
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERPERSONS

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderpersons was held in the Courtroom at City Hall at 6:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 10, 2025. Mayor Mark A. Moore, Sr. presided.

Roll call was as follows:

Present: Angela Tappin (District A), Henry Doaty, (District B), James Green (District C), Darry Green, (District D), Howard Loche (District E)

Absent: None

The Invocation was given by Mr. Doaty. Mr. D. Green led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Rules of Order were suspended to expand the agenda to discuss the contract for video recording for the City of Bastrop and to discuss ARPA funds, on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. Loche and Mr. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Charles Bradford, 1320 North Washington Street, gave comments regarding the use of ARPA funds provided to each council district, the finance report, the planning and zoning report, the audit report, and the budget. Mr. Bradford asked the Council to consider attorney pay before passing the budget.

A resident expressed concern regarding trash being dumped near her home at the corner of Bently and Montgomery. Attorney Devin Jones stated the issue will be addressed through Code Enforcement.

Mr. Daniel Manning, 500 Orion Drive, stated he had a petition against the zoning request for the property located at 607 Orion Drive

Ms. Tappin asked the public to stay well-hydrated. She said the young and the elderly are at greatest risk of dehydration. Mr. D. Green announced there is a Facebook page for District D. Mayor Moore thanked the Sheriff and others during the cleanup project on June 28, 2025. He also thanked the public for its support during the inauguration. The Mayor recognized Mr. Bradford for his service as Councilman for the City of Bastrop. Mayor Moore thanked Mr. J. Green and Mr. D. Green for assisting with cleanup efforts. Mr. J. Green thanked Ms. Wanda Davis, Korea Davis and Attorney Ricky Smith for assisting with cleanup efforts on Cooperlake Road. Ms. Tappin announced repairs to the intersection of Highland Avenue and Country Club Road will begin soon. The Mayor stated he will find out the dates work will begin. The Mayor said Veolia Water will fill in a hole located in the parking lot.

Mr. Doaty thanked citizens for support during his campaign to become Councilman for District B. He stated he looked forward to working with everyone for the good of the City. He asked that the administration keeps the public informed with any updates of the Division/McFee Bridge project.

Mayor Moore recognized Keep Morehouse Beautiful for donating supplies for cleanup efforts.

Mr. J. Green expressed his desire the City addresses drainage issues on Cooper Lake Road. He said the City will check with engineers to assess the costs and the funding needed to address the matter. Mr. Loche commented that the same is needed on Eden Drive.

Mayor Moore thanked Mr. Jamie Mayo and volunteers with cleanup efforts.

The minutes for the Regular Meeting June 12, 2025, and the Special Meeting June 30, 2025, were presented to the Council.

Attorney Jones reported that the City will aggressively address code enforcement and will resume Environmental Court. The Code Enforcement Officer position is expected to be filled within the next 30 days.

Police Chief Leondrio Reed reported there is still a shortage of officers in the department. He said the Sheriff's Office is providing supplemental patrols. The Council discussed payment for supplemental patrols and the number of officers needed per shift.

Ms. Tappin recognized local students for assisting with Mr. Mayor with cleanup efforts in the city: Mr. Jakyran Avance (Grambling State University) and Mr. Demarus Wilson (Jackson State University).

Resolution 25-2103, to amend the operating budget for revenues and expenditures Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 and to adopt the operating budget for revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 was rejected on a motion by Mr. J. Green, seconded by Ms. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote. The Council requested the budget resolution be separated into a resolution to amend the budget and a resolution to adopt the budget.

Ordinance 25-4282, to establish procedures for special use permits was tabled to be considered at the August 14, 2025 City Council meeting, on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. J. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 25-2104, to appoint Mr. Devin Jones and J. Rodney Pierre City Attorneys, was approved on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. D. Green, and Mr. J. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed Resolution 25-2105, to appoint Special Account for budget and policy legal services—Ricky Smith, B.B.A., J.D.

Resolution 25-2105, to appoint Special Counsel for budget and policy legal services—Ricky Smith, B.B.A., J.D., was approved on a motion by Mr. Loche, seconded by Mr. J. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed Resolution 25-2106 to select the Official Journal.

Resolution 25-2106, to select the Official Journal, was tabled until the August 14, 2025 City Council meeting, on a motion by Mr. J. Green, seconded by Ms. Tappin, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed Resolution 25-2107 to approve M5 Consulting Group LLC for Chief of Staff services.

Resolution 25-2107, to approve M5 Consulting Group LLC for Chief of Staff services, was approved on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 25-2108, to appoint Angela Tappin as Mayor Pro Temp, was approved on a motion by Mr. J. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed a request for a Special Use Permit for the property located at 607 Orion Drive. Attorney Jones reported the owner has agreed to attach the structure to the home, making it a garage.

The request for a Special Use Permit for the property located at 607 Orion Drive was approved on a motion by Mr. J. Green, seconded by Mr. D. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Zoning Application for the property located at 131 Elm Street, was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The request for a Special Use Permit for the property located at 340 N. Locust Street was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The request for a Special Use Permit for the property located at 1812 East Madison Avenue was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Zoning Request for the property located at 408 South Odom Street was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Zoning Request for the property located at 107 East Madison Avenue was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Special Use Permit for the property located at 501 Fairview Drive was approved on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. J. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Zoning Request for the property located at 203 North Odom Street was tabled on a motion by Mr. D. Green, seconded by Mr. Loche, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Zoning Request for the property located at 397 Shady Oaks Street was approved on a motion by Mr. Loche, seconded by Mr. J. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed how Dotson Park Grant funds and Peep Grant funds were used.

Mr. Smith said expenditures in the 2025-2026 budget will be itemized to provide a clearer view of how it is used.

The Council discussed how the City's video and website services are paid.

The Council discussed how ARPA funds were budgeted and being used. Ms. Tappin asked the record to reflect it was not the will of the Council that the remaining funds were "washed" into the general budget.

Attorney Jones informed the Council Ms. Mary Hawkins received payment for work completed using ARPA funds for District A.

Reverend Jeffery Jones, 1750 Robinson Street, discussed overgrown lots in the neighborhood have created a nuisance of raccoons and rats. Reverend Jones commented it is dark on the west side of town.

The Council discussed improving lighting around the city.

The Mayor recognized Morehouse Baptist Educational Association Moderator Reverend Johnny Green and Morehouse Parish School Board members Ms. Veronica Tappin and Ms. Adrin Williams attending the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Tappin, seconded by Mr. D. Green, followed by a unanimous vote.