

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met for a committee meeting on March 6, 2018 at 5:15 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, Jr., Wayne Landry, Joe Hardy and Francis Touchet, Jr.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Tony Hardy, Police Chief
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Tom Carroll, Engineer
Gerald Gaspard, American Legion & Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Piazza stated we are here today for a Committee meeting. We have one item on the agenda and it is the Ordinance Committee chaired by Councilman Wayne Landry.

Councilman Landry stated we only have one item. It is to amend the sign ordinance relative to the programmable electronic signs. He asked Mr. Funderburk to explain the amendment.

Mr. Funderburk had distributed packets with the amendment. He had the existing section 5-245 which prohibits the programmable signs unless it is otherwise allowed in the statute and he suggested that we take that out so that it does not create any confusion. We will renumber the remaining sections under subsection "a" so that it will flow. The other one is section 5-236 which is limitations of programmable signs. You will see that some language has been added in red so that number 1 now reads that no sign shall include any audio message, graphics, flashing lights or text. He struck out some language in number 2 and added some language and as a result of a meeting he had today, he will suggest that we make a further change so that it would read that a sign message will display for a period of time which shall not be less than one day. That way the same message will be displayed for the entire day (24 hours beginning at midnight). The sign will not be allowed to scroll or flash. The text will not change for 24 hours. It can be up for longer than one day too. There can be several messages displayed in that one day but it has to be all on the same screen and cannot roll from one to the other. Those who are operating programmable signs prior to the ordinance have been grandfathered in. We are removing number 3 in the section and we have changed the numbers to accommodate that. In the part that excludes programmable signs in the Main Street District, the Abbeville Cultural and Heritage District, the historic districts, Commercial Corridor No.1, etc. We are taking out Commercial Corridor No. 1 because that includes the By-Pass. We have programmable signs there.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to recommend to the City Council to adopt an ordinance at their next meeting scheduled for March 20, 2018 to amend the sign ordinance relative to programmable electronic signs. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor