

00-261

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 12, 2000

Item No. 1 – Call to order – Chairman Kenneth Wheat called the meeting to order.

Item No. 2 – Invocation – Councilman Rodney Brown gave the invocation.

Item No. 3 – Roll call – Clerk Sylvia Forbes called the roll. Present were Kenneth Wheat, Charles Nassauer, Rodney Brown, Relton Sumrall, Marvin Thomas and Darwin Sharp.

Absent was Clinton Miley.

Item No. 4 – Consent Calendar – Councilman Brown offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Sumrall, to adopt the consent calendar which included adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 4, 2000 and adoption of the financial report.

Item No. 5 – Public hearing – Chairman Wheat opened the public hearing on an ordinance to allow Parish Disposal to exercise the option of extending their contract for garbage collection for an additional five years.

No one addressed the council during the public hearing.

Councilman Brown offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Sharp, to adopt Ordinance No. 00-261 allowing Parish Disposal to extend their contract for five years. A roll call vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: 6 (Thomas, Sharp, Wheat, Nassauer, Brown and Sumrall)

NAYS: 0 (None)

ABSENT: 1 (Miley)

Item No. 6 – Public Service Commissioner Jay Blossman – Commissioner Blossman informed the council that there was going to be a change in the calling plan for Washington Parish. In addition to a change in area code the parish will have toll free calling within the parish. The free parish wide calling will begin on Thursday. He advised if this was a current service on residents' phone bill, they should contact Bell South for cancellation. He said that Senator Thomas and Representative Nevers were instrumental in getting this service for the parish.

Councilman Brown asked if he knew what the new area code would be.

Commissioner Blossman said the new area code will be 985 and would become effective February 12, 2001. Either area code can be used until the first or second week in October.

Councilman Brown said there were some dead areas in Washington Parish for cell phones and asked if Bell South had plans to build a telecommunications tower in the parish.

Commissioner Blossman replied he did not know, but would ask a representative from Bell South to advise the council if they had plans to build a tower

Item No. 7 – Public Participation – No one addressed the council during public participation.

Item No. 8 – Parish President's Report – President Taylor said he had several reappointments to make and asked the council to ratify those appointments.

Councilman Brown offered a motion, seconded by Councilman Sharp, to reappoint Vick Stringfield to the Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 for another 5-year term. All in favor, the motion carried.