

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BOSSIER CITY
STATE OF LOUISIANA TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2026**

The City Council of the City of Bossier City, State of Louisiana, met in Regular session in City Court, 620 Benton Road, Bossier City, Louisiana, January 6, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

Council President, Chris Smith called the meeting to order.

Invocation was given by Council Member Joel Girouard

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Vince Maggio

Roll Call as follows:

Present: Honorable Councilor, President Chris Smith, Honorable Councilors Craton Cochran, Vince Maggio, Brian Hammons, Debra W. Ross, Cliff Smith, and Joel Girouard

Also Present: Mayor, Thomas Chandler, City Attorney, Charles Jacobs, and City Clerk, Phyllis McGraw

Ceremonial Matters/Recognition of Guests

Lisa Johnson, President of Bossier City Chamber of Commerce, went over the 2025 BeBossier campaign and various efforts to increase visitors, including blog posts and social media engagement. She also mentioned relaunching the BeBossier Annual Manual. Mrs. Johnson thanked the Council for funding the BeBossier campaign in 2026.

City Clerk, Phyllis McGraw read the statement about public participation in the meeting and disclosure of conflicts.

By: Mr. Joel Girouard

Motion to approve Agenda

Seconded by Mrs. Debra W. Ross

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Cliff Smith

Motion to approve Minutes of the December 16, 2025, Regular Meeting and dispense with the reading.

Seconded by Mr. Brian Hammons

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Bids

Witness Opening of Sealed Bids for Bid #1563-2025, Demolition of 2441 Hoyer Street

A Williams Enterprises, Inc.: \$17,000

Abatement Services: \$18,700

Eagle Industries, LLC: \$20,740

By: Mr. Brian Hammons
Motion to approve reading of bids
Seconded by: Mr. Vince Maggio
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Witness Opening of Sealed Bids for Bid #1574-2025, Demolition of 4807 Orchid Circle
Abatement Services: \$23,475
Eagle Industries, LLC: \$24,750

By: Mr. Joel Girouard
Motion to approve reading of bids
Seconded by: Mr. Cliff Smith
No comment
Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Public Hearings/Actions on Unfinished Business

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$21,989.73 FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL AND CONTINGENCY FUND FOR SEAL WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON VERTICAL TURBINE PUMPS AT BOTH THE INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT PUMPING STATIONS AT THE RED RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.

WHEREAS, the Red River Wastewater Treatment Plant relies on multiple vertical turbine pumps at both the influent and effluent pumping stations to maintain continuous and reliable facility operations; and

WHEREAS, the existing seal water supply and distribution systems on these pumps require improvements to ensure proper cooling, lubrication, and protection of the pump shaft packing assemblies, thereby preventing seal failure, loss of pumping capacity, and potential plant process disruptions; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Department has determined that the seal water improvements are necessary to extend equipment life, improve operational stability, and reduce unplanned maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for labor, materials, and installation for the seal water improvement project is \$21,989.73; and

WHEREAS, \$21,989.73 shall be appropriated from the Sewer Capital and Contingency Fund for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that \$21,989.73 is hereby appropriated from the Sewer Capital and Contingency Fund to complete seal water improvement projects for the vertical turbine pumps located at the influent and effluent pumping stations at the Red River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the 2025 Sewer Capital and Contingency Budget is hereby amended to increase expenditures for this project by \$21,989.73 and to reduce Fund Balance by the same amount.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents necessary to execute the intent of this Ordinance.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mr. Joel Girouard and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE RECOGNIZING THE BOSSIER CITY MARSHAL VEHICLE LISTED SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY.

WHEREAS, the Bossier City Marshal's Office owns and is in possession of the following listed vehicle:

1. 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN # 1GNLC2E05CR155319

WHEREAS, the 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN # 1GNLC2E05CR155319 is a high mileage vehicle and is no longer fit for use by the Bossier City Marshal Office; and

WHEREAS, the condition and high mileage rate of said vehicle makes it unfit and impractical for sale at auction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the Bossier City Council declares said vehicle, 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN # 1GNLC2E05CR155319, surplus to the needs of the City and hereby grants the Bossier City Marshal office the authority to donate said vehicle to the Hossten Police Department as authorized by law for public use of said vehicles. City Marshal, Jimmie A. Whitman shall be further authorized to execute any and all documentation necessary to effect said donation.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 3 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 55 OF 2020 TO TRANSFER THE SURPLUS FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR DESIGN OF CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST PROJECT HAMILTON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, Hamilton Road is a major corridor and one of the first entry points into Bossier City, serving as a critical gateway from the interstate into the community. The project will enhance the roadway and its surrounding infrastructure to support safety, mobility, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bossier City submitted a capital outlay request for improvements that include roadway rehabilitation, pedestrian enhancements, upgraded street lighting, and safety-focused modifications to reduce traffic hazards. As well as aesthetic and functional upgrades at interstate access points, creating a more welcoming and modern entrance into Bossier City; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton Road Improvement Project has a cost estimate of \$6,500,000 from Interstate 20 to state HWY 80; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 55 of 2020 has surplus funding in the amount of \$425,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the surplus of \$425,000.00 shall be appropriated from the Walter O'Bigby Carriageway Fund for the design efforts and construction documents to begin ahead of capital outlay appropriations for Hamilton Road Improvement Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in regular session convened that the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, does hereby authorize the Mayor to appropriate the available surplus funding from the Walter O'Bigby Carriageway fund to be used to begin engineering design and construction documents for Hamilton Rd. Improvements; and authorizes the City to enter into any necessary contracts for completion of the work.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents including but not limited to planning and design services in connection with the furtherance of this Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Walter O'Bigby Carriageway fund is hereby amended to transfer surplus funding by \$425,000.00 and decrease Fund Balance by \$425,000.00.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 4 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR THOMAS H. CHANDLER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY AND CENTRAL SQUARE TECHNOLOGIES, LLC TO UPGRADE EXISTING BUSINESS LICENSE TAX SOFTWARE

WHEREAS, Central Square Technologies, LLC has provided financial software to the City for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, this upgrade is essential due to the existing software no longer being supported; and

WHEREAS, an executed agreement is required to allow for the software to be upgraded; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are budgeted for the upgrade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Bossier City Council, in regular session convened that Mayor Thomas H. Chandler is hereby authorized to execute the proposed agreement with Central Square Technologies, LLC and said agreement is hereby approved.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Brian Hammons and seconded by Mr. Cliff

Smith and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 5 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR THOMAS H. CHANDLER TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY AND THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF FACILITY PLANNING AND CONTROL

WHEREAS, the City of Bossier City received Capital Outlay funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 from the Louisiana State Legislature in the 2025 Regular Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Outlay Act requires that appropriations for Non-State Entities be administered by the Office of Facility Planning and Control under Cooperative Endeavor Agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, hereby authorizes Mayor Thomas H. Chandler the authority to execute the attached Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of Bossier City and the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Mayor Thomas H. Chandler is authorized to sign any and all documents in connection with the furtherance of FP&C Project No. 50-M29-25-01.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Ordinance offered and adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. 6 OF 2026

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR THOMAS H. CHANDLER TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED JOINT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOSSIER CITY AND BOSSIER PARISH SCHOOL BOARD FOR THE COLLECTION OF SALES AND USE TAXES.

WHEREAS, on December 7, 1989, the City of Bossier City (“City”) and the Bossier Parish School Board (“BPSB”) entered into an agreement entitled JOINT/AGREEMENT FOR COLLECTION OF SALES AND USE TAXES. The purpose of said agreement included the establishment of the *Bossier City–Parish Sales and Use Division* (“Division”). This newly established department was created to provide for the collection of sales and use tax levied by the City as well as sales taxes levied by BPSB.

The agreement was also adopted to establish the payment terms whereby BPSB would reimburse the City for expenses and costs associated with the collection of sales tax by the City for the benefit of BPSB; and

WHEREAS, the BPSB has levied and has collected within the boundaries of the Parish of Bossier since September 1, 1979 a tax of one and one-half cent (1 ½%) and an additional one quarter cent (0.25%) since 2005 upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption and storage for use or consumption of tangible personal property and on sales of services in Bossier Parish; and

WHEREAS, the interest of Bossier Parish, its merchants, citizens and taxpayers are best served by the collection, by a single collector, of all sales and use taxes levied by the taxing authorities in accordance with La. R.S. 47:337.14(A); and

WHEREAS, the BPSB has agreed that the most efficient and practical method of collecting and distributing said taxes is to continue to contract with the City, as the single collector of all local sales and use taxes levied in Bossier Parish, for the collection of the BPSB's sales and use taxes; and

WHEREAS, Representatives of the City and BPSB have worked diligently in recent days to negotiate the draft agreement that provides for a ten (10) year extension of the collection of sales and use tax by the City on behalf of BPSB; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of Bossier City, in regular session convened, that Mayor Thomas H. Chandler is hereby authorized to execute the attached Joint Agreement marked as Exhibit "A" between the City of Bossier City and the Bossier Parish School Board for the collection of sales and use taxes.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was discussed and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Joel Girouard and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026, with the votes listed below. Further this Ordinance will publish on January 14, 2026 and become legal 10 days following publication.

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

New Business

By: Mrs. Debra W. Ross

Motion to introduce an Ordinance to approve Report of Change Order 2 for the Lateral B-1 Ditch Paving Project, with an increase of \$88,750.00 and an additional 10 days for a total contract price of \$2,225,272.00.

Seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio

Mr. Hammons, Mr. Girouard, and Andy Bajnauth, City Engineer, discussed the location the change order work would cover.

No further comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Cliff Smith

Motion to introduce an Ordinance to repeal Ordinance 138 of 2015 and declare "The Voting Board" as surplus to the City's needs and provide for disposal according to law.

Seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio

No comment

Motion carried with the following votes:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Hammons

Agenda item called - Introduce an Ordinance to amend the 2026 City Council Operating and 2026 City Council Capital Fund Budgets.

By: Mr. Brian Hammons

Motion to amend Ordinance to remove \$55,000 from the 2026 General Fund Fund Balance to be added to City Council line item 52510 for Council initiated Audit Services and to remove the \$40,000 vehicle request from the Ordinance.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Joel Girouard

Motion to introduce Ordinance as amended.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Agenda item called - Introduce an Ordinance to transfer \$2,500,000 from the Riverboat Gaming Trust Fund to the Risk Management Fund for Workers' Compensation Premiums.

By: Mr. Joel Girouard

Motion to amend Ordinance by reducing the transfer amount from \$2,500,000 to \$2,200,000 from the Riverboat Gaming Trust Fund to the Risk Management Fund for Workers' Compensation Premiums.

Seconded by Mrs. Debra W. Ross

At Mr. Hammons request, Angela Williamson, Finance Director, explained the reasoning behind the reduction.

No further comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

By: Mr. Joel Girouard

Motion to introduce Ordinance as amended.

Seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith

No comment

Vote in favor of motion is unanimous

Agenda item called - Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Hiring of a Wastewater Plant Operator for the Red River Plant in Public Utilities Dept. Backfilling any vacancy this may create.

Mr. Girouard and Todd Thompson, with Waggoner Engineering discussed the position.

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION 1 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR FOR THE RED RIVER PLANT IN PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPT. BACKFILLING ANY VACANCY THIS MAY CREATE.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to the hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for any labor including temporary or contractual employment.

WHEREAS, the position of Wastewater Plant Operator is vacant due to transferring to another dept.; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the department assure that all current budgets have been verified and that no authorized salary has been exceeded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the administration is authorized to proceed with hiring procedures for the fulfillment of this position.

The above and foregoing Resolution was read in full at open and legal session convened, was on motion of Mrs. Debra W. Ross and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio, and adopted on the 6th day of January 6th 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION 2 of 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF ONE TRAFFIC CONTROL TECHNICIAN IN THE TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to the hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for any labor including temporary or contractual employment;

WHEREAS, the position of Traffic Control Technician is vacant due to resignation; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the department assure that all current budgets have been verified and that no authorized salary has been exceeded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the administration is authorized to proceed with hiring procedures for the fulfillment of this position.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mr. Joel Girouard and seconded by Mr. Cliff Smith and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

The following Resolution offered and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 3 OF 2026

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OR PROMOTION OF AN ACCOUNTANT I
IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT DUE TO RESIGNATION AND BACKFILLING ANY
VACANT POSITIONS THIS MAY CREATE**

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 76 of 2019 implemented a budgetary control requiring a resolution to be approved by the Bossier City Council prior to the hiring or employment of any individual receiving wages, compensation, or remuneration for any labor including temporary or contractual employment; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Department has an available position due to resignation of an employee; and

WHEREAS, this resignation provides for an opportunity to hire a replacement or promote from within and backfill any vacancies created; and

WHEREAS, this action will have no impact on the existing budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that the administration is authorized to hire or promote an Accountant I in the Finance Department and backfill any vacancies this may create with no impact to the existing budget.

The above and foregoing Resolution was presented and opened for public comment in open and legal session convened, was adopted on a motion by Mrs. Debra W. Ross and seconded by Mr. Vince Maggio and adopted on the 6th day of January 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Chris Smith, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Hammons, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Cliff Smith, Mr. Girouard, and Mr. Maggio

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Chris Smith, President

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

Announcements

Mayor Tommy Chandler introduced new Fire Chief Blair Bockhaus.

Mr. Chris Smith thanked the Bossier City I.T. Department, Phyllis McGraw and Emily Pitts with the City Clerk's office for all their hard work in preparing and setting up the City Court for Council meetings.

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk

Publish January 14, 2026

