

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 17th DAY OF JANUARY, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:32 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Burrell presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus and Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

The invocation was given by Mr. Cothran, and Mr. Atkins led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

• It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to expand the agenda to include the following items:*

- *Authorize Special Resolution for Deacon James Murray On His Retirement from Mt. Canaan Baptist Church*
- *Authorize Special Resolution for Grammy Nominee Lakendria Browder*

The President opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or opposition to the agenda addition. There being no one to speak in favor or against the agenda addition, the President closed the public hearing.

Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Public comment was given by Jayne Tappe related to being in opposition of Resolution No. 3 of 2023.

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- Juvenile Detention Center

Dr. Wilson updated the Commission on the capacity of the Parish Juvenile Detention Center. Mr. Clay Walker, Director of Juvenile Services, and Mrs. Kelly Todd, Executive Director of Volunteers for Youth Justice addressed the opening of The Harbor a resource for juvenile justice.

- There were no reported Covid cases for January .
- The December Financial Report was distributed to each Commissioner's station.
- Dr. Wilson provided an update on the request for proposals (RFPs) for the Housing Trust Fund.

**NEW BUSINESS**

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *Authorize Introduction Of Ordinance No. 6301 Of 2023 Related To CTAP-22-4-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code Of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, to replace the terms "Metropolitan Planning Commission" and "Zoning Board Of Appeals" with "Caddo Parish Planning and Zoning Commission," as applicable, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *Authorize Introduction of Ordinance No. 6302 Of 2023, an ordinance to amend Section 19-31 and 19-51 of the Code of Ordinances, relative to purchase of adjudicated property for economic development and housing, to delete the requirement that the purchaser's plan of work be supported by the City of Shreveport's Office of Community Development, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Cothran (1).

Mr. Cothran abstained due to lack of understanding of the ordinance.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *Authorize Introduction of Ordinance No. 6303 Of 2023, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be removed from agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Atkins, *Authorize Introduction of Ordinance 6304 Of 2023, an ordinance providing for the incurring of debt and issuance of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023, of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Jackson addressed local talents relative to bond transactions and professional growth in Shreveport-Caddo Parish.

**Call for the Question by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Cothran. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *Authorize Resolution 3 Of 2023, A Resolution to Request the Parish Planning and Zoning Commission to create a R-1-43 district/zone* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Johnson discussed the purpose of Resolution No. 3 of 2023. Mr. Jones clarified that the resolution would be reviewed by the Parish Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Hopkins discussed the resolution removing use-by rights from citizens. Mr. Epperson addressed his constituent's support for the resolution. Mr. Chavez asked that the Commission receive citizen's comments from both sides of the argument relative to Resolution No. 3 of 2023.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to suspend the rules and allow a citizen to comment for seven minutes*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioner Hopkins, and Young (2). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts, and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Public comment was given by Robert Windam related to speak in favor of Resolution No. 3 of 2023.

**Call for the Question by Mr. Jones**. Motion was withdrawn.

**Return to the Work Session by Mr. Jones**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, Jones, and Lazarus (8). NAYS: Commissioner Atkins, Hopkins, Jackson and Young (4). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**Call for the Question by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Lazarus (10). NAYS: Commissioner Hopkins, and Young (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Jones (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Jackson (1).

Mr. Jackson abstained due to a conflict of interest.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *Authorize Special Resolution of Resolution of Appreciation for GracePointe Church of The Nazarene and Pastor David Craig*.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *to englobo and advance to Thursday's agenda the following agenda items*:

- *Authorize Special Resolution of Resolution of Appreciation for Grace Pointe Church of The Nazarene And Pastor David Craig*
- *Authorize Appointment to The Industrial Development Board*
- *Authorize Reappointment to Waterworks District 7*
- *Authorize Visitors for Thursday's Regular Session Regarding the Community Lighthouse Project*
- *Authorize Special Resolution for Deacon James Murray On His Retirement from Mt. Canaan Baptist Church*
- *Authorize Special Resolution for Grammy Nominee Lakendria Browder*

**An amendment by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *to englobo and advance to Thursday's agenda the following agenda items:*

- *Authorize Special Resolution of Resolution of Appreciation for Grace Pointe Church of The Nazarene And Pastor David Craig*
- *Authorize Reappointment to Waterworks District 7*
- *Authorize Visitors for Thursday's Regular Session Regarding the Community Lighthouse Project*
- *Potential Agenda Addition: Authorize Special Resolution for Deacon James Murray On His Retirement from Mt. Canaan Baptist Church*
- *Potential Agenda Addition: Authorize Special Resolution for Grammy Nominee Lakendria Browder*

At this time, Mr. Jackson's amendment failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Jackson, Lazarus, and Young (5). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, and Jones (7). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (11). NAYS: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Discussion of Crime Lab Funding* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Chavez (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *to englobo and advance the following agenda items to Thursday's agenda and remand the following items to the Personnel, Policies and Procedures Committee:*

- *Discuss Amending By-Laws to Include Procedures for Selection and Voting for Interim Commission*
- *Discuss Amending By-Laws to Include Procedures for Voting for Commission Officers*

Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *Invite Representative from Shreveport Green to Discuss Litter Problem in Caddo/Shreveport* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

#### **COMMUNIQES/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mr. Jackson asked that a Parish representative that is familiar with the Housing Trust Fund process attend a community meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. at 2931 Murphy Street. Mr. Jackson addressed the status of the Amazon plant in Shreveport.

- Mr. Atkins addressed the balance of supporting local people and other factors that affect the Administrator's decision in the issuance of bonds.
- Mr. Young discussed parking gate issues. Mr. Young announced that the Broadmoor Neighborhood Association meeting about the closing of an elementary school to be held that evening at the Broadmoor Presbyterian Church.
- Dr. Wilson updated a recent change in the capacity of the Juvenile Detention Center.
- Mr. Burrell addressed that the redistricting plans have been updated on the Parish website.

***CITIZENS COMMENTS (late arrivals)***

Public comment was given by Jayne Tappe related to Resolution No. 3 of 2023.

***CONSENT AGENDA***

- *Ordinance No. 6264 of 2022, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Ordinance No. 5111 of 2011, reapportioning Caddo Parish into twelve Commission Districts, enumerating the constituent precincts respectively comprising the Commission Districts, and otherwise providing with respect thereto.*
- *Ordinance No. 6299 of 2023, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located east side of Mansfield Road, approximately 2,100 feet south of Keithville-Kingston Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from R-A Rural-Agricultural Zoning district to I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6300 Of 2023, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for RING Doorbell Program in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

/s/ Linda J. Montgomery \_\_\_\_\_  
Linda J. Montgomery  
Office Specialist I