

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on March 7, 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
Tony Hardy, Police Chief
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Todd Vincent, Engineer
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Stewart Head, Electrical Superintendent
Vanessa Anseman, candidate for judge for 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals
Joseph Vallee, Municipal Employees Civil Service Board
Sandra Marant, Keep Abbeville Beautiful
Seth Babineaux, Southern Constructors, LLC.

Mayor Piazza asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Judge Marcus Broussard. Mayor Piazza asked Ms. Candyce Perret to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to approve the minutes from the Committee meetings held on February 7, 2017 and February 21, 2017, the regular City Council meeting held on January 17, 2017 and February 7, 2017 and the special City Council meeting held on January 31, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to ratify bills paid in the month of February 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza asked if anyone had any comments on any agenda item. There were none.

Ms. Candyce Perret stated she is running for the seat vacated by Judge Jimmy Genovese who was elected to the Supreme Court. The election is March 25, 2017. She lives in Lafayette and that is where she currently practices law. She lives there with her husband and three boys. Her family is the Miles Perret Cancer Center family. She is very active in that non-profit and other non-profits in Lafayette. She has been practicing law for 20 years. She is originally from Marksville. That is where she started her practice. She worked as the city prosecutor in Marksville. She was one of the youngest people ever appointed to that position. She has a lot of trial experience which allowed her to handle a lot of different types of cases. She has handled every type of case that would come before the appellate court. She also has a lot of experience dealing with municipalities. She is the only candidate that has appellate experience.

She clerked on the appellate court with the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. She really knows how to do this job and she can walk in the door tomorrow and hit the ground running. She has helped write opinions and with writs. She is also a business owner in Lafayette. That gives her a unique perspective on the bench. You won't find a candidate with a more diverse background. She has wanted to be a lawyer since she was 15 years old. She is proud of all of the people who are behind her. She is not a politician. She has never run for office. She feels passionate about this position and we need people to step up and run for these seats. This court reviews all the decisions of the lower courts in the districts. Judges need to be empathetic and compassionate and understanding and fair but still be stern. Everyone needs to be treated with respect. There are 12 appellate court judges and they sit in panels of 3 when they hear an appeal.

-03 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to table the item of Rockell Ficklen who wanted to discuss her light bill since she was not at the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Reports:

Main Street Board – Charlene Beckett was not here tonight because her daughter is in labor.

Keep Abbeville Beautiful – Sandra Marant stated we do have the Cleanest City Contest next month and this Friday morning we will have the Leaders Against Litter breakfast at City Hall. Mayor Piazza stated he wished everyone would have the spirit Ms. Marant has about keeping our City clean. She does a great job. We hope we will be victorious again this year for the Cleanest City Contest.

Abbeville Planning Commission – no report.

Abbeville Parks and Recreation Board – no report however Mayor Piazza asked Ike Funderburk if he had received anything from QSA today. Mr. Funderburk stated he received a telephone today that said he will receive an email in the morning. That was the email that was supposed to have come in Monday.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to submit the names of Cobb LeBouef, III and Dwayne Davidson to appoint one member to the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Touchet/Plaisance

Ordinance 17-01

To adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 5-Buildings, to require uniform utility disconnection for both demolition of a structure and the moving of a structure.

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

<i>YEAS:</i>	<i>5(Plaisance, Broussard, Landry, Hardy, Touchet)</i>
<i>NAYS:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ABSENT:</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ABSTAIN:</i>	<i>0</i>

Therefore the motion carried unanimously.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Wayne Landry to approve a special event permit for the Crusin' Cajun Country Car Event to be held on May 20, 2017 in

Downtown Abbeville from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM pending the receipt of a certificate of insurance. The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the purchase of 17 street lights for the James Noel, Jr. Subdivision (Plantation Ridge) from Abbeville Electric Supply in the amount of \$24,522.50. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the purchase of a playground system for Williams Park. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the purchase of poles for stock and Comeaux Park from Wesco in the amount of \$7,845.20. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Wayne Landry and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the purchase of transformers for stock from Solomon in the amount of \$9,550.00. The motion carried unanimously.

-10 introduced by Mr. Wayne Landry and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the quote from Griner Drilling in the amount of \$14,985.00 for a new pump for the Willis Lift Station. The motion carried unanimously.

-11 introduced by Mr. Joe Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve a variance from the mobile home ordinance to place a mobile home at 1700 West Port Street to replace an older mobile home that is already located there. The variance is needed because it is a mobile home restricted zone. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gene Sellers provided a progress report on the current LCDBG Sewer Extension project on Coulee Kinney Road. Mr. Sellers stated we received \$800,000 in LCDBG funds. It included the construction of sewer lines on Coulee Kinney Road and Bruno Street to serve that area. The original expiration of the contract was November 12, 2016. The first extension was granted for 20 days to abandon the water line main. That extension expired on December 2, 2016. A second extension was granted for 60 days to repair a private gas line that was constructed on the right of way and for weather delays. That extension expired on January 31, 2017. Currently the contractor is working 30 days pass the expiration. The remaining work to complete the project is to install all service lines to qualified home owners. The Block Grant requires that we connect low to moderate income home owners to the system from their home. The contractor has to make one more crossing. We also have to patch Bruno Street. We spoke to the contractor today and he feels he can complete the job by April 4, 2017. We will more than likely have a punch list but the job will be substantially completed by that date. The residents will be connected to the sewer system. Mayor Piazza stated he asked for this to be on the agenda because he has been getting a lot of phone calls about the project. The biggest problem is the condition of the road. The project has taken a long time and the residents are getting very impatient. Until the project is completed, we cannot fix the road. We really need to know that this construction crew is doing what they are supposed to be doing. They have surpassed their second extension and we have a deadline of somewhere in April to apply for our LCDBG or we will be jeopardy of that. Mr. Seth Babineaux stated one of the biggest problems is the amount of rainfall we had last year. When we asked for the first extension we should have asked for more days. There were things that came up in this job that were totally unexpected. Anytime you have a deep sewer, like this, you will run into problems but the condition of the road was in such bad shape from the beginning. There is mud on the road and we try to clean the road but

it is not like dealing with a smooth surface. Mud is staying in the broken up asphalt patches. He apologizes that it has taken this long and he hopes they can sympathize with them. We have had a chain of unfortunate events. We really want to finish this job. Mayor Piazza stated the concern for the last few weeks, and we understand about the accident, is that it has been dry the last few weeks. Mr. Babineaux stated the ground has been saturated so much that it takes a lot longer to be suitable. We are dealing in deep trenches and we always expect to have a trench box for safety but we didn't expect to hold up the integrity of the road to the extent we had to because it is in such bad condition. Then another unexpected thing was the AT&T phone line that we had to run the sewer underneath. It caused a delay. We want to get back out there as soon as we can. We will add more resources. We will try to do the service, the culverts and try to work simultaneously rather than one thing at a time. We will add more sequence of construction. He will take his pipe crews that do the drainage to come and do the culverts so the sewer crew can put in service lines. We should be able to have substantial completion by April 4, 2017, weather permitting. Mr. Gene Sellers stated the Police Jury will resurface the road after the project is complete.

-12 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the estimate for partial payment #1 in the amount of \$18,074.31 for the Palms Subdivision Sewer System Project – Pump Station #32. The motion carried unanimously.

Kathy Faulk provided an update to the scheduled Finance Committee meetings for quarterly budget updates. The dates have been changed from April 4, 2017 to April 18, 2017 and from October 3, 2017 to October 17, 2017. The July 18, 2017 meeting will remain the same.

Gene Sellers, Engineer

- *We plan to install the bearing at the Water Plant on 3/21/17. We received a price for the installation. We want to clean out the clarifier before the work is done. It should take about one week to 10 days.*
- *We will begin the smoke testing at Mount Carmel Heights Subdivision on 3/13/17. Clay will have the crew hang door tags on each resident's door to notify them. It should take 2 weeks.*

Clay Menard, Public Works Director

- *Planning to install the first rotor tomorrow at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. It may have to be postponed because of tonight's rain. We have ordered the materials for the second rotor.*
- *Councilman Broussard asked about the discolored water. Clay stated the Fire Department is currently flushing every fire hydrant in the City. This causes sediment to be forced out. Mayor Piazza stated a letter was sent out with each utility bill about this. The issue at the Water Plant is not causing it at this time because we haven't begun changing the part yet. This is two different things.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *The Sounds on the Square schedule is out. On March 23rd we will have Forest Huval, March 30th Sweet Cecilia, April 6th Kenny and the Heartbreakers and April 20th Right Lane Bandits.*
- *This Thursday we will have the Leaders Against Litter breakfast at City Hall beginning at 8:30 AM.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Wanted to show our condolences to the family of our deceased first City Court Judge, Marcus Broussard. That is a Judge that served our City well for a long time. He was considered by President Ronald Reagan for a Federal Judgeship. He represented our City well and he wants to let his family know that we are very sorry for the loss and are appreciative of his City service.*

Councilman Wayne Landry

- *Thanked everyone for the participation that took place for the Bolden family. Jeremiah Bolden's, our City Marshal, Mother passed away and she had a wonderful home going. They put her coffin on a carriage with horses. It was very extravagant. He wants to ask that we keep the Bolden and Broussard family in our prayers. He had a great experience with Judge Broussard when he was 12 years old. He was a great man. He did a wonderful thing for his family.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor