



PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR SESSION HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The Council of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana met in Regular Session at its meeting place, the Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 200 South Jefferson Street, DeRidder, Louisiana on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. President Randy Larken called the meeting to order, Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr. led the Invocation and Councilmember Keith Hooper led the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States of America. The roll was called by the Clerk as follows: Councilmember Keith Hooper, Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte' Woods, Councilmember John Marcello, Councilmember Danny Reynolds, Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken. All Councilmembers were present representing a quorum. Also present were Glenna Luther, Council Clerk; Michael Harris, Mayor; Shane Williams, City Attorney; and LTC Gutierrez, Ft. Polk Officio Councilmember.

5. **Visitors' Docket.** Brenda March addressed the Council concerning protocol for lasers within the City.

7. **Adoption of Minutes.** President Larken announced that the January 26, 2026 meeting minutes have been distributed and there being no corrections, the minutes were approved by the Council.

12. RESOLUTIONS

A. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF DERIDDER AND AUTHORIZING ITS SUBMISSION FOR STATE AND FEDERAL APPROVAL.

The Resolution was read by Mr. Williams. There were no public comments or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Marcello made the motion to adopt the Resolution as read and Councilmember Reynolds offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte' Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

The Resolution having been unanimously approved, it was adopted by the Council as Resolution R-2026-4 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. R-2026-4

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF DERIDDER AND AUTHORIZING ITS SUBMISSION FOR STATE AND FEDERAL APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana, in Regular Session assembled, does hereby adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder recognizes that natural and man-made hazards, including but not limited to severe weather, flooding, hurricanes, winter storms, and other emergencies, pose a threat to the safety, health, and economic well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) requires local governments to develop and adopt a Hazard Mitigation Plan as a condition of eligibility for certain federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation grant programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and

WHEREAS, the Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed with input from local officials, emergency management personnel, community stakeholders, and the public, and reflects the specific needs and conditions of the City of DeRidder; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan demonstrates the City's commitment to proactive planning, community resilience, and responsible governance;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of DeRidder , Louisiana that:

- SECTION 1:** The City Council hereby adopts the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of DeRidder, as presented, including any required updates, appendices, or revisions.
- SECTION 2:** The Mayor of the City of DeRidder, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents and to submit the adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Louisiana Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review and approval.
- SECTION 3:** City departments and officials are directed to consider the goals, strategies, and actions identified in the Hazard Mitigation Plan when making decisions related to land use, capital improvements, infrastructure, and emergency preparedness.
- SECTION 4:** Adoption of this Resolution does not obligate the City to expend funds beyond those appropriated by the City Council but positions the City to pursue available state and federal hazard mitigation funding opportunities.
- SECTION 5:** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be maintained on file with the City Clerk and made available to the public in accordance with applicable law.

Adopted this 9th day of February, 2026, by the City Council of DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENNA LUTHER CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

B. A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AND COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUNGER IN THE CITY OF DERIDDER.

The Resolution was read by Mr. Williams. There were no public comments or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Godfrey made the motion to adopt the Resolution as read and Councilmember Woods offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

- YEAS: Councilmember Monte’ Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.
- NAYS: None
- ABSENT: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.

The Resolution having been unanimously approved, it was adopted by the Council as Resolution R-2026-5 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. R-2026-5

A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AND COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUNGER IN THE CITY OF DERIDDER

WHEREAS, access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food is a basic human necessity and an essential foundation for the health, education, and economic stability of individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity affects children, seniors, working families, veterans, and vulnerable populations within the City of DeRidder and throughout Beauregard Parish, creating barriers to learning, employment, and overall well-being; and



WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder recognizes that hunger is not only a social concern but also a community challenge that requires cooperation among government, nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups, schools, businesses, and residents; and

WHEREAS, local food banks, pantries, charitable organizations, and community volunteers provide critical services by distributing food, coordinating outreach, and offering compassionate assistance to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Michael D. Harris and the City of DeRidder are committed to supporting efforts that strengthen families, reduce hardship, and promote dignity and opportunity for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, community initiatives such as food drives, school pantry programs, senior nutrition efforts, and emergency food assistance play a vital role in addressing immediate needs while fostering long-term solutions; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between municipal leadership and community partners is essential to ensure that resources are effectively utilized and that no resident of DeRidder goes without nourishment or support;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana, that:

SECTION 1. The City of DeRidder hereby formally acknowledges the seriousness of food insecurity and affirms its commitment to addressing hunger within the community.

SECTION 2. Mayor Michael D. Harris and the City Council express their sincere appreciation and full support for local food banks, charitable organizations, faith-based institutions, schools, volunteers, and community partners who work tirelessly to provide food assistance and related services to residents in need.

SECTION 3. The City encourages continued community involvement through donations, volunteer service, partnerships, and participation in food drives and outreach programs aimed at reducing hunger and improving access to nutritious meals.

SECTION 4. The City further supports the development and coordination of programs and policies that strengthen food security, promote collaboration, and enhance the overall health and resilience of the DeRidder community.

SECTION 5. A copy of this Resolution shall be made available to local food banks, community organizations, and the public as an expression of the City's commitment to combating hunger and supporting those who serve.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of February, 2026, by the City Council of the City of DeRidder, Louisiana sitting in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers at DeRidder, Louisiana

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

13. ORDINANCES

A. Introductions.

- 1. AN ORDINANCE ENLARGING THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER, LOUISIANA, UNDER AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTE 33:172, AND ANNEXING CERTAIN AREAS THERETO AS DESCRIBED MORE FULLY HEREINBELOW;**



**AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES
IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

Councilmember Reynolds made the motion to introduce the above-entitled Ordinance as read by Mr. Williams and Councilmember Marcello offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte' Woods, Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing in Regular Session on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

2. **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER THROUGH ITS MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BEAUREGARD PARISH SHERIFF ("SHERIFF") AND THE COASTAL TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL ("SCHOOL") FOR THE USE OF FACILITIES TO SUPPORT DRIVER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT WITHIN BEAUREGARD PARISH AND THE CITY OF DERIDDER, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

Councilmember Hooper made the motion to introduce the above-entitled Ordinance as read by Mr. Williams and Councilmember Reynolds offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte' Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing in Regular Session on Monday, February 23, 2026 at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

13. ORDINANCES

B. Public Hearings.

1. **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER THROUGH ITS MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRINER DRILLING SERVICE, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRS TO THE MAYS STREET WELL, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Williams. President Larken opened the public hearing and there were no public comments or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Hooper offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte' Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was adopted as Ordinance No. 2026-3; Charter Series, as follows:



**ORDINANCE NO. NO. O-2026-3
CHARTER SERIES**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER THROUGH ITS MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRINER DRILLING SERVICE, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRS TO THE MAYS STREET WELL, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder (“City”) has determined that it is necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens to repair the Mays Street Well; and

WHEREAS, City desires to enter into a contract with Griner Drilling Service, Inc. constituting Exhibit “A” hereto and has determined that the quote for said repairs best fits City’s needs and is the lowest proposal submitted to the City by an acceptable proposer:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council of the City of DeRidder, authorizes the City of DeRidder, through its Mayor, to enter into a contract with Griner Drilling Service, Inc., as set forth and in accordance with the terms and conditions, and for the consideration, set forth in Exhibit “A” hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of February, 2026 by the City Council of the City of DeRidder in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers in DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENNA LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

- 2. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A 2026 KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE MINI GRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER’S ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 26, 2026 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Williams. President Larken opened the public hearing and there were no public comments or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Labue made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Hooper offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Monte’ Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was adopted as Ordinance No. 2026-4; Charter Series, as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. O-2026-4
CHARTER SERIES**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A 2026 KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE MINI GRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CITY OF DERIDDER’S ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THE KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 26, 2026



THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder, Louisiana (“City”) desires to keep the City clean and beautiful by reducing litter, promoting education, enforcing litter laws and cleanup programs throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser and Keep Louisiana Beautiful recently announced its initiative as part of the State’s ongoing commitment to litter reduction and community beautification and a Keep America Beautiful summit will be held February 26, 2026 through February 28, 2026 at the Marriott New Orleans, bringing together more than 500 national and local leaders in recycling, climate resilience, and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, City has applied for and been awarded a 2026 Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate Mini Grant for the purpose of City’s attendance and participation in the Keep America Beautiful Conference scheduled for February 26, 2026 through February 28, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires that City enter into an agreement with Keep Louisiana Beautiful pursuant to the 2026 Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate Mini Grant, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit “A”:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council of the City of DeRidder authorizes the City of DeRidder, through its Mayor, to enter into the 2026 Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate Mini Grant for the purpose of City’s attendance and participation in the Keep America Beautiful Conference scheduled for February 26, 2026 through February 28, 2026, all as set forth in Exhibit “A” hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of February, 2026 by the City Council of the City of DeRidder in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers at DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENNA LUTHER, LMMC/CMA
CITY COUNCIL CLERK

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

- 3. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER THROUGH ITS MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH DERIDDER BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL, INC. FOR A PART OF WEST PARK FOR RECREATION OF THE YOUTH OF THE AREA FROM MARCH 1, 2026 THROUGH JULY 15, 2026, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Williams. President Larken opened the public hearing and Tim Cooley, Caleb Cooley and Marcus Vasquez provided an update on financials and registration to the Council, including the announcement of opening day as March 21, 2026. There was further discussion among the Council and DeRidder Baseball board members present. Councilmember Hooper made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Reynolds offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte’ Woods, Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was adopted as Ordinance No. 2026-5; Charter Series, as follows:



**ORDINANCE NO. O-2026-5
CHARTER SERIES**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER THROUGH ITS MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH DERIDDER BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL, INC. FOR A PART OF WEST PARK FOR RECREATION OF THE YOUTH OF THE AREA FROM MARCH 1, 2026 THROUGH JULY 15, 2026, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder, owns the premises commonly referred to as West Park in DeRidder, which said park includes baseball fields, a jogging/walking trail, swing sets, exercises areas, barbecue pits, picnic areas, a swimming pool facility and parking lots with entrances to same, all situated in the south of Park Road, to the west of North Pine Street (US Highway 171) and to the north of High School Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder is obligated to provide recreation to its youth; and

WHEREAS, DeRidder Baseball and Softball, Inc. (“DBS”) is a Louisiana non-profit corporation with its domicile in DeRidder, Louisiana which has provided recreation to the City’s youth for many years through use of said baseball fields, concession and storage building, adjoining parking lots and roadways from High School Drive to the parking lot to the immediate northeast of the fields, all in West Park; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of DeRidder hereby declares that it is in the best interest of the City to enter into a cooperative endeavor with the said DBS, pursuant to the said Exhibit “A” so as to provide recreation to the City’s and area youth:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City of DeRidder, through its Mayor, join with DBS in a cooperative endeavor to provide recreation to the City’s and area youth from March 1, 2026 through July 15, 2026, all pursuant to the aforementioned Exhibit “A”.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of February, 2026 by the City Council of the City of DeRidder in regular session duly convened in Council Chambers at DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

- 4. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRIPMASTER BY CTS SOFTWARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SOFTWARE UPGRADES, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE CITY OF DERIDDER’S TRANSIT DEPARTMENT; AND FURTHER REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.**

The title of the Ordinance was read by Mr. Williams. President Larken opened the public hearing and there were no public comments or remarks from the Council. Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilmember Marcello offered a second. The motion having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows, to-wit:

YEAS: Councilmember Keith Hooper; Councilmember Wayne Godfrey, Sr., Councilmember Monte’ Woods, Councilmember John Marcello; Councilmember Danny Reynolds; Councilmember Vincent Labue and President Randy Larken.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.



The motion having been unanimously approved, the Ordinance was adopted as Ordinance No. 2026-6; Charter Series, as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. O-2026-6
CHARTER SERIES**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DERIDDER, THROUGH ITS MAYOR, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TRIPMASTER BY CTS SOFTWARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SOFTWARE UPGRADES, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE CITY OF DERIDDER'S TRANSIT DEPARTMENT; AND FURTHER REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the City of DeRidder ("City") desires to enhance and upgrade its Transit Department's dispatching and scheduling capabilities through the installation of software designed to maximize operational efficiency, support future growth in ridership by enhancing the passenger experience, and promote a positive and effective work environment for its employees; and

WHEREAS, TripMaster by CTS Software specializes in providing software products, upgrades, and technical support to the public transportation industry; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that entering into such an agreement is in the best interest of its residents, businesses, employees, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to enter into a contract with TripMaster by CTS Software, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that the proposal submitted by TripMaster by CTS Software best meets the City's needs and represents the lowest responsive proposal submitted by an acceptable proposer:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council of the City of DeRidder, authorizes the City of DeRidder, through its Mayor, to enter into a contract with TripMaster by CTS Software, as set forth and in accordance with the terms and conditions, and for the consideration, set forth in Exhibit "A" hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED on this 9th day of February, 2026 by the City Council of the City of DeRidder in Regular Session duly convened in Council Chambers in DeRidder, Louisiana.

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Reports. Mayor Harris introduced the Mayor's Youth Council and the winners of the Owl Naming Contest from Pinewood Elementary. LTC Gutierrez provided to the Council his report on behalf of Ft. Polk. Chief Richard announced that Mardi Gras will be coming up and he provided an update on the KCS traffic. Chief Richard then reported that the Police Department received its 2026 statistics and DeRidder has dropped to the 5th safety city in Louisiana and the Police Department came in 6th again this year in National Night Out. Chief Harlow reported that the Department received its insurance rating package and improved our grading from a Class 3 to a Class 2 which will result in a decrease in the City's homeowners' insurance on the fire side. Councilmember Labue reported that this fire rating decrease is a big deal for the City. Councilmember Woods thanked the Mayor, Lt. Buckley, Chief Richard and Martin Scott for helping with things in her district and taking the time out to listen to what we had to say and thanked all for the prayers during her recent procedure. Councilmember Godfrey recognized the professionalism of the City's firefighters during the recent fire and thanked them for a job well done. Councilmember Reynolds reported that he spent last Saturday next to a good friend who watched his building burn to the ground and commended the Fire Department for an unbelievable job with three firemen short and with District 4 coming into assist at the scene. Councilmember Marcello commended the fire department for its professionalism, skill and training that our firemen demonstrated which is a credit to the Fire Department along with our Police Department.



In response to a question from Councilmember Hooper, Chief Harlow responded that the Fire Department's new equipment, including trucks, helped with the fire rating and that it was not just the Fire Department, it included public works and the whole city along with Fire District 4 providing assistance at the scene. President Larken congratulated the students and parents on the Mayor's Youth Council, thanked the parents for being involved in the things that takes place in the City, and encouraged the parents to attend City Council meetings in the future.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 o'clock p.m.

ATTEST:

GLENN LUTHER, CMA/LMMC
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RANDY LARKEN
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL