

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on October 15, 2019 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
Jason Hebert, Lieutenant
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Corey LeBlanc, Architect
Ben Rivera, Insurance Agent
Colton Daigle, LWCC
Kelly Courville, U. S. 2020 Census
Reverend Wayne Landry, Former City Councilman

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

Mayor Piazza stated he and Brady were blessed way back in our high school days by having Sister Camille Anne Campbell as our assistant principal and math teacher. Sister Camille Anne was at Vermillion Catholic from 1969 to 1980 before she went to Mount Carmel Elementary in New Orleans where she served as the principal there for many years. She restored Mount Carmel Elementary after Hurricane Katrina. She still serves as honorary principal and president of the board. She is celebrating her Jubilee anniversary in vowed life which is 60 years as a Carmelite nun. We want to congratulate her and Brady and I will try to surprise her by hand delivering this proclamation to her. We are designating the month of October as Sister Camille Anne Campbell's anniversary. Councilman Broussard thanked the Mayor for recognizing her and all the career educators in the City of Abbeville. They are very important to our community.

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the proclamation for Sister Camille Anne Campbell. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ben Rivera wanted to take some time to thank the city for their partnership with LWCC. You recently received the check in the amount of \$84,345.45 from LWCC. This is a testament to LWCC in working with the City. Mr. Colton Daigle stated this check was excess surplus money that was distributed to the members. They released a \$136,000,000 dividend. Thank you for your partnership with us. We know the Worker's Comp. renewal was a little higher this year and we are expecting another dividend to be released in the spring of 2020. Although it is not guaranteed, it has occurred since 2003.

-02 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to ratify bills paid in the month of September 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

Mayor Piazza said we have Ms. Kelly Courville tonight to discuss the 2020 United States Census. These numbers are very important to Abbeville because there are a lot of laws that govern what we have to do depending on the size of our city. It is important that we have accurate numbers for our census. Ms. Courville stated it is important to partner with our local governments to get the word out ahead of time. In order for the public to understand they have to understand what this means for them. It is a matter of power and money. If we can get a count that is accurate in the state of Louisiana then we can have the right representation in the United States House of Representatives. If you don't have an accurate count you don't have the correct representation there. We want our count to be accurate and complete. The other end of that is money. Over \$675 million is distributed by the federal government each year. This is in the form of grants and public programs. If you have people that are not filling out the census then you are leaving money on the table. If you want us to have the money to repair the potholes in the road and the federal government gives us money for that, then we need an accurate accounting of individuals. The money will follow the number of people. The census is easy. You can do it online or call in or you can complete it by mail. It is safe and the system cannot be hacked. The data is encrypted. Now we are in the address canvassing part of it. If you don't fill out the form someone will come to you. We are asking you to form a complete count committee with trusted voices in the community that people trust. We will train them and they will go out in the community. Mayor Piazza stated after the count, this could affect how the districts are redrawn.

Plaisance/T. Broussard
Resolution R19-27

A resolution in support of the 2020 United States Census.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wayne Landry was seeking a variance from the ordinance pertaining to the location of trash containers. Mr. Landry ask Ms. Sarah, on October 1st, in the Tax Department for a red sticker to put on his trash can so he would not have to move it away from the road. Prior to receiving the sticker, he received a letter stating that the Vermilion Parish Police Jury has to grant the variance because the City cannot. He is requesting the variance because of his back and he would like to leave his trash can on the curb. He does have an excuse from his doctor. Mayor Piazza asked Mr. Funderburk to address Mr. Landry. Mr. Funderburk stated the City of Abbeville had piggybacked on the Vermilion Parish Police Jury's ordinance. It is the Vermilion Parish Police Jury's trash can so the variance must be granted through them. The City of Abbeville does not have the power to grant that so our hands are tied. He presented the ordinances to Mr. Landry and asked him to visit the Vermilion Parish Police Jury for the variance that he needed.

-03 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve the recommendation of the Insurance Committee from their meeting held on October 1, 2019 to approve the purchase of a Crime Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

Touchet/White
Ordinance 19-06

An ordinance to amend Section 5-83 and 5-84, pertaining to voluntary demolition of buildings by the owner.

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

YEAS: 5(Plaisance, T. Broussard, B. Broussard, Touchet, White)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Therefore, the motion carried unanimously.

Touchet/White
Ordinance 19-07

An ordinance to amend Section 4-1, Definition of a dangerous dog.

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

YEAS: 5(Plaisance, T. Broussard, B. Broussard, Touchet, White)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Therefore, the motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Mr. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve change order number 3 to decrease the contract by \$10,939.29 for the LCDBG Sewer System Improvements Project. The motion carried unanimously.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to accept partial payment #6 in the amount of \$26,491.59 payable to M. P. Dumesnil for the LCDBG Sewer System Improvements Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Plaisance/White
Resolution R19-28

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and act of acceptance from M. P. Dumesnil Construction Company, Inc. pertaining to the completion of the contract for FY 2019-2019 LCDBG Sewer System Improvements.

The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to approve pay application number one in the amount of \$102,384.18 payable to L. Michaud General Contractor for the Main Hangar Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Corey LeBlanc stated that we have excess money available in the grant so we are getting prices to replace the panels in the office portion of the building. We will present that at a later date. We are waiting on the response from Danielle about additional funds perhaps being available for this project.

-07 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve pay application number 14 payable to Minvielle lumber in the amount of \$21,381.05 and the Sellers Group invoices in the amount of \$867.72 and \$1,360. These are all for the Airport Terminal Building Renovation project. The motion carried unanimously.

Ike Funderburk, City Attorney

- *He will be leaving Thursday for a vacation for the next two weeks. Please do not have any emergencies in the next two weeks.*

Clay Menard, Public Works Director

- *He was able to go with the police jury to look at the airport parking lot. The estimated cost to complete the terminal side is \$18,000 in material and to complete the Omega protein side is \$27,500 in materials. The total cost for the project would be \$45,500. Mayor Piazza stated that Councilman Touchet would reach out to the police jury for their assistance with this project.*
- *Councilwoman White asked Clay to see about paving the hole on Concord Street in front of Bernard Duhon's office before the Omelette Festival.*
- *Councilman Plaisance asked Clay about the right of way behind the old Schwegmann's building. Clay stated it is our power line but there is no electricity flowing to it. The property owner is cutting the property but is not cutting that part.*
- *Councilwoman Broussard asked Clay to keep her updated on the MLK project.*

Jude Mire, Fire Chief

- *We had the fire rating last week. I hope to get the numbers in the next two weeks.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance,

- *Recognized Ms. Sandra Marant who was at the meeting tonight.*
- *The Cattle Festival will be hosting a circus at 4:30 PM and 7:30 PM Tuesday night.*

Councilwoman Terry Broussard

- *Thanks to everyone for attending the meeting tonight.*
- *Had a great time at the Cattle Festival banquet. Come out and enjoy it next year.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *It is good to educate the public on the importance of the census. We all have that responsibility.*
- *The Farmers Market is this weekend.*
- *There is a shortage of personnel in the Electrical Department. We know there are streetlights out and they have been out and will continue to remain out. They are reported and the department has a list. They are doing the best they can with the amount of people in the department.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *The new sales tax has kicked in so we need to plan for upcoming meetings regarding the raises.*
- *Individuals need to pick up their political signs as soon as possible hopefully before the beginning of November. Mayor Piazza stated we have an ordinance governing that. Councilwoman White stated she would put that on our Facebook page.*

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *We will have Sounds on the Square Thursday.*
- *Whittington Veterinary Clinic will be holding an anything over rice event on October 19th. All proceeds go to Vermilion Parish animal aid.*
- *The Giant Omelette Festival will be held November 2 and November 3.*
- *The Christian Service Center will hold its second annual baby shower on November 17.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor