

City of Abbeville
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2023

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on September 19, 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, Terry Broussard, Brady Broussard, Jr., Francis Touchet, Jr. and Tony Hardy

Members Absent: None

Also, Present: Bart Broussard, City Attorney
Mike Hardy, Police Chief
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Chris Gautreaux, Director of Public Works & Parks
Stewart Head, Electrical Superintendent
Cristian LeJeune, Digital Media Assistant
Bryan Fisher, Code Enforcement Officer
Byron Dozier, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, QSA
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Karen Guilbeau & Marcella Davis, Louisiana Cattle Festival

Mayor White called the meeting to order and requested a roll call. She then asked Councilwoman Terry Broussard to lead those assembled in prayer. Mayor White asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. 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. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to ratify bills paid in the month of August 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

-02 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the budget to actual report for August 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Karen Guilbeau and Ms. Marcella Davis discussed the upcoming Louisiana Cattle Festival to be held in downtown Abbeville on October 6th through October 8th. She discussed in detail the events that will take place.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy for the City to absorb the overtime for the Police Department for the Louisiana Cattle Festival for this year. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor White announced the upcoming Abbeville High School parade route and time it will begin.

-04 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to approve the accounting of the 2022 tax roll. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bryan Fisher began a discussion pertaining to roadside debris of office and household furniture and other goods. The Police Jury will continue to pickup roadside debris on their regular route and schedule. He and Mayor White will review our current code and request changes as needed to address this problem. Mayor White stated that we can be more restrictive with our property owners about the number of days the debris can be put at the road prior to pick up. We are having this problem mostly with landlords and rental property. She will ask the Judge to be the mechanism to help us educate the landlords on our process when they are requesting an eviction. She will come back to the City Council with recommendations as needed.

A discussion was held with Mr. Damon Miguez, the property owner of 1802 Oscar Street pertaining to the dilapidated carport and cover. Mr. Miguez stated that he will demolish the carport and cover as well as the mobile home. He requested 90 days to complete the work.

-05 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to deem the structures at 1802 Oscar Street condemned and to grant the property owner 90 days to complete the demolition of the carport, cover and mobile home. The motion carried unanimously.

No one appeared to represent the property at 703 S. St. Valerie pertaining to the dilapidated structure. Councilwoman Broussard stated she had spoken to the property owner and they want to donate the property to the City. Mayor White suggested that we condemn it and then take it under advisement so that Bart can conduct further research.

-06 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to condemn the structure at 703 S. St. Valerie and to take the property under advisement so Bart can research the request of the property owner to donate the property to the City. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bryan Fisher stated that at a previous meeting the owner of 410 Chevis had been granted time to bring the mobile home up to code. They have changed the windows and doors however the property is not up to code. Mayor White stated that we will verify that the property has already been condemned and if it is not, we can do it at the next meeting.

-07 introduced by Mr. Tony Hardy and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to table any action at 410 Chevis and to make sure the property has already been condemned. If it is not, then it will be placed on the next agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

-08 introduced by Mr. Carlton Campbell and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to ratify payment of the invoice from Techline in the amount of \$12,250.00 for a roll of insulated cable for the electrical department. The motion carried unanimously.

-09 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Tony Hardy to approve the quote from Sunbelt Solomon in the amount of \$48,590.00 for transformers for stock. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor White discussed the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwest Coastal Louisiana Project. They have mailed postcards to those who qualify. It is a program to raise houses. The meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Abbeville High School.

B. Broussard/T. Broussard

Resolution R23-28

A resolution requesting financial assistance from the State of Louisiana under the fiscal year 2024-2025 Capital Outlay Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chris Gautreaux discussed the work load of the various public works crews. He is down to only one grass cutting crew.

Mr. Byron Dozier stated that soccer has started, flag football will begin practice next week and basketball registration is available online.

Mayor Roslyn White discussed the upcoming Sounds on the Square. She announced that the Nehemiah Project will be hosting a Pathways Forward Event. She stated that the Uniquely You Event was a great event.

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. discussed the upcoming events in the downtown area including Sounds on the Square and the Farmers' Market. He announced that a new business, Gigi's Closet, had opened across from St. Mary Magdalen Church.

Councilman Carlton Campbell stated that LITA has money available for homeowners to reinforce their roof. Those with Louisiana Citizens insurance will be eligible first.

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr. asked Chris to make sure the City looks presentable for the visitors that are coming into town.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Roslyn R. White
Mayor