

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on November 20, 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
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Donna Baudoin, Director of Revenue, Codes & Permits
Denise Mire, Parks Director
Charlene Beckett, Main Street Manager
Lee Schexnaider, Wastewater Superintendent
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Gerald Gaspard, Chamber and American Legion
Anita Levy, Parks & Recreation Board
Rene Stansbury & Kathy Richard, Tobacco-Free Living campaign
Wayne Landry, Former Councilman District D
Joe Hardy, Former Councilman District A

Mayor Piazza asked Former Councilman Wayne Landry to lead the assembly in prayer. Mayor Piazza asked Mr. Ike Funderburk to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to accept the resignation of Jacob Richard from the Abbeville, Police Department. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Bill Spearman introduced Officer Wade Hill. Officer Hill was hired at the November 6, 2018 City Council meeting.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the probational appointment of Travis Briggs to the position of firefighter in the Abbeville Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Ms. Rene' Stansbury with the Louisiana campaign for tobacco-free living gave an update. Prior to the ordinance coming into effect on September 1, 2018, she worked with the Police Department to deliver the signage to the affected businesses. When they visited the businesses, they delivered a copy of the ordinance and signage and widow decals. They also provided one on one education.

She left signs with the City for future businesses. She also presented "Thank You" boards for each Councilman that was on the Council when the ordinance was adopted.

Municipal Board reports

Main Street Board reported delivered by Charlene Beckett. The Sounds on the Square series for the fall was great. We had great weather. Two more benches have been ordered and they should arrive in a couple of weeks. The Cemetery Tour was sold out. This was our 12th year. The Christmas Stroll is December 6, 2018. The Christmas ornament for this year is the Rice Mill. We will be setting up miniature houses in the Square for the Christmas Stroll. Wayne Touchet constructed the houses. They are about four feet tall. These houses were Councilman Broussard's idea. We will also have a band in the Square for the Stroll.

Keep Abbeville Beautiful reported delivered by Charlene Beckett. Six people attended the KLB Convention. We received a monetary award of \$500.00. KLB has changed the way the grants will be awarded. They are changing it to accommodate rural communities. She thanked Councilwoman Broussard for the recent cleanup in her district.

Abbeville Planning Commission report delivered by Ike Funderburk. He stated they met today and approved three sign applications.

Abbeville Parks and Recreation Board given by Denise Mire. Football is finished. They are registering for basketball now. She is not sure of the registered numbers. Tommy Picard will report on those later. The Board met and discussed the rules for Lafitte Drive-In Park. She is trying to get the work done at the parks but it keeps raining.

-03 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to approve the recommendations from the hearing officer for the following properties: 302 S. Miles/abandoned black car/given 5 days, 1602 Timber Trail/dilapidated mobile home/given 14 days, 1415 Greene St./dilapidated burnt house, grass/given 5 days, 406 Felicity St./junk items, tires, lawn mowers/given 5 days, 803 S. Guegnon St./abandoned black Ford Ranger/given 5 days, 804 Greene St./dilapidated mobile home/given 5 days, 509 N. East St./tall grass, brush/given 5 days, 824 Kibbe St./secure mobile home/given 5 days, 822 Kibbe St./abandoned white car/given 5 days, 509 S. Young St./loose chickens/given 5 days, 700 E. Oak St./abandoned red car/given 5 days, 820 Kibbe St./secure broken windows/given 5 days, 211 S. Jefferson St./tall grass, brush/issued certificate of compliance, Empty lot on NW corner of S. Lyman and E. Lafayette St./tall grass, brush, fallen trees, given 10 days and 208 & 212 Alleman St./abandoned vehicles, grass, junk/given 5 days. The motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to move forward with the design of the new bar screen for the Wastewater Treatment Plant facility. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gene Sellers stated the new bar screen is needed because of the LCDBG Sewer project. We will be putting additional water than we normally had. This is due to a redirection of the flow. We need to increase the capacity of the current bar screen by adding another one. The projected cost is \$350,000.00. Mayor Piazza reminded everyone that the cost of sewerage is very expensive.

-05 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to submit the names of Gerald Gaspard and David Mayard to fill one vacancy on the Abbeville Fire and Police Civil Service Board. The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to appoint Rosalind Potier to the Abbeville Fire and Police Civil Service Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Ike Funderburk swore in Ms. Rosalind Potier.

-07 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to table the request for a special event permit for a Candle Light Vigil in Memory of Dylan Plowden to be held on December 1, 2018 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Magdalen Square because no one appeared at the meeting to discuss the event. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Broussard/White
Resolution R18-29

A resolution to eliminate the necessity of the engagement of an Independent Third-Party Provider by consolidating all of said duties in the office of the Building Code Enforcement Officer and to amend the fee schedule to be charged by the Director of Permits to include the additional services to be performed by the Building Code Enforcement Officer.

The motion carried unanimously.

Richard Primeaux, Engineer

- *The final review by the Fire Marshal for the new fire station will occur before the next City Council meeting. He asked the Council to approve the issuance of a certificate of occupancy if the Fire Marshal inspection is ok.*

-08 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the new fire station if the results of the Fire Marshal inspection are acceptable. The motion carried unanimously.

Clay Menard, Public Works Director

- *Met with DOTD and the Police Jury on 11/16/18 to inspect the culverts along the By-Pass. DOTD did agree to come in and clean up the mouths of the culverts, flush the culverts and try to improve the drainage along the By-Pass. Their truck has been repaired and it is working in the area. There was nothing substantial found in the inspection that would have caused the flooding, except a substantial amount of rain. That whole area there drains to John Hardy and John Hardy goes to Young's Coulee. That is a big drainage area. Mayor Piazza added that some of that area on Meaux's Lane is not in the City limits. The hotel is not in the City limits. Clay stated that some of the land in the area near there is much lower than the road. The two drainage areas are the only outlets they have.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *He and Clay met today to discuss the Street crew. He would like to go back to the winter time schedule starting December 1st. We had the two extra temporary grass cutters during the summer months. The temporary period ended right after the Cattle Festival. We are down to 8 people in the Street crew. He would like to take 5 of those people and continue the grass cutting through the winter months one day a week in each Council members district. Friday would be catch up. The other three people would work with Richard and Milton on the culvert flushing machine through the winter months. This would be for the months of December, January and February. We will flush culverts every day. The Council can present a list to Clay and he will have the culvert cleaning crew in*

your area and they will stay in your area until the job is done. When you start flushing, you need to do whole blocks, sections and neighborhoods at a time. There is not a whole lot of grass to cut right now. Clay stated the grass cutting crew will be in District C on Monday, Tuesday they will be in District B, Wednesday they will be in District D, Thursday they will be in District A and on Friday is for the Councilman at Large. Mayor Piazza stated the regular crew also needs to make sure the catch basins are not covered with debris and leaves.

- *Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.*

Bill Spearman, Police Chief

- *Recently graduated three officers from the academy. Will graduate another one in December.*
- *Looking to hire part-time officers that are post-certified due to his budget constraints. This will be a solution to the overtime budget.*
- *We are still four short.*

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *The Confrerie is such a treasure for our City for the outstanding Omelette Festival. It makes our City better. The international visitors add to the multiculturalism of the City. Glad it was a success.*
- *Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.*

Councilwoman Terry Broussard

- *Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance

- *The Christmas parade is scheduled for December 8, 2018 beginning at 6:00 PM. We will have Santa Claus in the Square. The Harvest Time choir will be singing and Super 1 will be serving hot chocolate and cookies.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Falk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor