

## **House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2021 Regular Session  
May 13, 2021

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Mike Huval, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Mike Huval, chairman  
Representative Mary DuBuisson  
Representative Rick Edmonds  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Markham Scott McKnight  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman  
Representative Matthew Willard

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Valarie Banks, committee administrative assistant  
David Gauthier, analyst

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

John Harrington, clerk  
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 229 by Representative McFarland**

Representative McFarland presented House Bill No. 229, which provides relative to the chief of police in the village of Dodson.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments in the form of a substitute bill. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the substitute bill. Without objection, the motion to adopt the substitute bill passed by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

John Gallagher, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 229.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 229 by substitute. Without objection, House Bill No. 229 was reported by substitute by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

**House Bill No. 372 by Representative Freeman**

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 372, which provides relative to the violation of municipal building code ordinances and regulations in the city of New Orleans.

Representative Huval offered amendments that:

1. Restrict the applicability of proposed law to residential buildings or structures.
2. Reduce the maximum penalty to be imposed for violations related to the same project if the amount owed exceeds \$5,000 from 45% to 20% of the total final development costs.
3. Authorize rather than require the city to adopt rules and regulations to implement provisions of proposed law.

Representative Huval offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Susan Johnson, 2822 Lepage Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (347) 614-7049, spoke in support of House Bill No. 372 and presented a map of the New Orleans neighborhood of Carrollton from the website <https://townofcarrolltonwatch.org/wordpress/index.php/map-dat/> and labeled in the committee records of this meeting as Exhibit A.

Monika Gerhart, city of New Orleans, 1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA 70712, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 372.

Representative Freeman read a statement emailed to her from New Orleans City Councilman Joseph "Joe" Giarrusso, III, City Hall, Room 2W80, 1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 658-1010, in support of House Bill No. 372. She did not forward the email for committee records.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 372 with amendments, to which Representative Gadberry objected. The committee administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 372 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Stagni, and Willard voted yea. Representatives Edmonds, Gadberry, and Schamerhorn voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 342 by Representative Wright**

Representative Wright presented House Bill No. 342, which authorizes St. Tammany Parish to require testing for secondary contaminants in drinking water.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 342 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 342 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 679 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 679, which provides relative to the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

Representative Stagni offered amendments to remove proposed law authorizing the city council to enforce bill collection if reports indicate that the value of unpaid bills for services increased for two consecutive quarters. Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

Monika Gerhart, city of New Orleans, 1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 679.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 679 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 679 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 634 by Representative Glover**

House Bill No. 634 provides relative to the secretary for the municipal fire and police civil service board in certain municipalities.

Representative Huval offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 634. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 634 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Newell offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Stagni voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Mike Huval  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: