



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 01, 2020 at 5:30 PM

AA Comeaux Recreation Center, 300 AA Comeaux Drive,
Suite 200, Abbeville, Louisiana 70510

AGENDA

NOTICE POSTED: November 30, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

PERSONNEL

1. Proposed revision of Job Description for open unclassified position - Councilwoman Roslyn White.

GUESTS

1. Mr. Ted Johnson - representative from Entergy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. To approve the minutes from the regular City Council meetings held on October 20, 2020 and November 3, 2020 and the special City Council meetings held on November 3, 2020 and November 17, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. To approve contract change order #3 for the LA 14 Downtown Abbeville Streetscaping Project.
2. To approve revise contract change order #5 for the LA 14 Downtown Abbeville Streetscaping Project.
3. To void contract change order #4 and approve contract change order #6 for the LA 14 Downtown Streetscaping Project.
4. To approve payment of estimate for partial payment #8 for the LA 14 Downtown Abbeville Streetscaping Project.
5. To adopt a resolution of acceptance for the LA 14 Downtown Abbeville Streetscaping Project.
6. To approve the quote from Bayou Fencing & Supply for fence repairs for several parks. The fencing was damaged as a result of Hurricane Delta.
7. Presentation of new website design - Councilwoman Roslyn White.
8. Request to place cameras on utility poles - Chief Bill Spearman.
9. Request to lease three new police units - Chief Bill Spearman.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION OR REVIEW

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

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.

**DIGITAL MEDIA ASSISTANT
CITY HALL & TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER**

NATURE OF WORK

Under supervision, maintains current and professional digital media content across multiple platforms. Requires corresponding with various government employees, businesses, and the public. Employee must exercise tact, courtesy, and fineness in frequent contact with the public and within the departments in which they report. Work also includes providing responsible and professional assistance in daily office functions such as answering phones, bank deposits, mail pick up and distribution. This is an **UNCLASSIFIED** position.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK

(Note: These examples are intended only to illustrate various types of work performed.)

CITY HALL

Assist in the development of social media and web content for City and Mainstreet Department.
Visit with various departments to maintain a current, engaged City Website.
Assist City Clerk with organizing, transcribing, and posting of Agendas and Minutes for City Meetings.
Maintain an updated inventory of businesses and conduct business outreach as needed.
Assist with organizing promoting and executing City events.
Answer phones when needed.
Run errands such as bank deposits and post office as needed.
Additional duties as requested by Supervisor.

ALLIANCE CENTER

Assist tourists when they come into the Center.
Answer Alliance Center phone.
Assist in the development of social media and web content for The Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission.
Gather information for tourism brochures and website.
Maintain updated Calendar of Events and tourist listings.
Label envelopes for mailers and help with tourist information mailouts.
Once per Week - Restock display table and outdoor racks.
Once per Week - water plants, throw trash, dust display cases.
Once per Month - Perform brochure inventory; and restock as necessary.
Additional duties as requested by Supervisor.

Necessary skills

- Great customer service skills
- Knowledge of Microsoft programs – Word and Excel
- Knowledge of Adobe Software Suite
- Working Knowledge of Word Press
- Knowledge of how to navigate, post and create events on social media platforms and ability to maintain professional social media etiquette
- Knowledge of tourism businesses/events in Abbeville and the surrounding area
- Professional writing skills
- Must present oneself in a professional manner
- Must be dependable and able to work assigned hours

WORK HOURS & REPORTING STRUCTURE

Monday - Friday

8:30a - 12:00p City Hall, reports to Secretary/Treasurer
12:00p -1:00p LUNCH
1:00p - 4:30p Cultural Center, reports to Director

Times can be adjusted by either Supervisor if necessary.

*All requested Leave of Absence and time off requests should be presented to each Supervisor for approval **7 days prior** to taking. If neither Supervisor is available, a Leave of Absence should be secured and approved through the Mayor's office.

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on October 20, 2020 at 5:30 P.M., at the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center located at 300 A. A. Comeaux Drive, Suite 200, Abbeville, Louisiana 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: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Jason Hebert, Police Lieutenant
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Shirley Bertrand, Billing Manager
Stewart Head, Electrical Superintendent
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Gerald Gaspard, American Legion & Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Piazza led those assembled in prayer then asked for a moment of silence for all those suffering after Hurricane Delta. Mayor Piazza asked Mr. Gerald Gaspard to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

-01 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to deviate from the agenda to discuss two ordinances dealing with debris that will have to be waived, temporarily, due to some actions by the Police Jury. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Plaisance/White
Resolution R20-20

A resolution requesting financial assistance from the State of Louisiana under the fiscal year 2021-2022 Capital Outlay Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Broussard stated she had received a telephone call from Mr. Tran. His home was severely damaged by Hurricane Delta and he was requesting connection of utility services, temporarily, to a camper. The home is located at 1821 Franks Alley. Mr. Funderburk stated he and Clay visited the property this morning. They are living in the house with generator power. They have two trees down and one is on the house. They have not yet purchased the camper. The family members at the meeting stated that Mr. Tran is working offshore right now to make money to purchase the camper. They own the lot in back of the residence and have access to that from E. Lafayette Street. They would put the camper at 1814 ½ Lafayette Street. Ike stated that

he and Richard came up with a formula that would allow them to connect utilities, temporarily, to a camper to allow them to complete the emergency repairs to their home. This time period would not exceed 60 days and any repairs would have to be in accordance to FEMA guidelines. They would have to come in a get a permit once they get the camper then the 60 days would start.

-02 introduced by Ms. Terry Broussard and seconded by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. to grant a variance to allow utility connection for 60 days to a camper for Mr. Tran at 1814 ½ E. Lafayette Street in order for him to repair his home damaged by Hurricane Delta. The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to authorize advertisement for bids for the rehabilitation of the T-Hangar Taxilanes and Apron Areas project subject to LA DOTD funding availability and their review and approval of the plans and specifications. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza stated that we have put the runway project on hold until spring because the runway is utilized a lot right now. It will not be utilized as much in the spring. We will have to close the runway to complete the project. The contractor has agreed and FAA has also agreed. We hope both of these projects run concurrently.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Plaisance and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to waive the demolition permit fee for Hurricane Delta related demolitions. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza stated this would encourage the citizens to clear up the damage from Hurricane Delta and would hopefully move the process along. The demolition permit would still be required however there would be no fee charged.

Mr. Funderburk stated that he attended the Vermilion Parish Police Jury meeting last night. At that meeting they accepted a recommendation from their public works committee that exempted tree removal contractors from having to remove the trees that they are cutting. This would allow the contractors to stack storm related tree debris on the right of way so it could be picked up by the debris pick up contractor hired by the Police Jury. We have a couple of ordinances that need to be waived during this time period. This is the provisions of 15.5-11 and 15.5-13 in so far as they relate to licensed contractors' removal of tree storm debris. This would be for 90 days.

-05 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to waive ordinance Sections 15.5-11 and 15.5-13 for 90 days as discussed above. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza stated he feels like Hurricane Delta was not quite as bad as Hurricane Lili but it was just as bad as Hurricane Rita as far as damage and wind. This is one of the third worst storms we have had in 20 years. There are a lot of damages out there. Pre-storm we were able to put the new transformer at the By-Pass electrical substation. This transformer was damaged by Hurricane Laura. We are still waiting for the spare transformer for Gertrude Substation. All of our transformers are working properly at this time but we do not have a spare. It has been ordered and will on the way to us within 6 to 8 weeks. Yesterday morning two voltage regulators blew up at Pete Noel electrical substation. We were able to use our new sandbagging machine for Hurricane Delta. Everyone is very happy with the number of bags it was able to produce in one day. It was very beneficial. Once the storm is in the gulf, it becomes difficult to secure electrical crews to assist us. It has been really hard this year because the predictions have been so far off. When you call up a crew to come, the clock starts when they leave their house. Stewart

does a great job making contact with these crews. We are very fortunate that the American Public Power Association regional coordinator for mutual aid response is Greg Labbe who works at LUS and is a member of LEPA. He is right there in Lafayette. This association is for public power (municipalities) organizations only. He coordinates these crews coming from Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Florida and others who come and help all the municipalities. Mayor Piazza stated that he is also constantly on the phone with Kevin Bihm of LEPA to reserve and request crews. We always try to secure a couple of crews and possibly secure a contract crew like Volt. We had crews from Volt and Georgia Power lined up and they were on their way. He wanted to let everyone know how this comes about for crews to come and help us. Once the emergency declaration was declared Vermilion OEP started having meetings about the storm. It is at those meetings that a lot of those decisions are made about evacuations. These decisions are made by the Parish President and the OEP Director with the assistance of all the municipalities in the parish. We meet regularly once the storm enters the gulf and all the way throughout the storm. All of that goes on behind the scenes. It is a very valuable resource of information that Councilwoman White has developed with our website and our Facebook page. A lot of people use social media. Starting at 4:00 PM on Friday, October 9, 2020, we began manning the telephones 24-7 at City Hall. Shirley and her crew at City Hall did a fantastic job. That is so important that when people call City Hall, they don't get a recording. They talk to a person. It is an invaluable resource to have this at City Hall. Shirley is always there and she has been doing it even for regular power outages. The storm lasted a lot longer than he thought. It drug on and on into the night. The hurricane made landfall around 6:00 PM but it was well after midnight before we were able to get out. He was able to go out in the wee morning hours to assess the damage. He saw police everywhere. They did this for both storms. He asked Jason to pass along to the Chief and other personnel how much we appreciate them being out there. Stewart Head is the first guy out there. He goes out to see if we have power at our substations. We were fortunate for Hurricane Delta because we did have power at Pete Noel Substation. For Hurricane Laura we did not have power at Pete Noel for an entire day. Having power at Pete Noel expedites the restoration process. That is where the power comes into the City. If Pete Noel is out of power then the entire City is without power. Stewart and the crew deserve a pat on the back for being here and doing a great job. We really appreciate that. On Saturday morning, Mayor Piazza received a call from Kevin Bihm with LEPA. He wanted to know how bad it was. Mayor Piazza told him that it was bad. Kevin asked if we needed some more crews. Mayor Piazza stated that we needed more crews. We were lucky then because there was a crew from Austin, Texas that were on their way to North Louisiana but they had already been turned around because North Louisiana did not need them. That crew showed up here late Saturday. By Saturday afternoon we had 5 of the 7 substations energized and activated. We had about 40% of the City up by then. He and Stewart have an understanding of the process that the Mayor wants. During an emergency the Mayor makes the ultimate decisions. His process is that if Pete Noel is activated, the very next substation to be energized is the By-Pass substation. We do this because all the businesses are on the By-Pass and we want to make sure that our citizens have ice, water, gas and food and everything else they need because they are home with no lights. From there, whatever is hooked up, to the By-Pass substation will be able to come on. The next substation we concentrate on is Gertrude because the hospital is on Gertrude substation and they have to have secure power. By law, the hospital has to have two secure sources of power. If the City is not one, then they have to have two generators. From there we work our way south. We like to get Robies on since it is one of our big major stores and we like to get Walmart on. By the end of the day Saturday you had everything on except the Riviana and Louisiana substation. Those feed the 4160 on the other side of the river. He knows these that are restored first are mostly businesses and the residences are the ones calling us up and screaming but without the businesses we have no water, no food and no gas. We were lucky to get those additional crews in. Lining up food and hotel rooms for these crews is no easy task. Councilman Touchet and Councilman Plaisance have been doing this for years. They do a fantastic job. Also, on Saturday

the debris contractors had to be mobilized. If you tried to drive down some of our streets, there were power lines and poles down and trees down. Our emergency vehicles and our utility crews cannot pass down these streets until they are cleared. Richard Primeaux mobilized the contractors and they worked through Monday clearing debris from our streets and right of ways. The debris was piled up at Comeaux Park. They did a great job. The Fire Department assisted us with this too along with our Street crew. He asked Clay to describe this process. Clay stated Shirley would call in the locations. We would handle the small items with our equipment and the manpower of the Fire Department. It worked very well. If something was too big, we would call Richard Primeaux for the contractors to take care of that. Mayor Piazza stated the City workers did a great job. Mayor Piazza stated we had about 90% of the power restored within 48 hours. We beat every co-op in South Louisiana like SLEMCO. We have a lot of debris. The Jury is out there picking it up. We appreciate what the Jury is doing. Councilwoman White stated the Jury has agreed to go on private property as long as the owner signs a hold harmless agreement. They will pull the large debris to the road so the grab truck can pick it up.

Richard Primeaux, Engineer

- *Appreciated compliment Mayor Piazza made regarding the debris contractors.*

Ike Funderburk, City Attorney

- *He has filed claims for the Hurricane with our insurance company. He and Clay met for 4 hours with 4 adjusters yesterday. They spent two days going through our locations and documenting all the damages that we have. They were very thorough. We will see what their report is. We will continue to send invoices as need be.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *He distributed a report provided by LEPA for the month of September 2020. This shows our electricity rate in comparison to others. We are cheaper than CLECO and Entergy. We are very competitive with SLEMCO. That speaks very highly. These are multimillion-dollar co-ops and we are just one municipality. Our rates are in line with them if not better.*
- *He has been getting a lot of complaints because of our ordinance and our process. Our permit department has two people that are fairly new to the department. They are doing an excellent job. They are following our ordinances to the letter of the law. In Section 8-65 it says: Additionally, the City will undertake the cutting, destruction of noxious weeds and grass or other unhealthful or noxious growths upon property on a monthly basis without notice required by Section 8.6. If the property owner liable has been notified pursuant to 8.6 at any time during the immediate previous six months and has failed to do the work themselves. What this says is that, after we send them two letters, whether they have cut their grass or not, because we have sent them two letters, they are never going to get another letter. We will automatically send someone to cut their grass and then send them a bill. The permit department is doing exactly what they are supposed to be doing. If the Council is ok with this then he is ok with it. If the Council feels like maybe we shouldn't do it unless they receive a letter then maybe we need to revisit this ordinance at another time. Think about it. He wanted to let the Council know about the complaints he has been receiving regarding this issue.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *He wishes the public was here to see what Abbeville has done in response to a major hurricane. It was a remarkable response and they should be happy with their City employees who did this response that made this Council and Mayor so proud. We are still in a state of emergency and recovery and we will be in recovery for some time. All employees need to be complimented. This municipality did the impossible.*

- *He has had some residences call him with concern about skateboarders going into the private rice mill. He asked Jason Hebert to look into that and he asked Mayor Piazza to speak with the owner of the rice mill to request that he secure the building. We do have a skateboard park.*
- *He has a compliment for a police officer who found children swimming in a private swimming pool of a resident. The officer could not have been better with his response to those children and trying to educate them. Please carry that compliment to the Police Chief.*
- *We have all heard complaints about gunfire and we have the criminals walking around at night. It is the Police Chief that can implement a curfew.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *He has been getting complaints from Walmart, the hospital and from Mula's Pharmacy about Cox. They are not responsive to these businesses. We have lost enough businesses in this City. We need to hold Cox accountable. They are allowed to operate in our City with a franchise agreement. He asked Ike and the Mayor to reach out to Cox and invite them to a City Council meeting to discuss this issue. Mayor Piazza added that when we lose internet at City Hall, we lose our phone service so he asked that another option be researched. Councilwoman White added that we also need battery backup for the phones too.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance

- *It was a great team effort and the Mayor sat here and complimented everyone for what they did. He would like to compliment the Mayor. He is our captain of the ship and he has plenty of experience.*

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *FEMA will open a drive-thru disaster recovery center at the LSU Ag Center located at 105 W. Port Street. It will be open from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Saturday. It will be open beginning October 21, 2020 until November 11, 2020.*
- *Complimented the Mayor for calling the additional crews. The Mayor has a part on almost every post on our Facebook page. She appreciates his guidance on that.*
- *This is the first major storm with a lot of damage that she has been through since she is on the Council. Working with the City team is amazing. She had to work with Richard Primeaux and the contractors to clear out some road debris. The debris contractors did a really good job and she learned a lot that day.*
- *There is a big tree still protruding into the road at North St. Charles and Chevis. She asked Clay to see about that.*
- *Whittington Veterinarian Clinic is having an Anything Over Rice Cookoff this Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The proceeds go to Animal Aid.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in regular session on November 3, 2020 at 5:30 P.M., at the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center located at 300 A. A. Comeaux Drive, Suite 200, Abbeville, Louisiana 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: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Richard Primeaux, Engineer
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Steve Moosa, Accounting consultant
Gerald Gaspard, American Legion & Chamber of Commerce
Jonathan Lovett, Abbeville Rotary Club
Norman Levine
Steven Menard, PUSH
Mark Campbell
Ronald Gaspard

Mayor Piazza asked Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr. to lead those assembled in prayer then Mayor Piazza asked for a moment of silence for the young man who shot and killed this afternoon and to ease the suffering of the young man's family. Mayor Piazza asked Councilwoman Roslyn White to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Steve Moosa presented the 3rd quarter financial analysis. This is nine months through September. Sales tax collection is up by 3.7% or about \$117,000 ahead of budget. Water and Sewer revenues are both at \$1.4 million. Last year they were \$1.3 million. We are ahead of budget in water revenue 2% and in sewer 1%. The electric revenue last year was \$3.1 million but this year it is \$3 million. That is a 3% decrease. We had a decrease in the budget so we are only off 1% from budget. This is about \$29,000. If you combine all utility revenue, you are ahead of budget about \$10,000. Kilowatt hours sold is down 7.5% from the previous year. The next page he discussed are expenses. General fund payroll is ahead of budget about \$31,000 which is .8% and we are \$100,000 ahead of budget in the utility fund or about 7.5%. The total payroll budget is ahead of budget about 2.5%. The expenses other than payroll in general fund are \$158,000 ahead of budget which is about 2%. The only department that exceeded budget was the Fire Department. It is most likely due to the increase in retirement funding that occurred in July 2020. The expenses other than payroll in the utility fund are \$300,000 ahead of budget or about 9%. Overall, the City is in good shape thus far.

-01 introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to approve the minutes from the regular City Council meetings held on September 1, 2020, September 16, 2020 and October 6, 2020 and the personnel interview meetings held on September 15, 2020 and October 6, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Piazza asked if anyone in the public had a comment on any agenda item prior to action. There were none.

Mr. Norman Levine requested to be on the agenda to discuss the television interview with Councilman Francis Plaisance and Police Chief Bill Spearman and to address items discussed during that interview. Mayor Piazza stated that the Police Chief was not at the meeting tonight because of the incident that just occurred in town today. Without him here to make any comments or defend himself, he asked that the conversation be limited to three minutes. Anyone else can make a comment but we have to limit the time since the Police Chief is not here. Mr. Norman Levine stated the problem is the City, the Chief of Police, and the parents don't have control of the children anymore. The Police Station is not doing their job and they do not care for his community and his black people. They don't care. The City of Abbeville is not working together. Nobody has enough time to talk about murders. Councilwoman Broussard stated she is sad and angry. In April the City Council asked the Chief what we could do to assist him. It is not just a District D problem. It is a City problem. Tonight, the Chief is not here to defend himself but she makes a plea to him that the department needs outside help and we need to change the way we are doing things. She has met with the Chief, the Mayor and Councilwoman White to discuss this. This is not going unnoticed by her. The Chief receives his budget and he does not have to answer to us. Mr. Levine stated he will come to every City Council meeting he can to discuss this. This is very important to our community. Councilman Plaisance stated only a small portion of the TV interview was aired. He posted it on Facebook asking for suggestions. Some that he received are very good. He met with the Chief with Ike and the Mayor and we discussed some very important things with the Chief. One suggestion he received was for better enforcement of a curfew. That might help. The Police Chief is an elected official and he is responsible for his department. All we can do is give suggestions. That is what we are trying to do. Councilman Plaisance state that he has enough too. We definitely have a problem in the City. Mayor Piazza stated it is not just about the Chief and the Police Department. He met with the Sheriff and with Drew David last week about this issue. They are willing to help and are capable to help when requested. It is not just 100% on the Chief's back. The Sheriff has a responsibility and he is willing to help. Steven Menard stated that the community leaders have no control over these boys. The kid killed tonight belonged to another group. He suggests getting the State Police in here. These boys have their own frame of mind. Put more officers out there and put more cameras. The community leaders cannot help. Mayor Piazza stated that our hands are tied as to what we can say in public and without the Chief of Police and the fact that this is not a town hall meeting, the Mayor will control the agenda and we will not have this topic on the agenda every time we have a meeting. Mr. Mark Campbell stated the community leaders and pastors are secular and they are doing their own thing. It is not community. We need community. The community is everybody. We need a solution to this killing. He has been here 9 years. He sees inappropriate behavior amongst the adults. We are not coming together. It is not a black thing or a white thing. We need to find a solution to what is going on. We have to put our resources in the right place. Tommy is doing a good job. Through sports and activities, we can curb this. If that kid tonight had been at a basketball tournament, he may not have been killed. We need an afterschool mentoring program. Ms. Denise Boudreaux stated her child was killed in May. You make rules and regulations but you don't do anything with them. What is the point? Curfew is not being implemented. These young men, 13 and 14 years old, are out every night with backpacks. They carry their guns in there. She is not afraid of them but so many other people are. You make your community look bad; you make your race look bad. It is just bad. These district attorneys give these people all kind of lead way. You might as well go to street justice. Everybody is passing the buck. Whose job is it? They say they have to be asked to help but they are too proud to ask. How many children need to die? Ronald Gaspard asked why the Sheriff and the task force are not helping now. Mayor Piazza stated that anytime the Chief or anyone in his department wants to

reach out to the Sheriff and the task force, they are willing to assist. You would need to ask the Police Chief why he has not reached out to them. Mr. Gaspard asked why are we hiding behind the Chief. The Fire Chief is the leader of the Fire Department. If the town starts burning won't you ask him what he will do about it. What is the difference between the Fire Chief and the Police Chief? Mayor Piazza stated the huge difference is that the Fire Chief is appointed and the Police Chief is elected. Because he is elected, the Mayor and City Council are not his boss. He does not answer to us. He answers to the people of Abbeville. Councilman Touchet stated that people need to understand that elections have consequences. The Mayor is correct. Councilman Touchet stated that well before he was on this Council, there was a Police Chief that took the Council to court. It was ruled that once we give the budget to the Chief our hands are off limits. You are about to elect a judge. Elections have consequences. We need to be more proactive. We can only tell the Chief to be proactive. What is it outside of the box we need to do to curb what is going on? Let's get the State Police here and other undercover people here. Let's get community policing in those neighborhoods and let's make sure we have substations there. This would allow us to be active with the community. What is happening here is a tragedy. We have to do a better job of putting the people in place that are going to take actions, not when things happen, but when they are going to happen. Mayor Piazza stated the Sheriff will not come in unless the Chief requests it. Mayor Piazza stated he personally called the State Police and they stated they would not come in unless the Police Chief requests it. They will not do it for the Mayor. He and Councilman Plaisance have sat in his office several times and we have begged Chief Spearman to call the Sheriff and the State Police. He has refused. Councilman Plaisance stated that parents need to take responsibility for their children. It all starts in the home. One suggestion he received from Pastor Bolden is that he will personally organize a group that will target families in the homes. That is a good suggestion. We have to all take responsibility for what is going on out there.

Mr. Jonathan Lovett announced that the Abbeville Rotary Club would like to hold a free event at LaFitte Drive-In Park. It will be a fishing for families event. They will teach people to tie knots, bait a hook and fish. It will be for everybody, not just children. It will be a half-day event. They will provide food. It will be on Saturday, November 28, 2020. It is sponsored by the Abbeville Rotary Club, the Sportsman and Wildlife & Fisheries. They will all be there to set up different stations. We will have an adult at each station.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to allow the Abbeville Rotary Club to use LaFitte Drive-in Park to hold the fishing for families event on November 28, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Plaisance/Touchet
Resolution R20-21

A resolution requesting financial assistance from the State of Louisiana under the fiscal year 2020-2021 Local Government Assistance Program and Community Water Enrichment Fund Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Broussard/Plaisance
Resolution R20-22

A resolution surplusing the old portable showers at the VFW Hall and the fence at Palombo Field that were both damaged by Hurricane Delta and allow demolition of same in order to dispose of property.

The motion carried unanimously.

-03 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to approve the accounting of the 2019 tax roll. The motion carried unanimously.

-04 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. to approve a variance to move a 1999 mobile home to 1720 Society. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Touchet stated the owner purchased property one block over from where the mobile home is currently located. He already owned the mobile home and had been renting the space.

Ike Funderburk, City Attorney

- *All hurricane damage claims are being filed with the insurance.*
- *He has received a model ordinance from a national organization that deals with dogs and cats. He will be distributing that to the Council.*

Mayor Mark Piazza

- *There is still time to go out and vote.*

Councilman Brady Broussard, Jr.

- *Citizens of our town do have an avenue to report suspicious activity anonymously. They can call 892-6777 to do that.*

Councilman Francis Touchet, Jr.

- *Asked that the Council give the Mayor feedback on the direction they want to see our Parks and Recreation department going forward. We need to have somebody in here so they can be ready for the spring activities. He is in favor of getting someone but the Council has to make the decision. Mayor Piazza stated that Councilman Broussard is the chairman of the Recreation Committee. It would be a good idea to have a Committee meeting. Councilwoman White suggested that we should do that on a separate night at 5:30 PM to get public input. Councilman Broussard stated that we just had a Parks and Recreation Board meeting. He was there as well as Councilwoman Broussard, Councilwoman White and the Mayor. That was a data session to get the numbers from Mr. Picard. We can definitely have a meeting and we can do that with recreation minded people.*

Councilman Francis Plaisance

- *Commended Councilman Broussard on the outstanding job of the Streetscape project. The sign is absolutely beautiful. Councilman Broussard stated the project took over a decade and it is just an example that things don't happen overnight. The Mayor had a lot input on the finished product. The special spice on that sign is to look on the back of it and see our historic businesses that are part of that. They made our downtown nationally known.*

Councilwoman Roslyn White

- *She attended a presentation in New Iberia that was given by their Mayor. It was entitled, "The Future Direction of our City". It was very well planned and well thought out. This is something she would like to see for our City. It is a new a master plan for the historic main street and it also includes mini master plans for each district of the City. He asks the City Council to match the grant money so the plans can be turned into reality. He works with an architect, the director of planning and the main street director. He had a full*

presentation of all these shovel ready projects with grants lined up to go after them. He did it with a budget of \$5,000 from the City and \$5,000 from grants. He started with an inventory of projects and came up with shovel ready projects that would attract more people and tourists. She already asked the Mayor to pull an inventory of our properties. She also spoke to Richard Minvielle at that meeting and they handed him 12 projects to submit for capital outlay grants this year because they have this plan in place. The plans tie into downtown so that everybody buys into the vision for their City. The Mayor of New Iberia did talk about the murders and crime of their City. He has a map displaying every murder that has happened in the City. He goes to the scene and talks to the people. He is implementing something one block at a time at each murder scene. He will do small pocket projects along that murder site. It will highlight that area. He feels like it is less likely that someone will commit a crime where something is brightly painted and where neighbors are talking to each other. It was very smart of him to recognize those problem areas and try to implement those into his master plan. She will pass out the information from the presentation to everyone.

- *The overlay of Nugier, North East and Hawthorne have been completed. She thanked the Police Jury and Juror Paul Bourgeois.*
- *The contractor for DOTD is in town to remove debris from State highways.*
- *The Christmas Stroll is scheduled for December 3, 2020.*

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in special session on November 3, 2020 at 5:30 P.M., at the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center located at 300 A. A. Comeaux Drive, Suite 200, Abbeville, Louisiana 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: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Gerald Gaspard, American Legion & Chamber of Commerce
Norman Levine
Chad Turner

Mayor Piazza stated we are here for a public hearing for two structures. One is located at 901 E. Lafayette Street and the other one is 209 S. Jefferson Street. Both of these structures have been damaged severely by fire.

Mr. Chad Turner was the representative for 209 S. Jefferson and was in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Turner stated the property is still under investigation for arson. He is also awaiting word from his insurance company. The fire was in August. Chief Mire stated that the Fire Marshal was in search of the guy to interview him. That was about two to three weeks back. It does take a while to complete an arson investigation. The City may have to wait because the investigation team may need to go back into the structure. He and the Fire Marshal discuss this about once a week. Mayor Piazza asked Mr. Turner what his intentions are once the investigation is complete. Mr. Turner said he was interested in tearing the structure down. He also asked Mr. Turner to keep in touch with Sarah in the tax department regarding the property. Mr. Turner also gave Ike his contact information.

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to condemn the structure located at 209 S. Jefferson but to not act on the condemnation until all investigations are complete. The motion carried unanimously.

There was no representative for 901 E. Lafayette Street present at the meeting.

-02 introduced by Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Terry Broussard to condemn the structure located at 901 E. Lafayette Street and to authorize the demolition of the structure. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor

The Mayor and Council of the City of Abbeville met in special session on November 17, 2020 at 5:30 P.M., at the A. A. Comeaux Recreation Center located at 300 A. A. Comeaux Drive, Suite 200, Abbeville, Louisiana 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: Ike Funderburk, City Attorney
Jude Mire, Fire Chief
Clay Menard, Public Works Director
Gene Sellers, Engineer
Norman Levine
Owner of property located at 500 Eaton Drive

Mayor Piazza stated we are here for a public hearing for two structures. One is located at 500 Eaton Drive and the other one is 808 North Bailey.

The owner of 500 Eaton Drive was present to represent the property. She was notified that the Sheriff's office seized the property on January 27th. She was told not to go on the property. She thought it was a done deal. She received a bill for 3 grass cuttings on the property from the City. She was only notified two weeks ago that the property had been given back to her by the Sheriff. She cannot afford to have the property demolished. Mr. Funderburk stated the property had been seized but the sale did not go through. She was never divested of ownership of the property. We are here tonight to ask that the property be secured. Clay Menard stated there are several broken windows and the back door has been busted open. Those would need to be secured. There does not appear to be any structural problems with the structure from the outside. Mr. Norman Levine stated he wants to purchase the property and he would secure the property. The owner stated she would have the grass mowed until the sale and would also put a no trespassing sign up.

-01 introduced by Mr. Brady Broussard, Jr. and seconded by Ms. Roslyn White to condemn the structure located at 500 Eaton Drive and allow the property owner 10 days to secure the property. The current owners will maintain the property until the sale goes through. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Norman Levine represented the property located at 808 North Bailey. He will remove the remaining part of the structure located on that property within 10 days.

-02 introduced by Ms. Roslyn White and seconded by Mr. Francis Plaisance to condemn the structure located at 808 North Bailey and to allow 10 days for the structure to be removed. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

Kathleen S. Faulk
Secretary-Treasurer

Mark Piazza
Mayor

BAYOU FENCING & SUPPLY, INC.

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Abbeville, LA 70510
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November 16, 2020

City of Abbeville
Attn: Tommy Picard

Re: Fence Repairs – Comeaux Park

Voorhoff Field - Scope of Work:

Remove damaged fence and dispose of. Furnish and install with new 310 ft. of 6 ft. chain link fencing. Re-use double gate hinging on new posts. Material specifications:

1. 6 ft. 11 ½ gauge fabric
2. 1 5/8" x .065 top rail
3. 2" LG40 line posts
4. 2 ½" LG40 terminal and gate posts
5. All posts set in the ground with concrete

Total: \$ 5, 890.00

Football Field – Scope of Work:

Remove and replace: 6 – 1 5/8" x 6' LG40 line posts with concrete and 84 ft. of 1 3/8" top rail. Stretch and re-tie fence.

Total: \$ 932.00

Theriot Field – Scope of Work:

Remove metal on fence and damaged 2" x 4" rails. Furnish and install new 2" x 4"s with splicers and screws. Re-attach metal to new rails.

Total: \$ 1, 365.00

Lafayette Park – Scope of Work:

Remove damaged fence and dispose of. Furnish and install with new 235 ft. of 5 ft. chain link fencing with 1- 6 ft. single gate. Material specifications:

1. 5 ft. 9 gauge fabric

2. 1 5/8" LG40 top rail
3. 2" LG40 line posts
4. 1 5/8" LG40 welded gate frame with commercial hardware
5. All posts set in the ground with concrete

Total: \$ 4, 845.00

Concession Stand by Voorhies – Scope of Work:

Remove existing fence and dispose of. Furnish and install with new 67 ft. of 6 ft. chain link fencing with 1- 4 ft. single gate and 1- 13 ft. double swing gate. Material specifications:

1. 6 ft. 11 ½ gauge fabric
2. 1 5/8" x .065 top rail
3. 2" LG40 line posts
4. 2 ½" LG40 terminal and gate posts
5. 1 5/8" LG40 welded gate frames with commercial hardware
6. All posts set in the ground with concrete

Total: \$ 2, 610.00

Scoreboard – Scope of Work:

Furnish and install 3 – 4" x 24' posts installed with 8 ft. cross piece welded to posts.

NOTE: Customer is responsible of installing scoreboard.

Total: \$ 1, 850.00

All work performed according to ASTM and UL 325 standards and practices. Our company is licensed in the State of Louisiana (#28139) and licensed with the State Fire Marshal's Office to install gate operators and access controls (#F662). We are fully insured, and a certificate of insurance can be furnished upon request.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to bid this project. If you have any questions, please give us a call at our office.

Regards,
Gloria Michel