

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Abbeville met in emergency special session on September 10, 2024 at 12:15 P.M., at the regular meeting place, the Council Meeting Room located at 101 North State Street, Abbeville, Louisiana, with the Honorable Roslyn R. White, Mayor presiding.

Members Present: Council Members, Carlton Campbell, Brady Broussard, Jr., and Terry Broussard

Member Absent: Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.
Councilman Tony Hardy

Also, Present: Shirley Bertrand, Billing Manager
Rani Lege, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
Chris Gautreaux, Parks and Public Works Director
Theresa Trahan, Public Works Administrative Technical Asst.
Stewart Head, Electrical Department Superintendent
Paul Tomino, Equipment Operator 2
Timmy Farris, Sewer Maintenance Foreman
Lee Schexnaider, Wastewater Plant Superintendent
Eldridge Harrison, Street Construction Maintenance Foreman
Cristian LeJeune, Digital Media Assistant
Coeyn Wise, City Hall Intern
Jeremiah Bolden, City Marshal
Reggie Hilts, Deputy City Marshal
Mike Hardy, Police Chief
Heather Fontenot, Administrative Assistant to Police Chief
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Kelly Mire, Assistant Fire Chief
Byron Dozier, Parks Coordinator, QSA
Kim Touchet, Engineer
Brian Primeaux, Engineer

Mayor White called the emergency special City Council meeting to order and requested a roll call. She then led the assembly in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor White explained that an emergency special meeting had been called to declare a state of emergency and discuss emergency measures due to the approaching Tropical Storm/Hurricane Francine.

B. Broussard/Campbell
Resolution R24-26

A resolution authorizing a state of emergency as a result of Tropical Storm Francine and potential hurricane.

The motion carried unanimously.

After adoption of the resolution, Mayor White asked each department to discuss their preparations.

Chief Mike Hardy – have taken pictures of the facility present day in case there is damage. He is waiting to decide on staffing needs. Will enact curfew if needed.

Chief Jude Mire – all stations and equipment are ready. He is waiting to decide on staffing needs. His staff will assist with cutting trees from roadways if needed.

Stewart Head – have crews from Marietta George on their way to assist with power restoration. Hotel rooms and food have been arranged for them.

Chris Gautreaux – Rented three generators and a by-pass pump for sewer lift stations. The parks are closed and all trash cans have been removed. Paul has placed extra sandbags on the temporary signs downtown. Marie is staffing the water plant around the clock. The water crew is working on fixing water leaks. Lee has lowered the water in the pond to prepare for flooding. The street department has been giving out sandbags. The sandbagging machine will not work with wet sand. They will begin hand shoveling bags and will reopen after 2:00 PM today. Shirley will be answering the phones. Once she stops, the water plant will take the calls. There should not be any calls made to Stewart. Please contact him or Shirley. The diesel pump at the City Barn is down but they are trying to get it repaired. If it is not repaired, Duhon Brothers will be able to accommodate us.

Mayor Roslyn White – the storm is now tracking a little more to the east than originally anticipated. We could receive tropical storm winds early tomorrow afternoon. We are anticipating opening City Hall until 12:30 PM tomorrow unless we feel like we need to shut it down sooner. No one will go out after the winds are at 35 MPH, except the Fire Department, because it is too dangerous for our crews. All electrical substations have to come up first before we can get service to others. If you cannot be without power, please contact OEP or evacuate. Shirley will run the call center from her house and if need be, she will move to City Hall. We will make that call as the weather progresses. The shelter of first resort is at Cecil Picard Elementary in Maurice. Once you arrive there, they will take you to Farmerville.

Kim Touchet – have given the debris contractors 24-hour notice and he will meet with them Thursday morning. The contractors are Glenn Lege, Acadiana Shell and Storm Trim. We have a preliminary map laid out but it can be changed as needed. He will monitor the debris so that the City can get reimbursed.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Roslyn R. White
Mayor