

MINUTES

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Springhill, Louisiana met in regular session in the Council Chambers at Springhill City Hall on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor W. Ray Huddleston presiding.

PRESENT: Dennis Smith, Stacey Willard, Mike Whitlock, and Derek Melancon, Aldermen.

ABSENT: Dimettera Frazier.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston called the meeting to order.

Alderman Mike Whitlock opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Huddleston asked to have the agenda amended to include an item of business for the Springhill Airport to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with LA DOTD for Phase II of the Runway Taxiway Project and adopt a Resolution.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to amend the agenda for this particular item of business.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on June 9, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the financial statement for June 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Amie Poladian, speaking as a volunteer with the Main Street Board informed the public that she had ended her employment as the Main Street Manager effective July 5, 2025 as she has accepted the position as Director of the Webster Parish Convention and Tourism Commission effective July 8, 2025. The position for the Main Street Manager Position with the City of Springhill is now open and they are taking resumes at Springhill City Hall. Amie will be serving as a volunteer in the position in the interim to keep up with the current grants and activities until a new Main Street Manager is hired.

The next Farmers Market is Saturday, August 2, 2025. Also, the Downtown Road Maps Meeting was scheduled to be held the second week of August has now been postponed till November so that hopefully a new Main Street Manager will be present to be more involved in that. This will be conducted November 17–19. This is to develop a five-year downtown strategic plan.

The match project grant opens tomorrow for \$2,000 exterior façade improvements. The June winner was M & M Floral who will use the funds for new signage, awning and window repairs.

Amie congratulated Sharpe's for the new outside signage and renovations to their building. Good job Sharpe's!

Amie went on to say that she is excited about working with Webster Parish Tourism and helping promote tourism for all of Webster Parish.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with LA DOTD and adopt the Resolution for the Springhill Airport Runway and Taxiway Rehabilitation Project.

MOTION CARRIED.

At this time City Attorney Chance Nerren opened the sealed bids for the surplus vehicles and equipment. There is a minimum of \$500 for the vehicles, \$1,000 for the Harley Davidson Motorcycle, and no minimum on the tractor or the other equipment.

There were two bids for the 2007 Chevrolet Avalanche. The first bid was from James Durham, JJ Merchant in the amount of \$2,377.77 and the other bid was from Vince Bartalini in the amount of \$1,020.00. City Attorney Nerren asked the Council if they would like to award the high bid to James Durham, JJ Merchant.

City Council voted YES to award the bid to James Durham for the 2007 Chevrolet Avalanche.

The next bid was for the 2014 Dodge Charger. There was only one bid from James Durham, JJ Merchant in the amount of \$777.77.

City Council voted YES to award the bid to James Durham for the 2014 Dodge Charger.

The next bid was for the 2002 Ford F-150. There was only bid received in the amount of \$377.77. This is below the minimum of \$500.00

City Council voted to retain the vehicle.

The next bid was for the 2008 Ford 250. There was only one bid in the amount of \$377.77. This is below the minimum of \$500.00.

City Council voted to retain the vehicle.

The next bid was for the second 2008 Ford 250 on the list. There was only one bid in the amount of \$377.77. This is below the minimum of \$500.00.

City Council voted to retain the vehicle.

The next bid was for the 2010 Ford F-150. There was only one bid in the amount of \$377.77. This is below the minimum of \$500.00.

City Council voted to retain the vehicle.

The next bid was for the 2006 Harley Davidson Motorcycle. There were two bids for this item. The first one was James Durham, JJ Merchant in the amount of \$2,277.77 and the second one was from Ronnie Dees in the amount of \$2,006.00.

City Council voted to award the high bid to James Durham, JJ Merchant for the 2006 Harley Davidson Motorcycle.

The next bid was for the John Deere Tractor. There were two bids on the tractor. The first bid was from James Durham, JJ Merchant in the amount of \$1,277.77 and the second one was from Ronnie Dees in the amount of \$503.00.

City Council voted to award the high bid to James Durham, JJ Merchant for the John Deere Tractor.

The next item for bid was the 6' Red Bushhog. There was only one bid received in the amount of \$177.77 from James Durham, JJ Merchant.

City Council voted to award the bid to James Durham, JJ Merchant for the 6' Red Bushhog.

The last item for bid was the 2 Storage Bins. There were three bids for the 2 storage bins. The first was from James Durham, JJ Merchant for \$27.77, Ronnie Dees for \$100.00, and Vince Bartalini for \$730.00.

City Council voted to award the bid to Vince Bartalini for the 2 storage bins.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to approve the Police Chief's recommendation to give a pay step increase to Kevin Lavack for completing the police academy.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dennis Smith to authorize payment of the June 2025 monthly vendor bills totaling \$121,910.47.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: None.

Meeting Adjourned.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor