

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on May 16, 2017 at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting place, the Council Meeting Room located at 101 North State Street, with the Honorable Francis Plaisance, Mayor Pro-Tem, presiding.

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

Members Absent: Mayor Mark Piazza  
Councilman Wayne Landry

Also Present: Jude Mire, Fire Chief  
Tony Hardy, Police Chief  
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney  
Gene Sellers, Engineer  
Clay Menard, Public Works Director  
Charlene Beckett, Main Street Manager  
Joseph Vallee, Municipal Civil Service Board Member  
Mike Mouton, Vector Aviation  
Diane Forsythe, a resident of South Main Street  
Ted Johnson, CSR for Entergy

*Councilman Plaisance asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. to lead the assembly in prayer. Councilman Plaisance asked Mr. Mike Mouton to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to ratify bills paid in the month of April 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the minutes from the Committee meeting held on May 2, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to deviate from the agenda to discuss a permit for demolition for 1618 Graceland. It will be added at the bottom of the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

*Councilman Plaisance asked if anyone in the audience had any comments about any agenda item. There were none.*

*Councilman Broussard stated Ms. Diane Forsythe is here tonight to request bike paths in the City. Our City has multiple State roads within our downtown. We are prevented from touching or modifying those. We do have a protected bike path lane in Comeaux Park. Ms. Forsythe stated she has been looking for bike paths since she first got here. Palmetto State Park has a bike path but you have to drive there. That is not what she is looking for. You can't ride in this area because of the traffic. Councilman Broussard stated the dedicated bike path lane at Comeaux Park is six-tenths of a mile. We do not have any in our downtown area because the streets are small and they are State road. He explained to Ms. Forsythe where Comeaux Park is located.*

**Board Reports:**

**Main Street report given by Charlene Beckett.** She had several people who came up to her and told her that they really liked the line-up for Sounds of the Square. They liked the bands that we had. We have had two different tour groups at the Blacksmith Shop. The Cajun Caravan came and toured the Blacksmith Shop and so did the Gulf Coast Bank retirees. There are a few improvements that were done at the Blacksmith Shop. The Farmers Market is this Saturday. We also are hosting the Cruisin' Cajun Country antique cars. The cars will be parked on the City Hall parking lot. They will be here from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. They have 100 cars registered. The Daylily Festival is scheduled for June 3, 2017. We already have 41 vendors registered.

**Keep Abbeville Beautiful report given by Charlene Beckett.** We had the State judging for the Cleanest City Contest on May 12, 2017. We came out second. She thanked all the City workers and volunteers for their efforts. They worked so hard. The Civic Pride award this month goes to the ARC and the resident at 1705 Charity Street. We have distributed 500 Litzie Litter books to first graders in our area. At the Keep Louisiana Beautiful conference the Take Pride Winnipeg director was there. He put out a book. We purchased those books and they will go to third graders this year.

**Abbeville Planning Commission** had no report because they had no meeting.

**Abbeville Parks and Recreation Board** had no report because they did not meet.

Councilman Broussard stated we have received the renewal from Risk Management, Inc. Everybody is seeing an increase in one line of work. Our safety program has given us a \$47,000 decrease in premium. The renewal is \$429,027.52. Everyone is at the mercy of claims that result in an increase in premiums. These claims are as a result of illness not accidents. Councilman Touchet stated he is a fan of LMA but he is not pleased with the increase. LMA needs to be put on notice because we need to actively seek more affordable coverage. Councilman Broussard stated we met with another agent and 30 companies were asked to quote. LMA was the best we received. Councilman Touchet stated LMA needs to be given a deadline to present their renewal so we will be able to shop. Councilman Broussard stated we have someone looking at this for the near term.

-04 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the renewal of Workers' Compensation Insurance with Louisiana Municipal Risk Management, LLC. In the amount of \$429,027.52 for coverage from May 19, 2017 through May 19, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the quote from Brian Marceaux Construction, LLC in the amount of \$14,070.00 for the roof leak repair at Abbeville City Court. The motion carried unanimously.

Touchet/Broussard  
Resolution R17-13

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a consent and license agreement with Entergy Gulf States LA, LLC for emergency staging at the airport.

The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to table the awarding of bids for grass cutting and removal of fallen tree from the property located at 310 S. St. Charles Street to research the matter further. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to select the Abbeville Meridional as the official journal for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Joe Hardy and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the final payment to Southern Constructors, LLC in the amount of \$98,583.05 for the FY 2014-2015 LCDBG Sewer System Improvement project contingent upon receipt of the clear lien certificate. The motion carried unanimously.

*Councilman Touchet stated the demolition for 1618 Graceland was issued on January 25<sup>th</sup> and it says in our Code of Ordinances, under Section 13-104, that 90 days is the extent that we give people to complete the demolition. He would like Donna to get bids to proceed with the demolition of that property.*

-09 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Joe Hardy to authorize Donna Baudoin to request bids to demolish the structure at 1618 Graceland. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Reminded everyone about the Farmers Market and Antique Car show this Saturday.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk  
Secretary-Treasurer

Francis Plaisance  
Mayor Pro-Tem