

**The following Ordinance offered and adopted:**

**Ordinance No.41 Of 2017**

**AN ORDINANCE NAMING THE PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED ROAD PROJECT  
“PARKWAY NORTH” AS THE WALTER O. BIGBY CARRIAGEWAY.**

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**WHEREAS,** WALTER OLIVER BIGBY was born on April 10, 1927 in Slagle, Vernon Parish, Louisiana, the youngest of five children. His father died in 1929 during the depression when Walter was only two years old; and

**WHEREAS,** WALTER was raised in a small town between Benton and Plain Dealing, Louisiana called Swindleville, graduating from Benton High School in 1944; and

**WHEREAS,** WALTER served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged in 1947. He thereafter received his Juris Doctorate Degree from Louisiana State University in 1952 and began practicing law in Bossier Parish that same year; and

**WHEREAS,** WALTER O. BIGBY served as a distinguished member of the House of Representatives from his election in 1968 until his retirement in 1979; and

**WHEREAS,** during his tenure in the House, Walter Bigby served both the people of his district and the entire state with diligence and distinction, serving as a member of several standing committees including Civil Law and Procedure and House and Governmental Affairs; and

**WHEREAS,** from his early identification as a member of the “Young Turks”, dedicated to legislative reform, through a career marked by his ability and willingness to handle even the most diverse and volatile issues with even-handedness, clear judgment and compassion, as demonstrated by his handling of both right-to-work in 1976 and the highly controversial sex education issue in 1979, to a point at which he became known as “the conscience of the House”, Walter Bigby was known not only, or even primarily, for his intelligence and leadership ability but also for his compassion, demeanor, uncompromising honesty, and most of all for his unfailing sense of humor; and

**WHEREAS**, to those of us who had the pleasure of his company, his memory will forever serve as a reminder of just how much difference one good honest, moral and very funny man can make with a little help from his friends, and to those who have and will come after his accomplishments will serve as an example to be followed by all who serve in this body; and

**WHEREAS**, the House committee rooms are one result of the movement for legislative independence of which Representative Bigby was an early member and leader though he unfortunately did not live to see them; and

**WHEREAS**, the Louisiana State House of Representatives named the Louisiana Capitol committee rooms the Walter O. Bigby Hall on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1988; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1979 Walter Bigby ran unopposed for a seat on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals and was sworn in on September 13, 1979. However, Judge Bigby was never able to bring his leadership, knowledge, and wisdom actively to the courtroom as he regretfully passed away on January 2, 1980.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of Bossier City, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that in recognition of the contributions and devotion of the late Walter O. Bigby to the people of Bossier Parish, the House of Representatives, the Louisiana Legislature and the entire State of Louisiana does hereby name and designate the road project known as "Parkway North" as the Walter O. Bigby Carriageway.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that appropriate steps shall be taken to install signs or other markers to permanently designate said area as Walter O. Bigby Carriageway.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was read in full at open and legal session convened, was on motion of Mr. Scott Irwin, and seconded by Mr. David Montgomery, Jr., and adopted on the 21st, day of March, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. Montgomery, Jr., Mr. Larkin, Mr. Irwin, Mr. Harvey and Mr. Free

NAYS: Mr. Darby and Mr. Williams

ABSENT: none

ABSTAIN: none



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David Montgomery, President



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Phyllis McGraw, City Clerk