

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TANGIPAHOA PARISH COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 14, 2022, AT 5:30P.M. AT THE TANGIPAHOA PARISH GORDON A BURGESS GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING, 206 EAST MULBERRY STREET, AMITE, LOUISIANA – Mrs. Hyde made it known there were no items for public hearing.

MINUTES OF THE TANGIPAHOA PARISH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 14, 2022 MEETING

The Tangipahoa Parish Council met on the 14th day of February 2022 in Regular Session and was called to order by Mrs. Brigitte Hyde, Chairwoman immediately following the public hearing at 5:30pm. The Chair asked that all cell phones be muted or turned off.

The Invocation was given by Councilman Joseph and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Forrest.

The following members were PRESENT: Trent Forrest, John Ingraffia, Louis Joseph, Carlo Bruno, Buddy Ridgel, Joey Mayeaux, Lionell Wells, David Vial, Brigitte Hyde, Kim Coates

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – Motion was made by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mr. Wells to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting dated January 24, 2022. Roll call vote as follows:

YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

PUBLIC INPUT - No one from the public asked to address any agenda item.

PARISH PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. APPROVAL TO ACCEPT into the Parish Maintenance System - Kayley Drive in Kayley Court Subdivision, District 9 – Motion made by Mr. Mayeaux, seconded by Mr. Ridgel to accept Kayley Drive in Kayley Court Subdivision, District 9 into the Parish Maintenance System. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates
2. APPROVAL TO ACCEPT into the Parish Maintenance System - Streets in Phase 1, 2-A and 2-B of Cypress Reserve Subdivision, District 8 – Mr. Miller asked to **TABLE** this Item. Motion made by Mr. Vial, seconded by Mr. Forrest to **TABLE** accepting Streets in Phase 1, 2-A and 2-B of Cypress Reserve Subdivision, District 8 into the Parish Maintenance System. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates
3. APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT with the Town of Amite City to build a Water Tower – Mr. Miller made it known the Town of Amite City donated the land to the Parish to build the Florida Parishes Arena and Mr. Miller would like to donate back to the Town 1 acre to build the water tower. Mr. Miller also made it known it will be a landmark for the town and the arena. Motion made by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mr. Mayeaux to approve to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Town of Amite City to build a Water Tower. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates
4. RECOMMENDATION OF CONDEMNATION of Assessment #6552300 Parcel C-2 Bergeron Mini Partition Hammond, LA 70403 - District 8 – Mr. Miller made it known it's not structurally sound.
**Councilman Vial made it known this is in his district, it was moved in about a year ago, never occupied and not sure permits were applied for. Motion made by Mr. Vial, seconded by Mrs. Coates to approve the condemnation of Assessment #6552300 Parcel C-2 Bergeron Mini Partition Hammond, LA 70403 - District 8. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates
5. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER 1 - Sibley Road – Mr. Miller made it known the developer messed up the road by having additional construction built in the subdivision. The developer agreed to reimburse the parish to rebuild the road. Mr. Miller made it known this change order is for the additional improvements the parish made on the road after the developer paid their portion of rebuilding the road. Motion made by Mr. Vial, seconded by Mrs. Coates to approve Change Order 1 for \$42,989.03 for Sibley Rd, District 9. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

---Mr. Miller made it known the final pass for debris will begin on Friday, February 18th. This does not cover the stumps, there will be another time and group of trucks picking up stumps. For the final pass starting February 18th, debris needs to be put at the road for the debris contractors to pick up.

---Councilman Vial asked if every road would have a pass

---Mr. Miller made it known every parish and city road would have a final pass....all non-state roads

---Mr. Miller reminded everyone that February is Black History Month and to take advantage of the opportunities at the libraries to learn more about the history.

---Mr. Miller gave a personal update on his wife, Mrs. Donna Miller, having had a successful surgery for breast cancer and the reports were exceptionally good due to the cancer being caught very early. Mr. and Mrs. Miller thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers and also sent a word of encouragement to all women to get their mammograms. Early detection is a Cure.

The Chair moved to change the agenda and make Items 11, 12, 13 the first discussion of business

11. DISCUSSION of Redistricting – Councilman Wells made it known with the upcoming redistricting and the 2020 census having the minority portion of the parish being roughly 40% he is getting a lot of questions on how that will play in the redistricting. Councilman Wells introduced Michael Showers of the NAACP to address the Council on the matter.

The Chair asked the speaker to state his name and address and informed him he had 3 minutes to speak.

---Michael Showers – 17536 Rising Fawn Rd, Amite, LA – made it known he is speaking on behalf of over 200 members of the Greater Tangipahoa Parish NAACP and petitions the parish council to provide fair and equitable mapping during the redistricting process that may reflect the diversity and demographics of the parish.

---The Chair made it known the council has contracted with Demographer William Blair and has had discussions with Mr. Blair on when he will start the parish redistricting process. The Chair made it known Mr. Blair would like to finish with the School Board before starting to meet with all councilman/councilwoman. The Chair also mentioned a committee was formed for the redistricting with Mr. Bruno as Chair, Mr. Wells, Mr. Ridgel, and Mr. Vial as members.

---Councilman Bruno discussed the redistricting being his third time as serving on the council and explained how the redistricting process works.

---Councilman Wells made it known to the Council that having 3 minority districts will not be new to the parish, recalling from 1988 to 1991 there were 3 minority districts.

12. DISCUSSION of Channel 17 Contract – The Chair made it known the contract needs to be renewed making the council aware Mr. Wayne Glascock was present if any of the council had questions. No action taken on this matter

13. DISCUSSION of Proposed Agreement with Coroner’s Office – Councilman Bruno discussed an agreement that would be made with the Coroner that would have to be ratified by the Council concerning the budget. Councilman Bruno suggest before turning over the money to the coroner’s office there needs to be a full examination of the operation of the Coroner’s office.

---Councilman Wells as a member on the Coroner Committee asked Mr. McKneely if they have received any feedback from the Coroner since the last meeting.

---Mr. McKneely made it known the only information they have received is a letter from the Coroner’s CPA requesting the first disbursement for the fees the parish is required to pay to them.

---Councilman Wells made it known there were plans to have an auditor review the books of the Coroner before turning over the money, whether it be Dennis James or another, not necessarily the Legislative Auditors.

---Councilman Vial agrees there should be a reckoning before turning over the money.

---Councilman Wells suggest letting the committee make a report to the Council and the Council vote after hearing the report then determine what needs to be done.

Motion made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Mr. Vial to have the Legislative Auditor’s look into the operations of the Coroner’s office. Roll call as follows:

YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

REGULAR BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

6. INTRODUCTION of T. P. Ordinance No. 22-01 - An ordinance to grant a variance to Section 17-5.2 Special Classification Property Development Standards of Mobile/Manufactured Homes Placement for Diane Carr Lots 16, 17, 18 of Woodland Park Subdivision in Hammond, LA in Tangipahoa Parish, District No. 7 – Councilman Wells made it known this area has been a blighted area for a while and this couple has cleared the lots but it is not large enough to put a mobile home, it is .17 short. Motion was made by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ridgel to introduce TP Ordinance No. 22-01 and set public hearing for Monday, February 28, 2022, at 5:30PM for the purpose of receiving input on the adoption thereof. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

7. INTRODUCTION of T.P. Ordinance No. 22-02 - An ordinance amending and enacting Chapter 17 - Planning and Development, Article IV - Standards for Subdivision of Property, Section 17-4.3 - Major Subdivision Standards, A. General Design Standards, (2) Street Standards – The Chair made it known this is an issue where subdivisions have public roads behind them, and people are putting driveways out of their backyards onto the public roads. This would change the regulations to say there cannot be any access out of the subdivisions other than what was approved on the plat. Motion was made by Mrs. Coates, Seconded by Mr. Vial to introduce TP Ordinance No. 22-02 and set public hearing for Monday, February 28, 2022, at 5:30PM for the purpose of receiving input on the adoption thereof. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

8. INTRODUCTION of T.P. Ordinance No. 22-03 - An ordinance amending and enacting Chapter 17- Planning and Development, Article V - Standards for Development of Property, Section 17-5.7 - General Commercial Property Development Setbacks and Buffer Areas – The Chair made is known this is changing to the language pertaining to setbacks and buffers for Commercial Property. Motion was made by Mr. Vial, seconded by Mrs. Coates to introduce TP Ordinance No. 22-03 and set public hearing for Monday, February 28, 2022, at 5:30PM for the purpose of receiving input on the adoption thereof. Roll call as follows:
YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

9. ADOPTION OF T.P. Resolution No. R22-03 - A Resolution for the Parish of Tangipahoa to authorize an Acadian Ambulance Service declaration for the health and well-being of the citizens throughout the duration of the coronavirus pandemic
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, confers upon the Parish Presidents of the State powers that may exceed the powers otherwise conferred by the constitution, laws, home rule charter or plan of government in order to deal with a major disaster; and
WHEREAS, Tangipahoa Parish is presently faced with the resurgence of the COVID-19 emergency caused by the surge that has placed an extreme burden on Acadian Ambulance Service and its staffing that provide emergency transport of Parish residents to local emergency rooms and hospital facilities in the surrounding area; and
WHEREAS, the COVID-19 resurgence has resulted in increased calls for ambulance transport within the Parish of Tangipahoa; and
WHEREAS, this Declaration will ensure that Acadian Ambulance Service can continue to meet the extreme need for ambulance service to help preserve the lives of the citizens of Tangipahoa Parish; and
WHEREAS, Tangipahoa Parish has an existing contract with Acadian Ambulance Service to provide ambulance services to the residents of Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana, which agreement is governed by an Ordinance found in Article II, Section 24-26 *et. seq.* of the Code of Ordinances in and for the Parish of Tangipahoa; and
WHEREAS, as a result of the surge in patients due to COVID-19, ambulances have had to wait at emergency rooms longer for an available emergency room bed to transfer a patient, and pre-pandemic data showed an increased average wait time now for drop time of a patient in an emergency room; and
WHEREAS, as a result of COVID-19 and general economic conditions, there is a national and regional shortage of EMT-Basics and Paramedics; and
WHEREAS, Acadian Ambulance Service is currently required by local ordinance to respond to medical emergencies at the Advanced Life Support Level within Tangipahoa Parish in accordance with provisions found in Article II, Section 24-26 *et. seq.* of the Code of Ordinances for Tangipahoa Parish; and
WHEREAS, in order to allow Acadian Ambulance Service to respond to the increased calls for emergency and non-emergency assistance, a need exists to temporarily waive the provisions of the Parish ordinances setting forth the requirements for Acadian Ambulance Services, specifically those requiring Advanced Life Support and operating with a

certified EMT-paramedic on board the ambulance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Parish of Tangipahoa, hereby order as follows:

That Acadian Ambulance Service, in staffing all Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support ambulance resources needed, may exercise the use of drivers with a Louisiana Class D Chauffeur’s license and CPR certifications or a Louisiana licensed EMR.

Also that Acadian Ambulance Service, when responding to and transporting emergency and non-emergency medical calls within Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana, may exercise its best medical judgment to respond to an emergency call with a Basic Life Support ambulance unit rather than an Advanced Life Support ambulance unit when such is authorized as determined by the Acadian Ambulance medical director based on the information transmitted via the Emergency 911 or other information provided to the Acadian Ambulance Dispatch Center.

This temporary waiver by the Tangipahoa Parish Council-President Government has authorized this Declaration by adoption of a Resolution to provide Acadian Ambulance the ability to staff driver positions with non-EMT personnel and respond with a Basic Life Support rather than an Advanced Life Support Units shall remain in effect from this the 14th day of February 2022 until the Tangipahoa Parish Council-President Government finds that the threat of danger has been dealt with and the emergency conditions no longer exist, or the disaster declaration is terminated.

The declaration may be terminated at any time by the Parish President or by majority of the Parish Governing Authority.

On motion by MR. JOSEPH and seconded by MR. WELLS, the foregoing Resolution was hereby declared adopted on this the 14th day of February 2022 by the following roll-call vote:

YEAS: Forrest, Ingraffia, Joseph, Bruno, Ridgel, Mayeaux, Wells, Vial, Hyde, Coates

NAYS:

ABSENT:

NOT VOTING:

ATTEST:

S/Brigitte Hyde, Chairwoman
Tangipahoa Parish Council

S/Jill DeSouge, Council Clerk
Tangipahoa Parish Council

S/Robby Miller, President
Tangipahoa Parish

10. RESIGNATION / APPOINTMENT to Hospital Service District No 2 (Hood Hospital)

Motion made by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mr. Forrest to accept the resignation of Authur Mauterer, MD as commissioner to the Hospital Service District No 2 (Hood Hospital). Roll call as follows:

YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

Motion made by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mr. Vial to appoint John “Tree” Smith to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Mauterer. Term expires January 2024. Roll call as follows:

YEA: Mr. Forrest, Mr. Ingraffia, Mr. Joseph, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Ridgel, Mr. Mayeaux, Mr. Wells, Mr. Vial, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Coates

BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR PERMITS - None

LEGAL MATTERS - None

COUNCILMEN'S PRIVILEGES

Mr. Bruno discussed the disbanding of the Loranger Recreation District Board. Legal has drawn up an agreement between the parish and Little League Baseball that will be sent for review and placed on the next meeting agenda. Little League Baseball will put the money into the park that will help with what’s lacking out there.

Mr. Joseph made known at the next meeting there would be a presentation to the families and officials for the fallen deputy’s, Mr. Kent and Mr. Toefield, of a framed article from the Daily Star

Mr. Mayeaux wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day

Mrs. Coates made an update on the Road Lighting; she spoke with Wesley in Public Works and they are putting together a packet to give to Entergy on Wednesday to get the lights back operating.

With no further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Wells to adjourn.

S/Jill DeSouge, Council Clerk
Tangipahoa Parish Council

S/Brigitte Hyde, Chairwoman
Tangipahoa Parish Council