

MinutCity of Abbeville  
Regular Meeting  
May 2, 2023

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on May 2, 2023 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, Brady Broussard, Jr., Terry Broussard, Francis Touchet, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem and Tony Hardy

Members Absent: None

Also, Present: Bart Broussard, City Attorney  
Mike Hardy, Police Chief  
Jude Mire, Fire Chief  
Stewart Head, Electrical Department Superintendent  
Chris Gautreaux, Director of Public Works & Parks  
Stewart Head, Electrical Department Superintendent  
Gene Sellers, Engineer  
Kim Touchet, Engineer  
Byron Dozier, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, QSA  
Coaches and members of the AHS and VC Boys and Girls basketball Teams who made the All-Vermilion Parish Basketball Team

*Mayor White called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. She then asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. to lead those assembled in prayer. Mayor White asked Councilman Carlton Campbell to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to amend the agenda to add a discussion with the property owner of 815 Alphonse Street pertaining to the rubbish, trash, fallen tree and junk vehicle and to authorize any action, if necessary, as number 4 under new business. The motion carried unanimously.

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

-02 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to ratify the appointment of Carl Calder and Simon Sunday to the position of Police Officer with the Abbeville Police Department pending successful completion of all post-offer assessments. The motion carried unanimously.

*Mayor White and the City Council members recognized the Abbeville High School girls and boys basketball team members and two members from Vermilion Catholic for making the All-Vermilion Parish Basketball Teams.*

-03 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2023 and April 18, 2023 regular City Council meetings, the April 18, 2023 Committee meeting and the April 18, 2023 special City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to declare the structure at 803 S. Guegnon condemned and to request bids to demolish the structure and remove the rubbish, trash, junk vehicles and overgrown trees and weeds. The motion carried unanimously.

-05 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to declare the mobile home located at 802/804 Greene Street condemned and to grant the property owner two weeks to obtain a permit and begin work on the dilapidated mobile home. If no progress is made within the two-week timeframe, bids will be received to demolish the mobile home. The motion carried unanimously.

-06 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to declare the structure at 821 Alphonse Street condemned and to request bids to demolish the structure and to remove rubbish, trash and a junk vehicle on the property. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to request bids to remove the rubbish, trash, fallen tree and junk vehicle from the property located at 815 Alphonse Street. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to authorize advertisement for a new bucket truck for the Electrical Department. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve payment of partial payment estimate number 4 in the amount of \$121,064.76 payable to Southern Constructors, LLC for the Downtown Abbeville Streetscaping Phase II Project. The motion carried unanimously.

*Mayor White had recently attended the Walkability Action Institute in Baton Rouge. The event was put on by the CDC and LDHH. We need to build a health community. We need to consider adopting a Complete Street Policy. This will allow the City to think about pedestrians and bicyclists first before cars when we construct or repair a street. We need to think about people who don't have a car and who rely on walking or biking where they need to go. The conference was more than a discussion about sidewalks. It was about people. We had to do movability audits with someone in a wheel chair, someone who was blind and someone who was deaf as they tried to navigate downtown Baton Rouge. She intends for the City Council to participate fully in the development of future policies pertaining to this. Her attendance was paid for fully by LDHH.*

*Councilman Touchet has asked the Mayor to update them regarding the communication plan for the upcoming curfew. It goes into effect on May 4, 2023. Mayor White stated that a post card went out to all residents with a summary of the ordinance. Shaun wrote an article in this past Sunday's Abbeville Meridional. The ordinance was published on April 13, 2023 and April 26, 2023 and it will be published one more time. The staff at City Hall contacted all the businesses that employ minors. Tomorrow everyone enrolled to receive Nixle messages will receive a message about the curfew. We will be adding signage about the curfew at A. A. Comeaux Park. She spoke with Mr. Tommy Byler, Vermilion Catholic and Harvesttime and they will educate their students about the ordinance. Her staff will make Abbeville Police aware of any upcoming school events. Mayor White will also go and speak to the seniors at the local schools about the curfew. Councilman Touchet asked Chief Hardy to explain how he will enforce the curfew. Chief Hardy stated at first, they will be lenient since the ordinance is new. He has already contacted the local*

*coaches to educate them about the curfew. About two weeks from now they will stop the minor, explain why they were stopped and request identification. If a minor is brought in, the parents will receive a warning for the first offense and we will educate them about the curfew. They have been speaking to students about the curfew too.*

*Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director, discussed various projects he and the crews are working on. Some of those are a sign project, landscaping at City Hall, fixing road cuts and tree cutting in the alley.*

*Byron Dozier, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, discussed the upcoming events at the A. A. Comeaux Park. The splash pad will be up and running soon. They will be meeting with American Legion about baseball.*

*Mayor Roslyn White stated that she is currently interviewing to fill the Digital Media Assistant position. Mrs. Yvonne Gaspard will be retiring on June 30, 2023 so we are currently advertising to fill that upcoming vacancy. She is reviewing applications received for the Code Enforcement Officer position.*

*Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. announced that the Daylily Festival will be held in Magdalen Square on June 3, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.*

*Councilwoman Terry Broussard asked Chief Hardy to see about street basketball goals on City streets. She is concerned about safety.*

*Councilman Carlton Campbell stated that he will meet with the Mayor regarding the Second Harvest Food Bank. He also asked for a traffic light to be installed at the intersection of MLK and Comeaux Park.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk  
Secretary-Treasurer

Roslyn R. White  
Mayor