



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 03, 2019 at 5:30 PM

Council Meeting Room, 101 North State Street,
Abbeville, Louisiana 70510

AGENDA

NOTICE POSTED: December 2, 2019 at 4:00 P.M.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Call to Order by Mayor
- Roll Call by Kathy Faulk
- Prayer
- Pledge

PERSONNEL

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of retirement certificate to Mrs. Donna Baudoin-Mayor Mark Piazza.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes from the November 19, 2019 City Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(To allow comments on any of the following items prior to action.)

NEW BUSINESS

1. To award bids on abatement of rubbish and cutting of grass and weeds for 808 N. East Street, 208 Alleman Street and 1109 Vernon Street.
2. Discussion on public fire protection survey results (fire rating) - Chief Jude Mire.
3. To adopt a Sexual Harassment Policy in keeping with Act 270 of the Regular Session of the 2018 Legislature.
4. To approve pay application #15 in the amount of \$46,738.71 payable to Minvielle Lumber for retainage and a portion of the punch list and the invoice to the Sellers Group both for the Airport Terminal Building renovation project.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on the chicken issue on South St. Valerie - Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION OR REVIEW

1. Engineers
2. Attorney
3. Public Works Director
4. Mayor
5. Police Chief
6. Fire Chief
7. Council Members

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act,
if you need special assistance, please contact
Mayor Mark Piazza's office at 337-893-8550,
describing the assistance that is necessary.

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on November 19, 2019 at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting place, the Council Meeting Room located at 101 North State Street, with the Honorable Mark Piazza, Mayor, presiding.

Members Present: Council Members, Francis Plaisance, Terry Broussard, Brady Broussard, Jr., Francis Touchet, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem and Roslyn White

Members Absent: None

Also, Present: Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Bill Spearman, Police Chief
Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Sarah Alpough, Director of Revenue, codes & permits
Tracette Hillman, Municipal Civil Service Director
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Debbie Garrot, Abbeville Film & Visitors' Commission
Joseph Vallee', Municipal Civil Service Board member

Mayor Piazza asked Councilwoman Terry Broussard to lead the assembly in prayer. Mayor Piazza asked Councilwoman Roslyn White to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Debbie Garrot was at the meeting tonight to discuss the planned events occurring in Magdalen Square on December 7, 2019. That day is the last Farmers' Market for 2019. It is from 8 AM to 1 PM. Abbeville Animal Aid will be selling delicious sausage poboys to benefit their cause. Please advertise the market. It is hard to compete with the shrimp folks at the Delcambre Farmers' Market. As part of the market the Abbeville Meridional, the LSU AG center, and the Caldwell House have teamed up together to provide cookie decorating for the children in the Gazebo from 10 to 12. We have two art classes called Painting under of the Oaks. One scene is St. Mary Magdalen church and the other painting is the of the Bank of Abbeville. The cost for that is \$25 per person and it will be in the square, weather permitting. That evening we have the parade beginning at 6:00 PM and after the parade we will show the movie. Animal Aid will be selling refreshments and pizza during parade and the movie.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2019 Committee meeting, the Personnel Interview from November 5, 2019 and the regular City Council meetings held on October 15, 2019 and November 5, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayor Piazza stated that item one is a condemnation hearing for 608 E. Oak Street with the property owner or his designee. Mr. Henry Dixon is here as the designee. Sarah is here too if you have any questions. Sarah has confirmed that all the proper notices have been sent out to the

property owner. These were sent out by certified mail and regular mail. Mr. Dixon is here tonight to request a certain amount of time to tear the building down. He is here representing Mr. Peter Reaux, Jr. Mr. Dixon stated that Mr. Reaux will pay him to tear the building down. Mayor Piazza stated the permit would have to be paid for within five days. Mr. Dixon said that Mr. Reaux could do that. Councilwoman White stated that by the next Council meeting if demolition has not begun then the City would begin tearing that property down. Mr. Dixon stated it would take two weeks for him to tear down the building. Councilwoman White only wanted to give Mr. Dixon 30 days, no more. If after 30 days it is not complete then we will bring someone in to tear it down. Mayor Piazza stated if the City does the demolition then Sarah has to go out for bids, we have to wait for bids and then we have to make sure the utilities are secured and then we would have to award the bid at a meeting. It would take a long time. Clay Menard stated the utilities have already been secured. Councilwoman White wanted to do the bare minimum as far as days that we could do in order to get this property torn down quickly. Mayor Piazza said we already went through this process before and we have the utilities disconnected but the property owner did not ever come in to purchase a demolition permit. We are short on patience because he has already been through this hearing process before and promised to tear the building down but nothing was done. We need someone to come in and pay the permit fee within five days and then you can start the demolition immediately. Councilwoman White reiterated that she wanted this done and completed within 30 days. Clay stated that once Mr. Dixon gets his demolition permit then he has to furnish the City with the Louisiana One call ticket number. He also stated that he could call in to get the Louisiana One call ticket number prior to getting the demolition permit and provide that at the time of purchase. Mayor Piazza told Mr. Dixon to call tomorrow for the Louisiana One call ticket number so that when he purchases the permit within five days, he would be ready to begin the demolition.

-02 introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to declare the structure located at 608 E. Oak Street not suitable to be renovated and to be condemned, the demolition permit must be purchased within five days and the entire demolition and clean up must be completed within 30 days. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Plaisance presented a quotation from Bayou Fencing & Supply, Inc. for the Lafitte Park "Dog Park". This would complete the project and would separate the large dogs from the small dogs. The other part of the fence is to go around the pump. A lot of people go on the weekends to run their dogs. The cost of the estimate is \$10,778.55. Councilman Broussard asked if this expenditure was in the budget. Mayor Piazza stated that would be question for Denise Mire since this is the Parks budget. Councilwoman White stated that she is not in favor of moving forward with this work at this time. She would like to see a completed plan for the dog park to understand where these fences are going to go and why they are necessary. We are still waiting on grant funds to be awarded by the State to develop the park. She wants to make sure this will fit in with that plan to make sure we are not spending money twice. Councilman Plaisance stated that he has been working on this for six years. People are utilizing the dog park and want to continue to use it. Petsense is ready to donate items to our park too. This is a big thing that everybody wants. You are welcome to come out there and look at it. The Mayor marked it off the way it needed to be done. We just need to get this done while the weather is nice. Councilwoman Broussard stated that we need to move forward with the park. Six years is a long time. Councilman Plaisance stated this part of the park is not in our grant proposal. This is something we need to do to complete the dog park to allow people to utilize it better. Every week someone asks him about the fencing. They are afraid the big dogs will injure the small dogs. People have a problem with that because that is not the way a dog park is supposed to be designed. We need to finish it and let people use it. Councilman Touchet asked if the park has been opened. Councilman Plaisance answered it has been opened only on weekends since the

summer. Councilwoman White asked if people are running their dogs have to keep the dogs on leashes. Councilman Plaisance answered that is correct. People who have little dogs are not getting their dogs out of the car if there is a big dog there.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the quotation from Bayou Fencing & Supply for fencing for the Lafitte Park dog park.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to table any action on the fencing for the Lafitte Park dog park until further study can be done on the master plan. The substitute motion was put to a vote and the vote thereupon was as follows:

YEAS:	3(White, Touchet, B. Broussard)
NAYS:	2(T. Broussard, Plaisance)
ABSENT:	0
ABSTAIN:	0

Therefore, since the substitute motion carried, no vote was necessary on the original motion.

Item number three on the agenda was to appoint one member to the Municipal Civil Service Board for the expired term of Victoria Nunez. Ms. Tracette Hillman explained that this was submitted in error as this member is to be selected by the Municipal employees not the City Council. Civic organizations have submitted names and the Municipal employees will elect the new member by ballot. Councilwoman Broussard asked that in the future when the Council is to elect someone to this board, that an African American member is considered.

Councilman Broussard discussed the contract for urgent care with Abbeville General Hospital. The City is now engaged with Abbeville General Hospital with an urgent care contract. The urgent care facility is on Alonzo Street directly across from the emergency room of Abbeville General Hospital. The City is now able to send all of our insured. This is a win for the City and the employees. Our employees can walk into that place with \$0 out of their pocket. This examination will include the office visit, a point of service lab testing, medication administration, x-rays and interpretation. This is something that our covered insured persons can get for a flat fee to the City of \$50. We average \$787 against our City with a visit to the emergency room at Abbeville General. We have about 300 visits per year. That is a brand-new facility and it the only certified urgent care facility in Vermilion Parish. It is open 7 days a week. The hours are 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Monday through Friday and from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. This saves our insurance money as it will not be filed with UMR because it is a flat fee of \$50 per person. This will begin January 1, 2020. He will discuss this at the next safety meeting to be held on November 22, 2019. Every employee will also receive a letter regarding this program. This will lengthen funds in our health insurance plan. Once a month Abbeville General Hospital will send an invoice to us detailing the number of individuals times the \$50. This is an incentive to keep people out of the emergency room. If it is deemed an emergency, the staff at the urgent care facility will walk you to the emergency room.

The resolution adopting salary increases and new pay plans as part of the 2019 sales tax proposition was read aloud by Mayor Piazza. Councilman Broussard stated that he would have liked to do more to retain certain employees but Civil Service does not allow us to do this.

Plaisance/White
Resolution 19-29

A resolution adopting salary increases and new pay plans as part of the 2019 sales tax.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *Met with Lonnie today and will meet with him tomorrow to work on the budget. It is a struggle to make the dollars work. Lonnie will meet individually with the Council in a week. We will introduce the budget at a committee meeting on December 3, 2019.*

Bill Spearman, Police Chief

- *Thank you for adopting the resolution.*
- *Randall Nugier graduated academy today and will be on the road starting tomorrow.*

Councilwoman Terry Broussard

- *Happy Thanksgiving.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *The Christmas Stroll is on 12/5/19 and on 12/7/19 we will have the Farmers' Market, parade and movie. Spend your shopping dollars in Abbeville.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *The election is over, please make sure the election signs are picked up.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

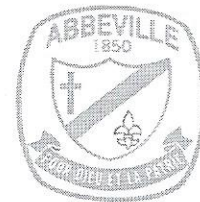
Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor

MARK PIAZZA
Mayor

KATHLEEN S. FAULK
Secretary - Treasurer

• CITY OF •
ABBEVILLE
SINCE 1850
November 26, 2019



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Sarah Alpough

Subject: Bids on Abatement of Rubbish & Cutting of Grass & Weeds
808 N. East St
208 Alleman St
1109 Vernon St

Dear Mayor and Council:

Attached you will find multiple bids that were received for the Abatement of Rubbish and cutting of Grass & Weeds for the above listed property locations. Bid forms were sent out as a result of Non-compliance of Violations.

These items are being placed on the agenda for the December 3, 2019 City Council meeting.

Sincerely,

Sarah Alpough
Director of Revenue,
Regulatory Codes & Permits

Cc: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Kathy Faulk, Secretary-Treasurer
Clay Menard, Public Works Director

COUNCILMEN:
FRANCIS J. PLAISANCE
Councilman at Large

ROSLYN R. WHITE
District A

FRANCIS TOUCHET, JR.
District B

BRADY BROUSSARD, JR.
District C

TERRY Y. BROUSSARD
District D

City of Abbeville
101 N. State Street
P.O. Box 1170
Abbeville, LA 70511-1170
(337) 893-8550
Fax: (337) 898-42

BID ON REMOVAL OF RUBBISH

To: ELBERT DAWSON
1227 E. VILLIEN
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **208 ALLEMAN ST**

Scope of Work:

- To remove **ALL RUBBISH** from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of all rubbish and Debris.

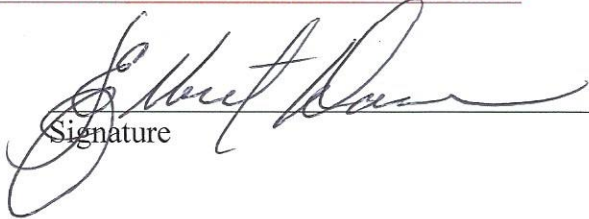
Bid Amount: \$ 300⁰⁰ *three hundred dollars ⁰⁰/₁₀₀*

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

ONCE JOB IS COMPLETE, CITY INSPECTION WILL BE DONE BEFORE PAYMENT WILL BE MADE TO CONTRACTOR
PROPERTY MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEARED OF ALL DEBRIS FROM CLEAN UP BEFORE PAYMENT IS MADE TO CONTRACTOR.

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT DEBRIS CAN NO LONGER BE PLACED ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD FOR PICK-UP. CONTRACTORS CAN NO LONGER REQUEST A BIN FROM SOLID WASTE FOR DISPOSAL OF DEBRIS. ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE WITH SOLID WASTE (898-4338) FOR DISPOSAL. PLEASE INCLUDE CHARGES FOR THIS IN YOUR BID.**


Signature

BID ON GRASS & WEED CUTTING AND REMOVAL OF RUBBISH

To: TONY LANDRY
402 BERTHIER ST
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **208 ALLEMAN ST**

Scope of Work:

- To cut tall grass & weeds
- To remove any overgrown brush
- To remove **ALL RUBBISH** from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of tall grass & weeds ,
overgrown brush, rubbish and Debris.

Bid Amount: \$ 650⁰⁰

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

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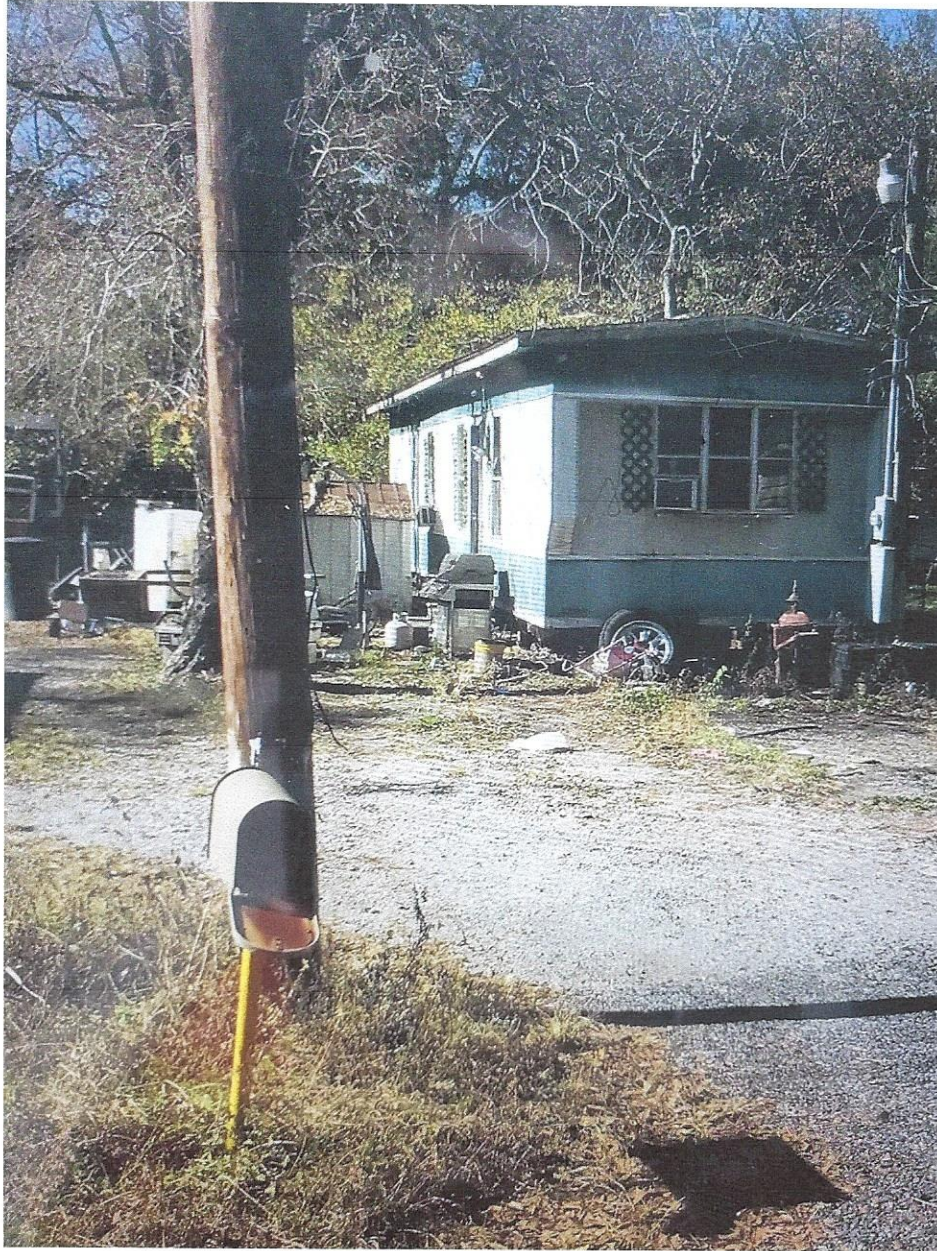
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Signature



208 ALLEMAN ST



208 ALLEMAN ST

BID ON GRASS CUTTING OF GRASS AND WEEDS

To: ELBERT DAWSON
1227 E. VILLIEN AVE
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **1109 VERNON ST**

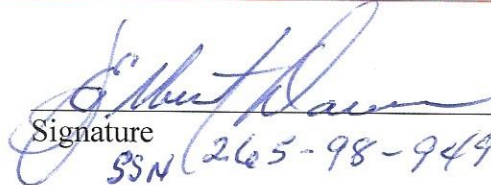
Scope of Work: - To cut tall grass & weeds, and cut down all bamboo
- To remove any overgrown brush
- To remove all junk items if any from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of tall grass & weeds ,
overgrown brush, and Debris.

Bid Amount: \$ 445⁰⁰

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

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Signature
SSN 265-98-9497

BID ON GRASS CUTTING OF GRASS AND WEEDS

To: FEE FEE'S LAWN SERVICE
513 MAYERS ST
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **1109 VERNON ST**

Scope of Work:

- To cut tall grass & weeds, and cut down all bamboo
- To remove any overgrown brush
- To remove all junk items if any from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of tall grass & weeds , overgrown brush, and Debris.

Bid Amount: \$ 4000.00 + 200.00 = 600.00 Total

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

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Signature

BID ON GRASS CUTTING OF GRASS AND WEEDS

To: TONY LANDRY
402 BERTHIER ST
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **1109 VERNON ST**

Scope of Work:

- To cut tall grass & weeds, and cut down all bamboo
- To remove any overgrown brush
- To remove all junk items if any from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of tall grass & weeds ,
overgrown brush, and Debris.

Bid Amount: \$ 850.⁰⁰—

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

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Signature



1109 VERNON ST



1109 VERNON ST

BID ON REMOVAL OF RUBBISH

To: TONY LANDY
402 BERTHIER ST
ABBEVILLE, LA 70510

From: City of Abbeville, Permit Department

Location of Job: **808 N. EAST ST**

Scope of Work:

- To remove **ALL RUBBISH** from property.
- To haul all debris from cleaning to Solid Waste facility
- To leave lot completely clear of all rubbish and Debris.

Bid Amount: \$ 4,500

Bid Due by: **Monday, November 25, 2019 By 4:00p.m.**

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Signature

808 N. EAST ST (RUBBISH)



808 N. EAST ST. RUBBISH



POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

This represents the organizational policy of the City of Abbeville concerning sexual harassment. Any questions concerning the context or content of this policy should be discussed with the Fire Chief, Chief of Police, or the Mayor.

It is the belief of the City that its employees are the primary means by which the goals and objectives of the municipality will be met. All employees of the City must understand its position on harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, physical, or inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature when the conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's employment or the holding of office, unreasonably interferes with an individual's work performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace are prohibited by federal law through the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and by state law through La. R.S. 23:301 et seq. These laws prohibit both quid pro quo harassment, which arises when consent to sexual demands is made an express or implied condition of employment, and hostile work environment harassment, which arises when the workplace is permeated with discriminatory intimidation, ridicule or insult that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of the victim's employment and created an abusive working environment.

Sexual harassment may be defined as unsolicited, offensive behavior that inappropriately asserts sexuality over employees including but not limited to the following:

- a) Verbal: Sexual innuendos, suggestive comments, threats, sexual humor;
- b) Non-Verbal: Leering, whistling, obscene gestures, showing inappropriate images; and
- c) Physical: Touching, brushing the body, coerced sexual activity, assault, impeding egress or passage.

Sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace shall not be tolerated and the City will take appropriate action to end any such harassment and/or prevent the recurrence of any such misconduct.

If a person's behavior makes an employee uncomfortable, the employee should feel free to immediately advise the person that, in the employee's opinion, the behavior is inappropriate, and that the employee would like it stopped.

Any employee of the City may file a complaint of sexual harassment. Any employee who believes he or she has been subjected to unlawful sexual harassment, or has been retaliated against for reporting such activities or assisting in a related investigation of such activities, must report the alleged act immediately or as soon as possible to the City Attorney (extension 485) or the Director of Personnel (Extension 222). It is not necessary for an employee to complain to an offending supervisor in order to report sexual harassment. If, for whatever reason, the employee

does not feel that the persons named in this paragraph are suitable persons to whom to report the incident, the employee should contact the Mayor (Extension 206).

Whether or not a particular incident is sexual harassment requires a complete factual investigation, and the City will conduct such investigations on all complaints in a manner so as not to cause any serious effect on innocent employees who either file a complaint and/or may be the subject of a filed complaint. In all instances, a prompt and thorough investigation will take place, giving careful consideration to protect the rights and dignity of all persons involved.

It is mandatory that all parties to an allegation of sexual harassment participate in the investigation of the incident, and cooperation in the investigation of claims of harassment is an express element of each employee's employment with the City. The City will take those steps it feels necessary to resolve the problem, which may include verbal or written reprimand, suspension or termination.

The City will investigate by gathering information, in as confidential a manner as possible, given the need to investigate the complaint, from all concerned parties, and it will not retaliate against any employee as a result of reports of alleged harassment or cooperation with any investigation. The City may consult its legal representative for assistance in determining whether conduct that has occurred does in fact constitute sexual harassment. The City may also make subsequent inquiries from time to time to ensure offensive conduct does not resume and/or that the subject of such harassment has not suffered any retaliation.

No retaliation of any kind will be tolerated because an employee in good faith reports an incident of suspected harassment. The supervisor, or other person to whom the complaint was made, will work to establish mutually agreed upon safeguards against retaliation while attempting to mediate any sexual harassment complaint.

Any employee, manager, or supervisor found by the City to have unlawfully sexually harassed, or unlawfully retaliated against, another employee will be subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including termination. If any employee, manager, or supervisor is found by the City to have intentionally made a false allegation of sexual harassment, that individual will be subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including termination.

Regardless of the outcome of the investigation by the City, a complainant may pursue a claim under state and/or federal law.