft.
- C. R3 (Residential 3) 10 ft.
- D. NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) Residential 10 ft.

Minimum Sides Setback as follows:

- A. R1 (Residential 1) 5 ft.
- B. R2 (Residential 2) 5 ft.
- C. R3 (Residential 3) 5 ft.
- D. NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) Residential 5 ft.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on February 18, 2013, by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, notice of public hearing having been published, said public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum to adopt the ordinance, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED:

WHEREUPON, the Ordinance was declared duly adopted on this 12th day of March, 2013.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE FHWA RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FOR LOUISIANA (FRTPL), AS ESTABLISHED BY CFDA 20.219.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 02 OF 2013

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS
FROM THE FHWA RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
FOR LOUISIANA (FRTPL), AS ESTABLISHED BY CFDA 20.219

WHEREAS, the US Federal Government provides funds to the State of Louisiana for grants to state, local and non-profit organizations to acquire, develop and/or maintain motorized and non-motorized trails; and

WHEREAS, the FRTPL has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the program within the state and setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before the submission of said application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, State of Louisiana that support is given and does hereby:

1. Approve the filing of an application with FRTPL; and
2. Certify that the said applicant has or will have available prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, sufficient funds to build (including 20% local match), operate and maintain the project; and

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3. Appoint the Mayor as agent of the City of Opelousas to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to application, letter of commitment agreement, amendments, payment requests and completion report, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Approved and adopted the 12th day of March, 2013.

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted following a roll call vote:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO SIGN A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE RURAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE AND STALKING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE OPELOUSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 03 OF 2013

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE RURAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE AND STALKING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE OPELOUSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Opelousas Police Department wishes to make application for a grant in the amount of \$600,000 to fund the formation of a program dealing with the issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; and

WHEREAS, this grant will provide for three police officers and three police units for a period of three years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DO HEREBY AUTHORIZE MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE RURAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE AND STALKING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE OPELOUSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted on this 12th day of March, 2013 following a roll call vote:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

CONSENTS

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the resignation of Police Officer Wilfred Morton, effective 02/20/2013.

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs, seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the recommendation of Chief Perry Gallow for suspension of Police Officer First Class Tyrone Davis for twenty (20) hours without pay for violation of the Civil Service Rule 2497 (Leave of Absence Subsection J) and violation of the Opelousas Police Department Policy and Procedures General Order 14.3.9 (Unauthorized Use of Time – Improper Use of Time).

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to approve the recommendation of Chief Perry Gallow for payment of accrued annual leave and/or unused compensatory time to the following resigned/retired personnel in the Police Department:

a. Dwain Grimmert 877 hours \$24,705.09

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: Blair Briggs.

ABSENT: None.

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The following items are being deleted pending legal counsel's opinion at next month's meeting:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--|
| a. Kenneth Edwards | 1,615 hours | \$38,937.65 |
| b. Edward Smith | 69 hours | \$ 1,080.54 |
| c. Darren Zachary | 80 hours | \$ 1,252.80 |
| d. *Wilfred Morton | (-40 hours) | \$ (-533.20) no payment due - <i>used more annual leave than available</i> |

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the recommendation of Chief Perry Gallow regarding the hiring of Robert Shawn Taylor as a Police Officer Recruit, effective 03/17/2013, pending Fire & Police Civil Service approval of test score. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Louis Butler, Jr., Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: Julius Alsandor and Blair Briggs.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the recommendation of Chief Perry Gallow regarding the hiring of Shone Richard as a Police Officer Recruit, effective 03/17/2013, pending Fire & Police Civil Service approval of test score. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Louis Butler, Jr., Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin.

NAYS: Julius Alsandor and Blair Briggs.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the retirement of Police Lieutenant Dwain Grimmert, effective 02/28/2013.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the resignation of Police Officer First Class Rosalyn Bruno, effective 03/23/2013.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Gallow announced that Lt. Dwain Grimmert was retiring after 32 years of service with the Opelousas Police Department. He informed the Council that Lt. Grimmert had helped to solve nine cold cases with one dating back to 1988. Lt. Grimmert stated that he has enjoyed the time he was with Opelousas Police Department and that he has been hired by the Sheriff's Department as an investigator.

Mr. Kerstan Major inquired about some vacant mobile homes in his neighborhood that were scheduled to be demolished. He stated that he spoke to Alderman Reginald Tatum and Mrs. Margaret Doucet over six month's ago regarding this matter. Mrs. Doucet stated that they have been busy doing demolitions but they have been having several delays due to weather conditions. Mayor Cravins stated to Mrs. Doucet that this matter should be completed within three weeks.

Mr. Joseph Citizen stated that the last time he addressed the Council about horses, he was referred to the Chief of Police; but there are still horses roaming in the area. Chief Gallow stated that if they are called, they will issue citations and impound the horses.

Mayor Cravins announced that Mr. Citizens was just given a pin for being a member of the Laborers International Union of North America for 50 years.

Mrs. Margaret Doucet stated that the Trash Bash would be held Saturday, March 16, 2013

Alderman Julius Alsandor offered his condolences to the family of the late Mr. George Fisher and also to the Mayor Cravins on the loss of his brother, Patrick Cravins.

There being nothing further to come before the Council, on a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously seconded and carried, it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK

MAYOR