

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on March 19, 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., and Tony Hardy

Members Absent: Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

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
Byron Dozier, Parks & Recreation Coordinator, QSA
Gary Scholerman, Blinded Veterans Association
Louisiana Cattle Festival Board and newly crowned royalty

Mayor White called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. Mayor White asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. to lead those assembled in prayer. Mayor White asked Louisiana Cattle Festival Queen, Morgan Landry, 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. Brady Broussard, Jr. to appoint Jeffrey Rayford to the position of Abbeville Police Officer

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to table the appointment of Jeffrey Rayford to the position of Abbeville Police Officer in order to obtain additional information about the applicant.

The substitute motion was approved unanimously therefore no vote was needed on the original motion.

-02 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to appoint Eric Istre to the position of Abbeville Police Officer pending all post-offer assessments. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor White presented a proclamation to Mr. Gary Scholerman. Mr. Scholerman represented the Blinded Veterans Association. The organization is 79 years old and March 28th of each year is Blinded Veterans Day.

The Louisiana Cattle Festival introduced their board and newly crowned royalty.

-03 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to ratify bills paid in

the month of February 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve a special event permit for H. H. Riders to hold their 1st annual Easter Egg Hunt and Extravaganza at McKinley Scott Park on March 30, 2024 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM pending receipt of insurance. The motion carried unanimously.

Hardy/T. Broussard
Resolution R24-05

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Edmunds GovTech pursuant to LSA R.S. 33:1324 and 1325 for new data processing/software/computer technology upgrades.

The motion carried unanimously.

-05 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve the quote from Techline in the amount of \$12,525.87 for poles for stock. The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to award the construction contract including the base bid, alternate 1 and alternate 2 to the low bidder, Glenn Lege Construction in the amount of \$1,869,619.00 for the Downtown Abbeville Street Improvements Project. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor White stated that we have \$1,300,000 in money for the Downtown Abbeville Street Improvement project from the State.

-07 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve change order number 2 relative to the LCDBG Sewer System Rehab project contingent upon the Office of Community Development approval. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve payment of estimate for partial payment number 11 in the amount of \$124,720.75 payable to Shaw Construction Services LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to authorize advertisement for bids for the Construct Hangar Development Hangar Area Project subject to FAA and DOTD approval and funding availability. The motion carried unanimously.

-10 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve the certificate of appropriateness for Les Maison De Pere located at 108 A and 108 B North Jefferson Street to begin the demolition of the buildings. The motion carried unanimously.

Campbell/T. Broussard
Resolution R24-06

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an extension of the cooperative endeavor agreement regarding security cameras by and between the City of Abbeville and Crime Fighters of Louisiana, LLC.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director

- *Lafitte Park is still closed for the wharf construction. We will have to do additional work on the bank.*

Byron Dozier, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, QSA

- *Practice has started for the baseball league.*

Mayor Roslyn White

- *Thanked the Council for their support of the Downtown Project.*
- *The Sicilian Festival is March 23, 2024 from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Blacksmith Shop.*
- *Spirit Fest will be held at the Christian Service Center from 12 PM to 3 PM on March 23, 2024.*
- *There was a great turnout for the March 14, 2024 Sounds on the Square. The next one is March 21, 2024. Steve Adams and the four-piece trio will be playing. The next two are on April 4, 2024 and April 11, 2024.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Recognized several Rotarians that were in attendance. They recently held the St. Pat's Comedy for a Cause. It was a great success. They donated \$19,000 for the Christian Service Center to purchase a van. The Abbeville Rotary Club will purchase a rescue boat for Erath Fire Department and playground equipment for LeBlanc Elementary School.*

Councilman Tony Hardy

- *Asked if the ARC has announced their grand opening date yet.*

-11 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to enter into executive session to discuss the litigation brought against the City by the Abbeville Police Department pertaining to pay. The motion carried unanimously.

-12 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 litigation brought against the City by the Abbeville Police Department pertaining to pay. She asked the City Attorney for a recommendation. Bart stated that he would like a motion to respond to their offer with a counteroffer.

-13 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to authorize the City Attorney to make a counteroffer to the offer from the Police. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Roslyn R. White
Mayor