

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on November 6, 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  
Denise Mire, Parks Director  
Stewart Head, Electrical Superintendent  
Richard Primeaux, Engineer  
Gene Sellers, Engineer  
Corey LeBlanc, Architect  
Gerald Gaspard, Chamber and American Legion  
Thomas Thompson, American Legion  
Rob Roy, Abbeville Rotary Club  
Debbie Garrot, Vermilion Film and Visitors Commission  
Anita Levy, Parks & Recreation Board

*Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Francis Plaisance to lead the assembly in prayer. Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to ratify bills paid in the month of October 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2018 and October 16, 2018 City Council meetings and the October 16, 2018 Committee meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

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

*Mr. Rob Roy, with the Abbeville Rotary Club, discussed the remodeling of the bathrooms at Comeaux Park. He distributed a drawing of the proposed project. This would be at pavilion 1. This would be in coordination with the City building a splash pad. We raised a little over \$25,000 with the St. Patrick's Comedy Club event this year so we will use the proceeds from this event on this project. The pavilion is in need of leveling. There is a large crack on the right side of the pavilion. They will have to lift it and pour concrete shafts. That expense will be paid by Rotary. We are looking at totally gutting the right-hand side by redoing the plumbing and remodeling the entire thing. The men's and women's restroom will remain locked for events. The public unisex bathroom would remain opened as the public park bathroom during regular park hours. On the other side, we will have a separate men's and women's changing area for use for the splash pad.*

*On the left-hand side, we would have a couple of shower heads where you could be able to rinse off before you get in the splash pad. He has met with the Mayor, Councilman Plaisance and Denise Mire and this restroom remodel seems to be the best fit. We would coordinate all the work with the City. We would also like to add central air and heat to the pavilion area depending on the funds that are left over. We also would like to cement the red cinder area at the skateboard park area. He asked for permission to proceed. This would all be paid by the Rotary Club.*

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to proceed with the remodeling of the bathrooms at pavilion number one at Comeaux Park as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

*Ms. Gloria Walker discussed her non-profit organization "God's Vision". She stated she is trying to start a non-profit organization for the youth. We are losing our children. She would like to use the old catechism building across from the new Herod. They want \$850.00 per month to use it. She would take the young men off of the streets. The only thing they are holding onto right now is their pants. They are hungry. They are turning to drugs. They need a support team. God has been wanting her to do this. They need something to do in this community. Somebody has to stand up to it. They will be required to go to church on Sunday. Saturday, they need to go fishing. She is accepting donations to be able to teach them how to dress for interviews to get a job. She will have guest speakers to speak to these young men. She wants to be the solution. She wants them to get night jobs so that they are off of the streets. They need to pull up their pants. She can help them open a checking account once they are finished. Councilman Plaisance stated he is proud of Gloria. He has known her since she was a baby. Councilwoman Broussard stated she will work together with Gloria and she will definitely start collecting clothes.*

*Mr. Gerald Gaspard discussed the American Legion Post 29 plans for their 2019 100-year anniversary. Mr. Gaspard stated they started in 1919. They were one of the first charters. We are one of the few posts that will be 100 years old. They are planning on rededicating the old bridge to all the veterans from all the wars that died that were from Vermilion Parish. We are planning a big celebration on May 27, 2019. We are planning on using Magdalen Square and he wanted to know what needs to be done to use it. We need to know what we need as far as permits and security. A lot of people have been invited, including President Trump. This will bring a lot of people into the City. They would like the City to sponsor the event with them. Mayor Piazza stated they are willing to work to accommodate the event and he asked Mr. Gaspard to get with the Police Chief if some streets will need to be closed.*

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to waive any fees and permits as needed for the American Legion Post 29 event as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

*Mrs. Debbie Garrot discussed the proposed Sicilian/Italian Festival. They would hold it at the old police station on March 23, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We would keep it low key. We would have a cookoff and wine tasting to introduce the Sicilian culture.*

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the Sicilian/Italian Festival as discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

*Mrs. Debbie Garrot stated the Abbeville Film and Visitors Commission was providing the internet in Magdalen Square for the past 7 years. Their money has run out so the service has been cancelled. The local people has missed this service. It was about \$100.00 per month for the service. She asked the City to consider paying for this service. Councilman Broussard stated if we*

*do implement free internet, it should be only available certain hours of the day to reduce crime. Mrs. Garrot stated she will begin Movies Under the Oaks again next year. She will solicit donations to show the movies. They can cost up to \$1,000 per movie.*

-06 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to take the topics of the internet in the Square and Movies Under the Oaks under advisement. The motion carried unanimously.

*Councilwoman Broussard discussed the closing times of McKinley Scott Park and Herbert Williams Park. She wanted the parks closed earlier because it is a crime area. 11:00 PM is too late. Chief Spearman suggested closing all the parks at the same time. Councilman Touchet was concerned because there are so many activities at Comeaux Park so we have to be careful about what we put in place. Mayor Piazza agreed that you cannot treat Comeaux Park the same. Councilwoman Broussard would like those two parks to close at 7:00 PM. When the time changes again, in the summer, we could revisit this topic. She also asked for the lights to remain on at those two parks. Mr. Funderburk stated he could rework the ordinance and present at the next Ordinance Committee meeting.*

-07 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to approve pay application number 6 in the amount of \$69,883.20 payable to Minvielle Lumber for the Hebert Fire Substation #2 construction project. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve change order #1 for a time extension for the UV Disinfection System Replacement Project. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the estimate of \$1,387.00 per container to discard old poles at the pole yard and to approve the placement of a container that would be dumped when full for future discarding of poles. The motion carried unanimously.

-10 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to approve the Class B liquor permit for Aube's Red Barn, LLC located at 1902 West Summers Drive. The motion carried unanimously.

-11 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee from their meeting held on October 16, 2018 to adopt the policies and procedures for the annual audit of agreed upon procedures. The motion carried unanimously.

-12 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the recommendation of the Airport Committee from their meeting held on October 16, 2018 to adopt the 2019-2024 Capital Improvement Plan for the Airport. The motion carried unanimously.

-13 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve a drainage study by Sellers & Associates, Inc. in the vicinity of the intersection of Rodeo Road and Airport Road. The motion carried unanimously.

-14 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to execute an intergovernmental agreement with the Vermilion Parish Police Jury to pay for one-half of the

cost of a drainage study along the LA Hwy 14 By-Pass performed by Sellers & Associates, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

-15 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to adopt the policies regulating the Event Center. The motion carried unanimously.

*Bids were received for the seized, surplused 2012 Dodge Challenger that was awarded to the Abbeville Police Department. The bids received were as follows:*

<i>Southern Belt Autos</i>	<i>\$8,506.26</i>
<i>Michael Phillips</i>	<i>\$3,000.00</i>
<i>Breaux's Auto Sales, LLC</i>	<i>\$9,100.00</i>

-16 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to award the 2012 Dodge Challenger to the highest bidder, Breaux's Auto Sales, LLC for \$9,100.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Gene Sellers, Engineer

- *Discussed upcoming LCDBG sewer project. Planning to accept bids on 12/13/18 at 10:00 AM. He requested authorization to request bids.*

-17 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to authorize advertisement for bids for the F.Y. 2018-2019 LCDBG Sewer System Improvement project. The motion carried unanimously.

Corey LeBlanc, Architect

- *Presented a partial payment estimate for the Airport Terminal Renovation Project.*

-18 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve payment of pay application number 3 for the Airport Terminal Renovation Project payable to Minvielle Lumber Company in the amount of \$48,496.55 and the invoice to The Sellers Group in the amount of \$1,440.95. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Spearman, Police Chief

- *Received a new applicant that is already post certified. He is moving from Plaquemine. He would like to hire him tonight.*

-19 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the probational appointment of Wade Hill to the Abbeville Police Department. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *Thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and City workers for their work for the Omelette Festival.*
- *The Community Baby Shower will be held on November 11, 2018 at St. Theresa's Holy Family Center from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Today is the 97<sup>th</sup> birthday of General Bob LeBlanc. We appreciate his public service. We wish him a very happy birthday.*
- *Congratulated the Confrerie D'Abbeville on another very successful Omelette Festival. It is wonderful to have international visitors to our City.*

- *Reminded everyone to go vote.*

Councilwoman Terry Broussard

- *Thanked everyone for attending the meeting, especially her constituents.*
- *Reminded everyone to go vote.*
- *She thanked the all City employees for what they do for the City of Abbeville.*

-20 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to enter into executive session for pending or threatened litigation. The motion carried unanimously.

-21 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to reconvene the regular meeting from executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

*Mr. Ike Funderburk stated the executive session was to provide an update on the Riley LeBlanc matter. No action is required.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk  
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza  
Mayor