

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met for a committee meeting on November 20, 2018 at 5:00 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: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Bill Spearman, Police Chief
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Denise Mire, Parks Director
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Seller, Engineer
Norman Levine

Mayor Piazza stated we are here for our Committee meetings. We have three committees tonight. He asked if anyone had any public comments on any agenda item prior to action. There were no comments. The first committee was the Ordinance Committee chaired by Councilwoman Terry Broussard. He turned the floor over to Councilwoman Broussard.

Councilwoman Broussard stated we are going to discuss closing McKinley Scott Park and Williams Park at a certain time. Comeaux Park would not be included in that. Comeaux Park will remain as it is from 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM. Mr. Funderburk stated the change will be for the basketball court at McKinley Scott Park and the baseball field at Williams Park. The time would be from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM for those. Mayor Piazza wanted to change the closing time for these two to 10:00 PM during daylight savings time. You don't want to have to come back in six months and change the ordinance again. Mayor Piazza stated he had a problem with the 8:00 AM time for Comeaux Park since many people walk there. Mr. Funderburk stated that would not be a problem since the road is a public road.

-01 introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to recommend to the City Council at their meeting scheduled for December 4, 2018 to adopt an ordinance to amend Section 13-48 – A. A. Comeaux Park and other parks generally – opening and closing times. The motion carried unanimously.

The next committee was the Streets and Sidewalk Committee chaired by Councilwoman Terry Broussard. Councilwoman Broussard stated there are problems with tires in the City. We need to come up with something to eliminate that problem. The Police Jury will not pick them up. Councilman Touchet asked what is the Police Jury's take on how we should handle this. Mayor Piazza stated Clay has been researching this topic and it gets a little more complicated than you think. DEQ requires that we register every tire that we pick up. Clay Menard stated that earlier this year, DEQ did an inspection at the City Barn. They have changed the way things are done. The City only picks up tires if they are in the ditches and they are impeding drainage. Also, people do come and drop off tires at our facility. The workers get there in the morning and there are three or four tires at the gate that were dropped off at our gate after hours. All these tires have to be logged. Every month a report has to be prepared and sent to DEQ. Every so often, Colt comes in and picks up our tires in order for them to be disposed. So far this year, we have disposed of 417 tires at a cost of \$455.00. Colt is the same vendor that picks up the tires for the parish. From March through and the end of August we picked up 247 tires. We are getting rid of tires and the City is paying for this. As far as the Police Jury, they discussed this at a recent public works committee meeting. Tires are a parish wide problem, not just a City problem. The Police Jury will take tires in at their solid waste facility. The public can bring the tires to their facility. They will log them and whenever they have enough, Colt comes in and picks up the tires. The only trash we pick up is the litter on the public right of way so we can maintain it

and the waste we generate such as cutting the trees, breaking sidewalks or pulling out culverts. All other trash is the responsibility of the Police Jury. The Police Jury will not pick up tires on the side of the road. The constituent must bring those tires to the solid waste facility. Mr. Norman Levine stated he received a letter that he had a lot of tires in his yard. He moved the tires to the side of the road but the Police Jury will not pick them up either. The tires cannot be brought to the City Barn. Why can't the City bring them to the Police Jury's facility for him. Mayor Piazza stated we have a verbal agreement that if we pick them up then we can bring the tires to the City Barn and the Police Jury will take them. But we don't know if we still have to log them or if the Police Jury will have to log them. Clay stated they are waiting to hear from DEQ. Mayor Piazza stated if we start picking up the tires, it will cost us a lot more money. A constituent can bring up to five tires a day to solid waste. His fear is that he thinks a lot of those tires have been put there illegally by people just putting them there. It is really the property owner's responsibility to remove those tires whether they are on the property or the shoulder of the road. If we advertise and start making a statement that we will pick up the tires for the Police Jury all over the City, he thinks people from outside of the City limits are going to start coming into Abbeville and dumping their tires on the side of the road so we have to pick them up. Mr. Norman Levine stated the tire places should have a tire to give to DEQ for every tire that they sell. But some tire companies will let you keep your tires in order not to charge the disposal fee. Councilwoman White asked if we could have a tire roundup in conjunction with the Police Jury like we do with the hazardous waste day. Councilman Touchet asked Clay to get with DEQ to see exactly what our options are. We still don't know if we pick them up and then give them to the Police Jury whose responsibility it is to log the tire and pay the invoice for disposal. Clay can come back to us when he has that worked out. At that point, we can't make a final determination.

-02 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to authorize Clay Menard to contact DEQ and the Police Jury to find out what our options are and to report back to the City Council. The motion carried unanimously.

The final committee was the Parks Committee chaired by Councilman Plaisance. Councilman Plaisance presented the rules for LaFitte Drive-In Park. The Recreation Board discussed these rules at their last meeting. From there it went to the Parks Committee which met yesterday and they added a couple of items. We would like to put the rule signs up so we can prepare to open the Park on a small basis. We also have an ordinance that regulates all the parks and that ordinance will be used to regulate this park too. This park is different from all the others. We don't want people cast netting or hunting at our park. We will not allow fireworks but there could be an exception for special occasions. All minors must be accompanied by an adult. Councilwoman White stated she understood that fishing would not be allowed except from a pier. For initial start, we need to say that fishing is prohibited instead of fish at your own risk. Mayor Piazza stated that we could allow, at some point, fishing from a kayak or a canoe prior to the pier being built. Ike thought we needed to add no smoking or loud music in the park since we have an ordinance for both of those. Councilwoman White asked about the leash free area. Councilman Plaisance stated where the fire department wants to build their fire tower, on the back side, we could put up a fence there to enclose that area. We already have the fence material so it would only cost us labor to install the fence. Councilwoman White added that people will need to clean up after their animals. Councilman Plaisance stated that they would put up a separate sign in the dog park area. Ike stated that the term "all minors" is too broad. We need to change that to "all minors under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult". He also thought we should change the "dawn to dusk" hours because it is problematic because it changes every day. Councilwoman White suggested that the hours should be 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM during daylight savings time and then 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM like the other parks. Once the walking trail is finished, we can revisit those hours. Ike stated that he would like a little more time to review the proposed rules. Mayor Piazza stated, in the meantime, we need to get these signs ordered and come up with a game plan on how we will open the park in the spring or summer. There has been a request that we have a day or two for a couple of hours for public viewing.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to table any action on the LaFitte Drive-In Park rules for further review. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ATTEST:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

APPROVE:

Mark Piazza
Mayor