

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on August 1, 2017 at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting place, the Council Meeting Room located at 101 North State Street, with the Honorable Mark Piazza, Mayor, presiding.

Members Present: Council Members, Francis Plaisance, Mayor Pro-Tem, Brady Broussard, Wayne Landry, Joe Hardy and Francis Touchet, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Tracette Hillman, Municipal Civil Service Personnel Director
Joseph Vallee, Municipal Civil Service Board Member
Thomas Thompson and Gerald Gaspard, Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Wayne Landry to lead the assembly in prayer. Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr. to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the minutes from the Committee meeting held on July 11, 2017 and the regular City Council meeting held on July 18, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Wayne Landry and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the probational appointment of Jacob Bergeron to the vacant position of Firefighter with the Abbeville Fire Department pending successful completion of all post-hire assessments. The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to approve the probational appointment of Jessica Sonnier to the vacant position Utility Collection Specialist in the Central Office pending successful completion of all post-hire assessments at a starting rate of \$10.00 per hour. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza asked if there were any public comments on any agenda item prior to action. There were none.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the estimate for dirt work and landscaping at Lafitte Drive-In Park at a cost of \$9,200.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Plaisance stated Josh Boudreaux would be completing this work. Mayor Piazza asked if he and the Committee could meet with Mr. Boudreaux prior to him beginning the work. Also, we would like him to start as soon as possible.

-05 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the petition for annexation for Sassy Suds Carwash, LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Wayne Landry and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the estimate from Capital Electric & Supply, LLC in the amount of \$7,529.00 for a new panel for the RV Park Sewer Lift Station. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to award the contract for the Construct Asphalt Taxiway project at the Abbeville Chris Crusta Memorial Airport to Elliott Construction in the amount of \$292,368.00 contingent upon FAA & DOTD approval. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza stated he drove to Minden recently to tour their new airport terminal. It is almost identical to the one we will construct. We are in the final stages of planning.

Landry/Touchet
Resolution R17-18

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute agreements with DOTD and FAA and to award and sign related contracts for FY 2017 projects at the Chris Crusta Memorial Airport.

The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to authorize Sellers & Associates to respond to requests for information for the 2020 census and to prepare the 2020 re-apportionment plan for the City of Abbeville. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to award the contract for the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA's) for the Abbeville Fire Department to Premier Fire Equipment, LLC in the amount of \$175,528.34. The motion carried unanimously.

-10 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the recommendation of the hearing officer for hearings held on July 26, 2017 for the following properties: 406 S. Lamar/ tall grass, dilapidated garage apartment/ given 15 days, 1732 Franks Alley/partially demolished structure/given 15 days, 605 ½ S. Louisiana/running generator for power to mobile home/given 30 days, 705 Hawthorne/grass/given 5 days, 1100 N. Airport Rd/tall grass, junk, vehicles/given 10 days, 800 Loraine/loose chickens/given 5 days and 703 S. St. Valerie/loose chickens/issued compliance certificate. The motion carried unanimously.

Clay Menard, Public Works Director

- *They now have a full crew for grass cutting. They are working weekends to catch up. He asked if anyone receives complaints about grass cutting, to please let him know.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *He, Councilman Plaisance, Councilman Touchet and Councilman Hardy recently attended the LMA conference. They came back with a lot of good ideas. We received a new telephone system proposal for City Hall. We will also meet with our current telephone provider to see if they have any new equipment that is similar to it. He has looked through the list of call in options and he has eliminated one-half of them. Hopefully when we get this new person here we will have a warm body that answers the phone in the future. We are working to simplify the phone system and modernize it. We want to be able to forward*

calls, track calls and give us some data on the number of incoming calls that are missed and returned. We are always looking at new technology at City Hall. It is good that we can afford those things and offer a better service for our customers. He will keep the Council posted on this.

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *Commended Mrs. Suzanne Piazza, Mayor Mark Piazza's wife, on saving the life of a gentleman who passed out and had stopped breathing. She did not hesitate to begin CPR. This is what our community is about. We are willing to help and do what we need to do. Mayor Piazza stated she is not the type of person who wants a pat on the back. She reacted as she is trained to do as a registered nurse. He thanked Councilman Touchet and stated that he would pass the message on to Suzanne.*

Councilman Wayne Landry

- *Commended Mr. Bryan Plowden. They won the World Series in Atlanta. The work he does with the kids is amazing. He should be recognized for his accomplishments. Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Landry to invite him to the next meeting.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Recognized Mr. Thomas Thompson and Mr. Gerald Gaspard who are with the Vermilion Parish Chamber of Commerce. They have been attending our meetings for a long time. It is great when they have interest in our meetings. He is also happy about the feedback he has received from the Chamber about the new lower electric rates that we have given to our businesses and our citizens. He thanked them for attending.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance

- *Mr. Josh Boudreaux is on vacation until Friday.*
- *He recognized Mr. Thomas Thompson, Mr. Gerald Gaspard and Mr. Richard Primeaux because they are with the Rotary Club. They sponsored the new event at the Cake & Ice Cream Festival. They put together a skateboard competition and it was a great success.*
- *We lost a true icon in the music business in our area. Mr. D. L. Menard passed away. He was a former king of the Louisiana Cattle Festival. His obituary was in the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times and Rolling Stone Magazine. That says a lot about his contributions to music.*

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Piazza declared this meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor