

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Abbeville met in special session on September 20, 2022 at 5:00 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
Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director
Sarah Alpough, Director of Revenue, Regulatory Codes & Permits
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Bernadine Rideau, owner 718 I. J. Joiner property

Mayor White called the special City Council meeting to order.

-01 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to deviate from the meeting to move item number 2, public hearing and discussion with the property owner or their designee pertaining to the condemnation of the structure located at 1511 Wabash Street and to authorize action if needed, to item number 4 because Councilman Touchet is running late and this property is in his district. The motion carried unanimously.

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

708 Coulee Kinney Road – *No representative was present for the property. Councilman Hardy stated that there is never anyone there. Mayor White stated that there is no one living there and there is junk all over. The campers are all torn apart. She would like to condemn the campers left on the site. That way we can clean the property. Councilman Hardy stated that he would like to make sure all the rubbish and junk is cleaned up too.*

-02 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to condemn the structures at 708 Coulee Kinney Road and authorize the tax department to obtain bids to remove the campers and clean the property of rubbish and junk. The motion carried unanimously.

718 I. J. Joiner – *Ms. Bernadine Rideau appeared to represent the property. Councilwoman Broussard asked Ms. Rideau what her intentions were with the property. Ms. Rideau stated that they would paint it and board it up. They are using the house for storage so she does not intend for anyone to live in it. Councilwoman Broussard stated that in the future, the City will start cracking down on the abandoned homes because this is where they are breaking in and hiding their guns and running from the Police. Those are things that we are trying to avoid. When the people in the neighborhood call, we have to act on that. Ms. Rideau stated that she would board it up until they have enough money to try and tear it down. Mayor White stated that with the price of materials, for plywood, you might be better off just trying to get it demolished. Ms. Rideau stated that they already have the materials. Councilman Campbell asked how long the*

structure has been vacant. Ms. Rideau stated since 2018 or 2019. Mayor White asked is she could get it torn down within six months. Ms. Rideau stated that she could not. She called for a dumpster and it is over \$500 to get it delivered plus \$10 per day. Mayor White stated that Ms. Rideau could tear it down herself and make an appointment with the Police Jury to pick it up. If she does the work herself, they may be able to do that. She suggested that she check with the Police Jury to be sure. We would want the appointment made prior to the beginning of the demolition so that it does not sit at the road. That would save you on the dumpster fees. Councilwoman Broussard gave her the phone number to contact the police jury. Mayor White stated that there is a blighted property grant that may be coming up. If we condemn the property, we can put this property on the list and if the City gets the grant, the City can assist with the cleaning of the property at no charge. There is no guarantee that we will get the grant. If we don't get the grant, the structure will still have to be torn down at some point. We would need to condemn the property first and then put it on the list. If we do not get the grant, it would have to come back before the Council for the owner to tear it down. Ms. Rideau agreed to place the property on the list and she stated that she understood that if the City does not get the grant, she would have to have the structure demolished. Mayor White stated that the structure would still need to be secured so that there is no drug activity and if you do tear the structure down, please let us know so we can remove it from the list. Councilwoman Broussard gave Ms. Rideau her contact information so she could keep in touch with her about the property.

-03 introduced Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to condemn the structure (house) located at 718 I. J. Joiner and to put the property on the list for the blighted property removal grant. If the City does not receive the grant, the property will have to be brought back before the Council for action in order to get it demolished. The motion carried unanimously.

1702 Oscar Street – no representative appeared to represent the property. Councilwoman Broussard stated that somebody is living there. Mayor White stated that there is a lot of rubbish on the property.

-04 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to authorize the tax department to obtain bids to remove all the rubbish and junk from 1702 Oscar Street. The motion carried unanimously.

1511 Wabash Street – no representative appeared to represent the property. Councilman Touchet stated that he wants the property condemned and wants to move immediately to get the structure demolished.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to condemn the structure at 1511 Wabash Street and to authorize the tax department to obtain bids to have the structure demolished. 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