

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 19-965

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2020 ANNUAL OPERATING
BUDGET AND ADOPT THE AMENDED 2019
ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET OF THE
WASHINGTON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2020 Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020 and for the Amended 2019 Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019 for the Washington Parish Tourism Commission is hereby adopted as per Budget Summary attached hereto and made a part hereof (Addendum A) and (Addendum B).

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:

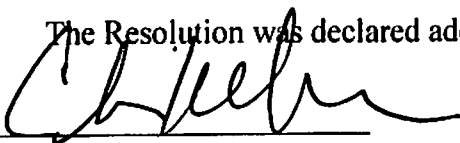
YEAS: (7) Fussell, Workman, Lewis, McMasters, Fornea, Anthony and Talley

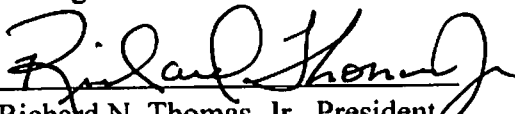
NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAINED: (0)

The Resolution was declared adopted on the 16th, day of December, 2019.

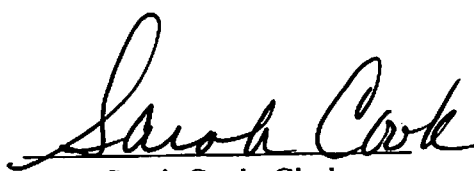

Chris Workman, Chairman
Washington Parish Council


Richard N. Thomas, Jr., President
Washington Parish Government

CERTIFICATION

I SARAH COOK, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Washington Parish Council in Regular Session convened on the 16th day of December, 2019.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 16th day of December 2019, Franklinton Louisiana.


Sarah Cook, Clerk
Washington Parish Council



WASHINGTON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION

1950 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKLINTON, LA 70438
985-839-5228
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1-888-827-7118

Email: wptour@bellsouth.net or
wptour@washingtonparishtourism.com
Website: www.washingtonparishtourism.com

November 22, 2019

Washington Parish Council
909 Pearl St
Franklinton, LA 70438

Attn: Sarah Cook, Secretary

Please find attached the Washington Parish Tourism Commission 2019 Amended Budget, and the 2020 Proposed Budget, which were reviewed and adopted by the Washington Parish Tourism Commission during the regular monthly meeting on November 21, 2019. As customary, budget items require Parish Council review and action, and must be placed on the Council agenda for a regularly scheduled Council meeting.

The Proposed 2020 Washington Parish Tourism Commission budget is based on information available at the time of discussion. As you know, the Washington Parish Tourism Commission operates solely on State appropriated funds, a rebate of a percentage of the state hotel/motel taxes collected within the parish and paid to the State. Our appropriation remains \$43,025 in 2019-2020, if that much is collected. Washington Parish Tourism sponsored parish highway maps, Here's Washington Parish magazine, and Louisiana Northshore Quilt Trail maps with ads and these items will be distributed over the next year. Washington Parish Tourism also maintains an online presence in order to promote local events to a wider audience.

We continue as members of Louisiana Travel Promotion Association, Miss-Lou Rural Tourism Education Initiative and the Southeast Louisiana Gumbo Marketing consortium in order to promote Washington Parish events and attractions. We take advantage of educational opportunities through the Lt. Governor's Annual Tourism Summit and the Louisiana Rural Tourism Initiative, which provides social media workshops and the Rural Tourism conference each year, as well as working on the Scenic Byway program. This year we worked with the State Office of Tourism to grow the statewide Civil Rights Trail, attending meetings and encouraging locals to contribute their stories to be included in this effort. Events in Washington Parish are included in the State calendar maintained on the Louisiana Travel website, and we take advantage of promotional opportunities offered by that office such as the Destination Louisiana campaign in the past and the special 2020 "Mardi Gras across Louisiana" coming up in Spring.

Finally, we purchased six State Highway signs at entrances to the Parish to recognize the Bicentennial anniversary of Washington Parish. These were installed and in place as Fair visitors drove in for that event and should stand for a number of years, with much appreciation to Ken Wheat and Parish Government for permitting and approval assistance and the Regional District Office of Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development for quick installation and other assistance during the process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Washington Parish Tourism Commission

By: Katherine Mayor, Office Manager

Enc

December 10, 2019

Mr. Chris Workman
Chairman, Washington Parish Council
909 Pearl Street
Franklinton, LA 70438

Re: Proposed Ordinance No. 19-659 (Washington Parish Alcohol Policy)

Dear Mr. Chairman,

My name is Weldon Crawford, and I am the owner of the Circle C Market at 14296 Hwy 21 in Bogalusa (just outside city limits). I am writing to you today to voice my support for the proposed ordinance referenced above. I'd also like to ask you to pass this letter on to the other Councilmen so my views can be communicated to them too.

As you may recall, my wife Mary and I attended the last Council meeting where the ordinance was introduced, and I briefly voiced our support at that time.

Mary and I have been extremely impressed with Washington Parish as a whole, and that was furthered again at the last Council meeting. We have done business in other parishes in the state, but none have been as easy and efficient as Washington Parish. Furthermore, at the last Council meeting we were welcomed and appreciated so much, we felt like we were at a family gathering. In our business, we call that "customer service", and Washington Parish has it!

Regarding the proposed ordinance in question, as I said earlier we are in favor of it. Additionally, we know hundreds of our customers are also in favor of its passage...and are eagerly awaiting our area to come up to speed with the rest of Bogalusa and Franklinton.

I'd like to quickly give some reasons for our belief that the time has come for this update to the policy:

1. We, at Circle C Market, are currently experiencing an unfair retail environment, relative to Bogalusa proper, and St. Tammany Parish to our South. There are 4 stores in our 2-block area that are outside of the Bogalusa city limits, and therefore cannot sell alcohol on Sundays....whereas the rest of Bogalusa can...and those stores are just down the road from us.
2. We have a huge number of parish residents (constituents) that have camps down the side road next to our store. There are over 100 camps in the area. On weekends, and in particular on Sunday, they wish to purchase alcohol from us, but can't. This is particularly hard on them on Saints football game days.
3. For various reasons, many of our customers choose to drive to Sun in St. Tammany Parish to purchase alcohol, rather than drive into Bogalusa for their purchases. Many explain to me that the "river" is on the way to Sun, and that's why they prefer to go to St. Tammany. The implication is clear: We are driving tax dollars to St. Tammany, rather than retaining them in Washington Parish.

4. Requiring people to drive further to purchase alcohol seems to introduce a large "safety" component in the mix. Safety should be the first concern when reviewing the policies of Parish Government.
5. It seems pretty obvious that new growth in Bogalusa will probably be concentrated along the Hwy 21 corridor, heading south toward Sun and Bush. As such, we believe it is time for our part of Washington Parish to come up to speed with laws that will encourage that growth, and be able to enhance the services offered.
6. Lastly, I would like to commend the Council for introducing this ordinance, and trying to improve the intent of the laws for all citizens. One provision that I personally feel is an excellent addition, is the limit on selling alcohol after 2:00 am each day. This provision goes directly to the heart of the "safety" issue. Since St. Tammany Parish also has a 2:00 am cut-off time, our residents will not be compelled to visit St. Tammany after our local cut-off time is reached, thus getting people off of the streets and back home.

In closing, I thank you and the Council for addressing the alcohol policy, and for entertaining our thoughts and comments. We appreciate this opportunity to voice our opinion, in writing and in person at the Council meetings.

Sincerely,



Weldon Crawford
Circle C Market

Circle C Market
14296 Hwy 21 South
Bogalusa, LA 70427
504-858-3138 cell

Washington Parish Tourism Commission
Amended Budget
2019

Revenue:

State of Louisiana	
Sales Tax Dedication	\$ 42,500
Interest Income	1,000
Miscellaneous Income	<u>0</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 43,500

Expenses:

Salary – Office Manager	\$ 15,000
Payroll Taxes – Office Manager	1,250
Travel	
Commissioners	700
Office Manager	900
Rent	12,000
Utilities & Telephone	7,400
Insurance (Contents & Liability)	500
Office Supplies	263
Professional Fees	300
Subscriptions	110
Postage	0
Miscellaneous Expense	1,313
Equipment	
Purchase	0
Maintenance & Repair	0
Educational Seminars	1,310
Dues	1,000
Website	0
Advertising & Promotions	1,355
Total Expenses	\$ 43,401
Net Profit (Loss)	\$ 99
Tourism Commission Building Fund	\$ 0
Net Difference	\$ 99

Adopted by Washington Parish Tourism Commission on November 21, 2019.

Washington Parish Tourism Commission
Amended Budget
2019

Revenue:

State of Louisiana	
Sales Tax Dedication	\$ 42,500
Interest Income	1,000
Miscellaneous Income	<u>0</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 43,500

Expenses:

Salary – Office Manager	\$ 15,000
Payroll Taxes – Office Manager	1,250
Travel	
Commissioners	700
Office Manager	900
Rent	12,000
Utilities & Telephone	7,400
Insurance (Contents & Liability)	500
Office Supplies	263
Professional Fees	300
Subscriptions	110
Postage	0
Miscellaneous Expense	1,313
Equipment	
Purchase	0
Maintenance & Repair	0
Educational Seminars	1,310
Dues	1,000
Website	0
Advertising & Promotions	<u>1,355</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 43,401
Net Profit (Loss)	\$ 99
Tourism Commission Building Fund	\$ 0
Net Difference	\$ 99

Adopted by Washington Parish Tourism Commission on November 21, 2019.

Washington Parish Tourism Commission
Proposed Budget
2020

Revenue:

State of Louisiana	
Sales Tax Dedication	\$ 49,000
Interest Income	1,500
Miscellaneous Income	<u>0</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 50,500

Expenses:

Salary – Office Manager	\$ 17,250
Payroll Taxes – Office Manager	1,320
Travel	
Commissioners	1,000
Office Manager	1,000
Rent	12,000
Utilities & Telephone	7,500
Insurance (Contents & Liability)	500
Office Supplies	300
Professional Fees	300
Subscriptions	110
Postage	110
Miscellaneous Expense	0
Equipment	
Purchase	3,000
Maintenance & Repair	200
Educational Seminars	1,310
Dues	1,000
Website	400
Advertising & Promotions	<u>1,000</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 48,300
Net Profit (Loss)	\$ 2,200
Tourism Commission Building Fund	\$ 0
Net Difference	\$ 2,200

Adopted by Washington Parish Tourism Commission on November 21, 2019.