

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on May 7, 2024 at 5:30 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, Terry Broussard, Brady Broussard, Jr., Francis Touchet, Jr. Mayor Pro-Tem and Tony Hardy

Members Absent: None

Also, Present: Bart Broussard, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Mike Hardy, Police Chief
Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director
Cristian LeJeune, Digital Media Assistant
Bryan Fisher, Code Enforcement Officer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Kim Touchet, Engineer
Ben Rivera & Colton Daigle, Insurance agents

Mayor White called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. Mayor White asked Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr. to lead those assembled in prayer. Mayor White asked Mr. Bryan Fisher to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor White asked if there were any comments from the public on any agenda item prior to action. There were none.

-01 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to ratify bills paid in the month of April 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2024 regular City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve the renewal of Workers' Compensation Insurance with LWCC for the period of May 19, 2024 through May 18, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

509 S. Young Street – *No one appeared to represent the property pertaining to the dilapidated structure.*

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to condemn the structure at 509 S. Young Street and authorize bids for demolition. The motion carried unanimously.

1524 Oscar Street – *Morgana Broussard Gates and Miranda Broussard Ruckstuhl appeared to represent the property. They had recently inherited the property from their father. They want to demolish the structure and clean up the property.*

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to condemn the structure located at 1524 Oscar Street and to allow the property owners ten days to obtain the demolition permit. Significant progress must be made within 30 days or the City will request bids to do the work. The motion carried unanimously.

302 S. Miles Street – *No one appeared to represent the property pertaining to the dilapidated structure, grass, weeds and trees. Councilman Campbell was concerned that the proper owners were not notified. Mr. Bryan Fisher stated he would meet with Councilman Campbell to discuss who was notified.*

-06 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to condemn the structure at 302 S. Miles Street and to authorize bids for demolition of structure and clean up of property pending verification that the correct owners were properly notified. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to award the contract for demolition of the structure at 907 S. Lyman Street to the low bidder, Savoy's Excavation & Demolition, LLC, in the amount of \$3,740.00. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to award the contract for demolition of the structure at 912 S. Lyman Street to the low bidder, Elyse Farms, in the amount of \$3,200.00. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to accept the recommendation of the Abbeville Planning Commission to grant a variance for the landscaping plan for Market D'Ville located at 602 Charity Street. The motion carried unanimously.

-10 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to ratify expenses for the tree trimming for the Electrical and Street Departments. The motion carried unanimously.

-11 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve payment of the invoice from Subsurface Solution, LLC in the amount of \$10,920.00 associated with drainage and sewer video inspections in conjunction with the Abbeville Road Transfer Program Downtown Street Improvements Project. The motion carried unanimously.

-12 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve the renewal of the insurance package for the Fire Department with VFIS for the period from June 7, 2024 through June 6, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

-13 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve payment of the invoice from Terry's Diesel Repair in the amount of \$7,369.66 to repair a fire truck. The motion carried unanimously.

-14 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve the purchase of three used 2020 Ford Explorer police vehicles from the Acadia Parish Sheriff's office at a cost of \$10,000.00 per vehicle. The motion carried unanimously.

-15 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to ratify authorization of the Mayor to execute the assignment of the lease concerning hangar #4 on Tract 2 at the airport. The motion carried unanimously.

-16 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to authorize the purchase of a used 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office for the City Marshal's Office. The motion carried unanimously.

-17 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve the expense to bore and install electrical boxes in Downtown at an approximate cost of \$27,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

-18 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to authorize advertisement for bids for the Runway Lighting Upgrade project subject to DOTD approval and funding availability. The motion carried unanimously.

-19 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve payment of partial payment number 7 in the amount of \$6,429.99 to Southern Constructors relative to the New Fishing Pier and Wharf project at LaFitte Drive-In Park. The motion carried unanimously.

T. Broussard/Hardy
Resolution R24-12

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the Notice of Acceptance, subject to the \$5,000.00 punch list items, relative to the New Fishing Pier and Wharf Project at LaFitte Drive-In Park.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director

- *Waiting on a quote for Nugier.*
- *Councilman Hardy asked when they can upgrade Parker Hebert Park. Chris stated that there is money in the budget so they can get together to discuss.*

Mayor Roslyn White

- *Gave Parks and Recreation Coordinator report on behalf of Byron. The league games continue until May 16th. The league championship tournament will begin on May 20, 2024. American Legion Post 29ers will host tryouts on May 20th and May 23rd at Roy Theriot Field. Vermilion Catholic will begin their high school metro league on May 28, 2024 and will finish June 26, 2024.*
- *We are deep into the milling of the downtown streets as part of our road project. Tomorrow they are supposed to start milling around the courthouse. Everyone has been notified.*
- *Recently discovered that some of our customers are utilizing a utility bill payment system called DOXO. It is basically a check writing service. This service is not affiliated with the City of Abbeville. Once you complete the transaction through DOXO, they mail a check to the City of Abbeville two days after the transaction is complete. People who are utilizing this payment system through DOXO on the day of cutoff will be disconnected as it takes several days for us to get payment. Our customers should only be utilizing the payment system on our website, cityofabbeville.net for same day posting of payments. Cristian will be making a notification regarding this on our website.*

Jude Mire, Fire Chief

- *Live Oak Manor has been approved by the State Fire Marshal as of April 29, 2024. Mayor White stated that we issued the building permit for their one burned unit. The Fire Marshal*

will inspect that unit once it is built. They met all of our demands as far as improvements to property so the building permit was issued.

Councilman Carlton Campbell

- *Wants to put a mural on the building at the old Concorde building. It is now called "La Chambre". The owner is receptive to the idea of the mural on his building. Mayor White asked who would pay for it. Councilman Campbell thought the City would pay for it. Mayor White stated that she does not believe the City can pay for an improvement on a building that they do not own. She asked Bart Broussard to research this and get back with Councilman Campbell. Councilman Campbell stated that he would raise the money to pay for the mural if the City cannot pay for it.*
- *Asked Chief Hardy to look for illegal dumping when they patrol.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *The Acadian Symphony Orchestra featuring Ms. Elizabeth Pitcairn performed at St. Mary Magdalen Church last night. It was a wonderful performance.*
- *Would like to drive Bryan Fisher to some properties tomorrow afternoon.*

Councilman Tony Hardy

- *Asked Bryan Fisher about 718 Coulee Kinney. Bryan stated he already has a case on that address.*

-20 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation relative to the Abbeville Police Department. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayor White stated that the executive session was held to discuss pending litigation relative to the Abbeville Police Department. It was just an update and no action is necessary.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Roslyn R. White
Mayor