

**SHREVEPORT CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

February 11, 2014

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chairman Joe Shyne.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilman O. Jenkins seconded by Councilman Corbin for approval. Motion approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmen Rose McCulloch, Everson, O. Jenkins, Corbin, Shyne, and S. Jenkins. 6. Absent: Ron Webb. 1. Nays: None.

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by the Mayor

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by City Council Members

Communications of the Mayor

Councilman Shyne: Mr. Mayor, I've just been told, too, that we need to hurry up because it's coming down.

Mayor Glover: We have none, Mr. Shyne, except to say that it is coming down. Those operations that were opened today have shut down and their sending their folks home. Caddo, Bossier, Desoto Parish Schools have announced their closure on tomorrow.

Councilman Shyne: Right, and I didn't want to hold us too long because I know Mike's wife is waiting for him to get home and I wouldn't want him to have an accident because I'd be blamed for it. Have we had all the communications from council members? If we have, this Council Meeting is adjourned. Thank y'all very much for coming out.

Communications from Council Members

Public Comments

Councilwoman McCulloch: Public Comments (inaudible) speaker –

Councilman Shyne: I'm sorry. Public Comments – Pastor, come forward.

Councilman O. Jenkins: We were thinking about you, just so it's said.

Councilman Shyne: I imagine you were.

Pastor Mayes: (New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church – 335 E. Dalzell, Shreveport, LA) First of all, I just want to briefly commend you guys on coming together –

Councilman Shyne: I'm sorry. Bea, did you get his name and –

Mrs. Pierce: Yes sir. I got it.

Councilman Shyne: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Mayes: First of all, I just want to thank you guys for coming together with a peaceful resolution as it relates to the dog park. Thank you, Mr. Everson and this council and the Mayor's Office for not using the taxpayer's dollars to fund this particular dog park event. We love the dogs, but we thank you all for keeping the spirit of this council in not being partisan in doing the work that should be done anyway. With that being said I just want the council to just look at this. That's a picture in there and that picture in there is a picture of the owner of a restaurant by the name of Pastor Mayes. So I own the restaurant. I know some on the council never owned a business or never been in business so this is me. This is a magazine that one of our local black artist owners own this magazine so this is me because I know how to run a business and I know business. I've been in my church for almost 20 years. Just want to say a few things that relates to race relations and black history, not to offend anyone, but I'll read off a few names and to some they'll be familiar, to others they don't care and I just want to read off their names to you. It's only a few so we're not going to be long; Trayvon Martin, black man killed; Marquise Hudspeth, black man killed; Jordan Davis, black man killed; Albert Brooks, black man killed; Alfred Wright, black man killed; Ronald Hill, black man killed and the list goes on and on and on and on. Now some might say during this Black History Month, "Why are you up there Pastor Mayes and what is the significance of you being there?" Well, those that do nothing bring shame on us all and I know doing the historical Civil Rights Movement 50 years later now I'm still reading off the names of black mens that are still getting killed. And either they were either at the wrong place at the wrong time, that's what most people have said in our over-all communities. Maybe Pastor Mayes, maybe these mens were just at the wrong place at the wrong time. Well, if it doesn't happen to you it does not reflect you directly so I'm not going to hold up a lot of time.

Councilman Shyne: Just a minute. We're gonna extend you 3 more minutes. Is that alright with the council?

Councilman Everson: So move.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Second.

Pastor Mayes: Thank you for that council. Like I said, I'll be brief. I just wanted to say to bring some enlightenment to our historical events that have taken place and how some of us have sat down and went to sleep and have decided that we gonna go along to

get along. It saddens me when people think it's a game when you come up and you are legitimately concerned about the people from which you serve. My uncle and my father pastored in this city for over 50 years. He was a veteran so I have every right to stand before this podium and agree or disagree you know. Anybody that agrees with everybody all the time, something is wrong with you. If you can't stand to be disagreed with then I say to you, get another job because something is wrong and I don't expect everybody to always agree with what Pastor Mayes says, but there are a list of young mens. This is just a few that are being at the wrong place at the wrong time and violence is being pursued upon these young men. I have a problem with that. I appreciate you all time. I appreciate you extended me even more time, but until our leaders or these so-called leaders, our so-called leaders stand up and say enough is enough. Until this city decided that we need to change some things, which stand your ground, that's an issue that's going forth right now and it saddens me because the guy was on the news today, well on television and he said that these 4 African Americans had they music up too loud. I mean when does it stop? This Michael guy, when does it stop? When can you be in the right place at the right time? So I know that concerns all of you up there on that panel because you have made an oath to serve and when you're not just – you're oath is not just to serve white people or black people. You're oath is to serve all people and that's why most people have a problem with me. Sure, me and the mayor can disagree on some things, but I didn't come and stand before this podium and say to him also, Mayor and not hate him and him not hate me that I don't agree with you on that. That's part of being a politician. People should not agree with you on everything. He could say, "Well, Pastor Mayes I disagree with you." That's fine. That's okay, but most people now in politics and that's why I know that they are not real politicians because if you can't agree to disagree, you can have your opinion, but the facts are the facts. I'll never dispute the facts because the facts are the facts and with that being said, those out there in the public that will come out we're having a Black History Program at – everybody is invited. We say black history because it's a part of black history, but all is invited at the Mount Hermon Missionary Baptist Church with my pastor Walter Henderson is my pastor there and my time is up so I'm –

Councilman Shyne: Pastor, we appreciate you coming down and this chamber belongs to the people.

Pastor Mayes: I appreciate you.

Councilman Shyne: Thank you very much. Alright, the meeting is adjourned.

Miscellaneous Matters

THE COMMITTEE RISES AND REPORTS: (Reconvenes Regular Council Meeting)

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:20 p.m.

//s// **Joe Shyne, Chairman**

//s// **Arthur G. Thompson, Clerk of Council**