



The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Paige

Seconded by Mrs. Vienne to-wit:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 17 OF 2020

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT IN THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY FALLOUT AREA UNTIL 5:00 PM ON CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL DAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020, IN LIGHT OF THE AMENDED PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL DAY DUE TO THE IMPACT OF THE CORONA VIRUS.

WHEREAS, the Cane River Waterway Commission desires to allow for operation of watercraft in the fireworks display fallout area until 5:00 pm on Christmas Festival Day, December 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches amended Section 22-36 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Natchitoches by Ordinance Number 40 of 2018 in order to provide for the control and exclusion of watercraft on Cane River Lake in the fireworks display fallout area for specified time periods; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the goal of this section of the Code of Ordinances is to provide for safety of boaters and property during fireworks display that occurs in downtown Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, subsections (b) and (c) of section 22-36 of the Code of Ordinances provide as follows:

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or use a watercraft for any purpose whatsoever or leave any watercraft moored or docked on Cane River Lake within the designated area as marked with buoys or other appropriate signs, symbols or other markings identifying the limits of the designated area, on the first Saturday of December of each year, during that time period beginning at 3:30 p.m. and continuing until the area has been declared safe by the Fire Marshall, or his designee, on the day commonly referred to as "Christmas Festival Day". It being the intention of this section to prohibit the operation, use, mooring or docking of any and all watercraft, whatsoever, within such designated area of the corporate limits of the city, for the time period set forth above, on Christmas Festival Day.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or use a watercraft for any purpose whatsoever or leave any watercraft moored or docked on Cane River Lake within the designated area as marked with buoys or other appropriate signs, symbols or other markings identifying the limits of the designated area, on any day when a fireworks display occurs in downtown Natchitoches, during that time period beginning at 6:00 p.m. and continuing until the area has been declared safe by the Fire Marshall, or his designee. It being the intention of this section to prohibit the operation, use, mooring or docking of any and all watercraft, whatsoever, within such designated area of the corporate limits of the city for the time period set forth above, during any fireworks display; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, due to the corona virus the plans for Christmas Festival day festivities have been modified so that activities on Christmas Festival Day will be very similar to activities on other weekends during the Christmas season and the number of admission tickets to the Christmas Festival will be greatly reduced; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, in light of the changes to the activities and reduction in crowd, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, is of the opinion that the time period for watercraft exclusion from the fireworks exclusion zone can be safely pushed back to begin at 5:00 P.M. rather than 3:30 P.M.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cane River Waterway Commission does hereby authorize the operation of watercraft in the fireworks display fallout area until 5:00 pm on Christmas Festival Day, December 5, 2020

This Resolution was then presented for a vote and the vote was recorded as follows, to-wit:

AYES: 3 (Jim Rhodes, Margaret Vienne, and Larry Paige)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 (Mr. Wiggins, and Mr. Methvin)

ABSTAINED: 0

THEREUPON, the Chairman, Jim Rhodes, declared the Resolution passed by a vote of
__3__ Ayes to __0__ Nays this the 10th day of November 2020.

CHAIRMAN, JIM RHODES