

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on December 18, 2018 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, Terry Broussard, Brady Broussard, Jr., Francis Touchet, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem and Roslyn White

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Bill Spearman, Police Chief
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Steve Moosa, CPA
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Corey LeBlanc, Architect
Gerald Gaspard, Chamber and American Legion
Pastor Crystal Randle
Elbert Dawson
Thomas Vallot

Mayor Piazza asked Pastor Randle to lead the assembly in prayer. Mayor Piazza asked Mr. Thomas Vallot to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to ratify bills paid in the month of November 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to deviate from the agenda to move item #11, to grant a variance to the County Agent Building for completion of landscaping until April 1, 2019, up to item #4 and add item #5, Elbert Dawson and Pastor Randle to discuss the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration. The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to enter into a public hearing to discuss the amended budget for 2018 and the proposed budget for 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Mayor Piazza stated this is an open discussion. We will ask Mr. Moosa to present the highlights of the budget. Anyone in the audience is welcomed to make any comments about the budget. We can discuss it in detail if necessary. Mr. Moosa stated the Council has been presented with the budget and the Mayor's report. The Mayor's report summarizes some items about the budget. Mr. Moosa presented various details about the proposed budget including debt service and planned employee raises. Police Department, Fire Department and City Court personnel will receive a 2% pay increase while Municipal employees will receive an increase of \$.50 per hour. These are for full-time employees. Mr. Moosa discussed page 2 of the budget which is a recap of

the general fund and special revenue funds. The rest of the report details the general fund and special revenue funds. The budget is in compliance with our budget ordinance and the budget laws of the State. Councilman Touchet asked about the remaining funds in Economic Development District #1. Mr. Moosa explained the time had lapsed (3 years) so the money left can be spent for improvements in that District. Councilman Plaisance complimented the leadership of the Mayor and the staff and supervisors because they help to make this budget work. Councilwoman White stated we were afforded time with the CPA to sit down with him and ask any questions we had on this budget. She spent over 3 hours with him. Mayor Piazza stated on page 14, Capital outlay sales tax fund has a balance right now a little over \$1,000,000. By the end of they year, it is project to go down to nearly \$700,000. By the end of 2019, it will be down to just over \$500,000. That sales tax fund is being utilized over the next year. We are utilizing those funds on capital outlay projects. There is another sheet that Mayor distributed that shows various projects that are slated for 2019. Those will be mostly funded by the Utility Reserve Fund. These are several mandated projects. One is the LCDBG sewer update project. That project will be awarded tonight. The City's share of that is \$160,000. We are in the process of updating the UV System at the Wastewater Plant. That project will cost \$250,000. That will also come from the Utility Reserve Fund. That fund is not in the budget because the Utility System Fund is not part of the budget. Another project is the lift station generators. That is a City match of \$60,000 that will come out of the FEMA fund. The biggest project is the lime retention basin at the Water Plant. We have been under an executive order by DEQ for the last 3 years that by the end of 2019 that we have a lime retention bed built into the Water Plant. This will eliminate some of the discharge at the Water Plant. We do have a permit there. This project (design phase) will cost about \$500,000 and we will utilize the Utility Reserve Fund for this expenditure. The final project is the Bar Screen at the Wastewater Plant. This is a project that we have to complete as part of the LCDBG project but it is not covered in the grant. This project (design phase) is scheduled to cost about \$350,000. All of these projects will drastically reduce the amount of money in the Utility Reserve Fund. Mayor Piazza stated if we had not created the Reserve Fund, we would have had to borrow money to complete these mandated projects.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Broussard/Plaisance
Ordinance 18-12

An ordinance amending the 2018 budget and adopting the 2019 budget.

The motion was put to a vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

<i>YEAS:</i>	<i>5(Plaisance, T. Broussard, B. Broussard, Touchet, White)</i>
<i>NAYS:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ABSENT:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ABSTAIN:</i>	<i>0</i>

Therefore, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

Mayor Piazza asked if there were any comments from the public on any agenda item. Councilman Plaisance wanted to extend our prayers and condolences to the Touchet family. They loss former City Marshal Jimmie Touchet last night. Many of the members of his family work for the City including his wife, Deanna Touchet. It is a difficult time for them. There were not other comments.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to grant a variance to the County Agent Building to complete the landscaping until April 1, 2019 so a certificate of occupancy can be issued. The motion carried unanimously.

Pastor Randle distributed the list of events for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration. Their theme this year is "It takes all of us to build a community #UNITY". T-shirts will be available beginning January 3, 2019. There will be a Heritage Walk and Exhibit on Saturday, January 12, 2019 starting at St. Mary Congregation Church beginning at 10:00 AM. We will march to the Abbeville Cultural Center in Magdalen Square. We will have our annual revival to be held at Faith Hope Christian Fellowship on January 16, 2019 through January 18, 2019. These are held nightly beginning at 7:00 PM. We will have the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast on January 19, 2019 beginning at 9:00 AM at Greater Pleasant Green Baptist Church. The guest speaker is Pastor Lane Payne. Tickets are \$5.00 each. The annual church sit-in service will be at Shiloh Baptist Church in Kaplan. This will be held on January 20, 2019 beginning at 9:00 AM. We are asking for permission to hold the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day post-parade festivities at the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center.

-06 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to allow the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee to utilize the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center for post-parade festivities at no cost. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Elbert Dawson stated they will be kicking off, possibly in January, an aggressive campaign to renovate the gymnasium at Herod. They would like the Council's blessing and support in doing that.

Plaisance/Touchet
Ordinance 18-13

An ordinance to amend Section 6-8 – Power Cost Adjustment.

The motion was put to a vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:	5(Plaisance, T. Broussard, B. Broussard, Touchet, White)
NAYS:	0
ABSENT:	0
ABSTAIN:	0

Therefore, the ordinance was adopted unanimously.

B. Broussard/White
Resolution R18-30

A resolution declaring the legal holidays for the City of Abbeville for calendar year 2019.

The motion carried unanimously.

White/Plaisance
Resolution R18-31

A resolution to petition the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to repair and maintain that portion of LA Highway 82 between East Vermilion and Edwards Street (North St. Charles).

The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to award the bids to Brady Coleman in the amount of \$400.00 and \$385.00 for removal of overgrown brush at 509 N. East Street and on the NW corner of S. Lyman and E. Lafayette Street, respectively. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve payment of partial payment estimate number 1 payable to Volute, Inc. in the amount of \$132,210.00 and to approve change order number 2 for an extension of the contract by 31 days. Both of these are for the UV System Replacement Project at the Wastewater Plant. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the payment of application number 8 payable to Minvielle Lumber Company in the amount of \$12,663.00 and to approve a change order to deduct \$595.00 from the contract amount and extend the contract by 13 days. Both of these are for the Hebert Fire Substation Number 2 Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gene Sellers stated we received bids for the FY 2018-2019 LCDBG Sewer System Improvement Project. We received 5 bids. There were calculation errors in the bids of E. B. Feucht & Sons and in NCMC, LLC. In opening the bids E. B. Feucht & Sons' bid was \$798,939.00. In correcting his mathematical error, his total bid came out to \$823,731.00. NCMD, LLC's bid was originally \$819,000.00 but with the correction his bid was \$829,050.00. These were due to mathematical errors. Therefore, that made M. P. Dumesnil have the lowest bid in the amount of \$814,221.33. The other two bidders were Elliott Construction \$1,022,702.00 and Don M. Barron \$1,398,299.00.

-10 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to award the contract for the FY 2019-2019 LCDBG Sewer System Improvement Project to the lowest bidder, M. P. Dumesnil in the amount of \$814,221.33 and to approve the use of City funds to pay all amounts over the \$800,000.00 grant fund amount to complete the project. The motion carried unanimously.

-11 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to appoint Denise Ardeneaux to fill the vacancy, created by the resignation of Russell Frederick, on the Municipal Employees Civil Service Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Bids were solicited for unimproved, vacant land located on Emmett Street. It was surplusd at the October 16, 2018 meeting. No bids were submitted.

-12 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to table the acceptance of bids for the unimproved, vacant land located on Emmett Street since there were no bids and to re-address this in 2019 and to authorize Ike Funderburk to research if the minimum bid can be lowered. The motion carried unanimously.

Gene Sellers, Engineer

- *Contractor has begun work on the upgrade of the electrical system of the stormwater pump for the retention pond and sewer lift station.*
- *Mayor Piazza asked about the bore for the sewer line at the new carwash. Mr. Sellers stated the permit has been signed today.*

- *Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. asked Mr. Gene to talk to Stacy (Glenn Lege Construction) to get the State Street sidewalk on their calendar. Do you have any information regarding the timing? Mr. Sellers stated that all the right-of-way work has been completed. He called for Stacy today. You have awarded the first phase and he said he would do the second phase for \$20,000.00. That has to be done in a change order. But he wants to make sure he will hold his price before we act on a change order. Once he knows, he can present that change order.*

Richard Primeaux, Engineer

- *The police jury did adopt a resolution to send to the Acadiana Planning Commission regarding the stormwater reduction projects.*

Corey LeBlanc, Architect

- *Presented a pay application in the amount of \$47,543.70 payable to Minvielle Lumber Company for the Airport Terminal Renovation project. He also discussed a change order to extend the contract by 13 days. The concrete was poured today. The metal building will be delivered next week.*

-13 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the payment in the amount of \$47,543.70 payable to Minvielle Lumber Company and the change order to extend the contract by 13 day. Both of these are for the Airport Terminal Renovation Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Ike Funderburk, City Attorney

- *Will be out of the office for three days next week.*
- *Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*
- *He looks forward to working with everyone in 2019 and thanked the Council for approving the budget tonight.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance

- *He is enjoying the new KFC.*
- *It is good to see the new year beginning with the projects going on.*
- *Wildlife and Fisheries put catfish and blue gills in the pond today. He plans to put down all five bases for the concrete tables and benches next year. He will use his discretionary funds if necessary, for that.*
- *He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*
- *He thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to work with them this year. It is exciting coming into 2019.*

Councilwoman Terry Broussard

- *Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*
- *Thanked the Mayor and Council for their patience in answering all of her questions and calls. She thanked Mr. Gene Sellers and the Police Department for the service they do for the City of Abbeville.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Wished everyone a safe, joyous and holy Christmas season for their family, for all the citizens of Abbeville and everyone at this table who are serving you night and day. God bless all.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *If you were not there, you missed a very valuable, heartfelt thing that Councilman Plaisance and his church did for our neediest kids. He arranged for Santa Claus to come to the Red Barn on a helicopter. It landed on the Cattle Festival grounds. You should have seen the joy of those kids and how excited they were. He is familiar with a lot of those kids because they were his students at Abbeville High School. Councilman Plaisance, please extend a thank you to your entire church. Thank you for doing that. That is an extremely good thing that you do each and every year.*

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*
- *Asked Chief Spearman about the traffic at KFC. He stated he sent units there.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor