

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, December 8, 2025 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor W. Ray Huddleston presiding.

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

ABSENT: None.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston called the meeting to order.

Alderman Dimettera Frazier opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on November 10, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the financial statement for November 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Amie Poladian, Webster Parish Convention and Tourism Director thanked everyone for coming out and participating in the Downtown Strategic Road Map Meetings. This was a very important step for our community to get a master plan developed which will make Springhill eligible to be able to apply for bigger grants in the future to help develop our community.

Amie's last job as volunteer Main Street Board Member and acting volunteer interim Main Street Manager was the Springhill Christmas. Amie congratulated the Springhill-North Webster Chamber of Commerce for an excellent Mistletoe Market, there were thousands in attendance. There was a great parade that evening and thanks to all the people that came out and supported the parade and the lighting of the Christmas tree before the rain moved in.

Brianna Savoy, Main Street Board President has now rolled off the Main Street Board after serving a three-year term and this will create an opening on the Springhill Main Street Board. They would love to have more board members and there is a vacancy on the board now. If anyone is interested, please let them know.

Tanya Capps, Main Street Manager said that the Springhill Mardi Gras Parade will be held on Friday, January 30, 2025. This is a night parade. They are getting everything set up with vendors, parade, patrons and all things fun with Mardi Gras.

Mayor Huddleston thanked them both for the report on Main Street Activities.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Mike Whitlock to table the "Burn Ordinance" as the Board of Aldermen have not had time to look at it and go over it.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve the 2026 list of alcohol license renewals.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to authorize the Mayor to enter into agreement with Delta Regional Authority for the grant awarded for the lift station on 7th Street SE.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Mike Whitlock to Adopt a Resolution to provide additional funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the DRA award and in the event of an administration change, the new Mayor shall continue to have such authority under this Resolution.

MOTION CARRIED.

Police Chief Will Lynd asked that the recommendation for agenda item (f) to terminate Amandia Hamilton be pulled and that the recommendation for agenda item (g) be to reinstate Amandia Hamilton from suspension effective November 10, 2025.

Chief Lynd went on to state that Officer Hamilton had been arrested by the Louisiana State Police and he had a letter from the Webster Parish District Attorney's Office stating that they would not be prosecuting her for

what she had been arrested for due to the fact that it was the wrong charge and was not prosecutable. She did not commit a crime.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to accept the Police Chief's recommendation to pull agenda item (f) and to accept the Police Chief's recommendation for agenda item (g) be to reinstate Amandia Hamilton from suspension.

A brief discussion followed on the matter.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Dimettera Frazier, seconded by Derek Melancon to approve Police Chief's recommendation to move Ana Gonzalez from part-time to full time effective December 21, 2025 to replace Cliff Causey who is retiring.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Mike Whitlock, seconded by Dimettera Frazier to authorize payment of the November 2025 monthly vendor bills totaling \$115,623.80.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements:

Mayor Huddleston announced that the Springhill Press and News Journal is closing effective December 31, 2025 with the last paper being printed on December 19, 2025. This is the official journal for the City of Springhill and others. Vicky Darst has been at the paper for thirty-five years. It was originally the Garrisons, then their son-in-law and daughter Danny and Ann Scott for many years, then a Natchitoches paper was the last owner of it. It will be missed. There will probably be a recommendation to appoint the Minden Press Herald as the official journal at the January 2026 Council Meeting.

Mayor and Mrs. Kay Huddleston attended the Christmas Community Concert on Saturday, December 6 headed up by Alderman Dimettera Frazier. It was a really good event at Westside Community Center. There was a lot of children in attendance with a lot of bicycles being gave away along with gift cards. It was kid oriented and a really nice event.

Alderman Frazier thanked Mayor and Mrs. Kay Huddleston for taking time out of their schedule to attend this special event. It was very much appreciated and their presence meant a lot.

Alderman Frazier also thanked Webster Parish Police Juror Allen Gilbert for giving them the budget to buy the Christmas lights outside.

Alderman Melancon thanked all the city employees for all their hard work setting up all the Christmas lights. It really looks good and it is much appreciated. Springhill looks first class.

Alderman Melancon also announced that the Fuller Center has obtained a \$25,000 grant to help low-income families with wills, heir property issues, and legal issues for free. Bonvenu Bank is the sponsor for this.

No further announcements were made.

Meeting Adjourned.

Shelli Malone, LMMC
City Clerk

W. Ray Huddleston
Mayor