

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on June 7, 2022 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 Mark Piazza, Mayor, presiding.

Members Present: Council Members, Francis Plaisance, Terry Broussard and Brady Broussard, Jr.

Members Absent: Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.
Councilwoman Roslyn White

Also, Present: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Lieutenant Jonathan Touchet
Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director
Charlene Beckett, Main Street Manager
Allie Horton, Digital Media Assistant
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Tommy Picard, Park Director, QSA
Mike Hardy, Police Chief-Elect
Keith Huntsberry, Retired from Fire Department
Jason Harmon, Retired from Fire Department
Steve Moosa, CPA
Steven Menard

Mayor Piazza asked Chief Jude Mire to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Piazza led those assembled in prayer.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to accept the resignation of Trevor Eaton from the Abbeville Fire Department effective June 21, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to authorize the creation of the classification of Utility Collection Specialist II and to change the Utility Collection Specialist classification to Utility Collection Specialist I. Both positions are in the Central Office. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza stated that the position would have to be created and the job description would have to be written and then approved by both the Civil Service Board and the City Council before the position can be filled.

Chief Jude Mire and Mayor Piazza recognized Captain Keith Huntsberry and Assistant Chief Jason Harmon for their recent retirement. Captain Huntsberry retired after 33 years of service and Assistant Chief Harmon served 25 years. Both retirees were presented with a certification of appreciation from the City.

-03 introduced by Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the minutes from the Committee meeting held on May 3, 2022, the regular City Council meetings held on May

3, 2022 and May 17, 2022 and the special City Council meeting held on May 17, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to ratify bills paid in the month of May 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Steven Menard was at the meeting to request a special event permit for the Vermilion NAACP to hold a motorcade for the Juneteenth Celebration. It would be held on June 17, 2022. The motorcade will be made up of the queens. He has already visited with the police department about the motorcade. We will begin at the old Hibernia bank building, then proceed down Charity Street, then turn on Hospital Lane and end up at the Red Barn on Rodeo Road. We will gather at 5:30 PM, then we will have a prayer at 7:30 PM and then proceed with the motorcade. Mr. Funderburk stated that he has not yet received the appropriate documentation that is required for the permit.

-05 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to grant the special event permit for the motorcade as discussed contingent upon the receipt of all necessary documentation and the meeting of all the requirements of the permit. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Steve Moosa discussed a graph presentation of the audit for the fiscal year ended 12/31/2021. It depicted revenues and expenses in various funds. There were no findings on the audit. The Louisiana Legislative Auditor has reimplemented the Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) after relaxing the requirements during COVID. He also discussed the AUPs. It is a recommendation on best practices and not a finding. The requirements were put in place as of January 2022. We will assist with updating policy and procedures and segregation of duties as needed.

-06 Introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve the audit report and AUP report as presented for the fiscal year ended 12/31/2021. The motion carried unanimously.

-07 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the renewal from UMR for employee health insurance, Tokio Marine HCC for stoploss coverage and the group Medicare Advantage Program for retirees for the policy year from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to table the approval of the quote from Bayou Fencing for fencing around the tennis courts at Comeaux Park because Councilman Touchet was not at the meeting and it was unknown where the invoice would be paid from. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Broussard/Plaisance
Resolution R22-14

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute all documents necessary in order to create a 501 (c)(3) corporation for the benefit of the Sam Guarino Blacksmith Shop Museum.

The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve a Class A beer permit for Just For Him located at 3013 Veterans Memorial Drive, Suite 103. The motion was put to a vote and the vote thereupon was as follows:

YEAS: 2(T. Broussard, B. Broussard)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 2(Touchet, White)
ABSTAIN: 1(Plaisance)

Therefore, the motion carried.

-10 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to table the request to grant a variance to move a 1999 mobile home from 412 Chevis to 611 N. Lamar because Councilwoman White was not at the meeting and this is in her district. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza recognized Ms. Charlene Beckett for a very successful Daylily Festival and he asked her to provide a report about it.

Charlene Beckett, Main Street Manager

- *They had 34 vendors for the Daylily Festival. We had vendors from Mississippi, Lake Charles, Forest Hill, Franklinton and locally too. We had educational displays from the Bonsai Society and the Abbeville Garden Club. We had two educational speakers in the Cultural Center and the 4-H Garden Club winners were also announced. There were over 160 people that walked in and out of the Cultural Center. We had less vendors than we normally do but we had more people that came this year. We had good weather. She thanked the Police Department, Chris and the City workers and Tommy.*
- *We received the trash can grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful for LaFitte Park and we also received another grant to purchase garbage grabbers, gloves and other supplies.*

Chris Gautreaux, Public Works Director

- *The fountain at Magdalen Square is back on and working.*
- *The Water Department fixed 25 water leaks, replaced two fire hydrants and have completed the drinking water tap relocations.*
- *The Sewer Department resolved 12 major blockages and made a few other minor repairs.*
- *The cement has been poured at the tennis court.*
- *We are still working to get all the hydrants changed. It is a slow process.*

Tommy Picard, Park and Recreation Director, QSA

- *The pickle ball court has been set up in the recreation center. We will need to get cushions for the poles.*
- *Tournament season is winding down. We don't have one this week.*
- *The American Legion State tournament will be played here in July.*

Lieutenant Jonathan Touchet, Police Department

- *Discussed calls received recently.*

Fire Chief Jude Mire

- *We are interviewing candidates Friday for two vacant positions. The Council will interview the candidates at the next meeting on 6/21/22.*
- *He has two trucks in the shop.*

- *He discussed the calls received in the last three weeks.*

Mayor Piazza distributed a handout and read it aloud. It was the meaning of the words, colors and symbols of the official City of Abbeville flag. He found the handout recently when he was clearing his office. The City used to give the handout often.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor