

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:40 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, Johnson, Jackson, Lazarus and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioners Jones (1).

The Chair extended the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance from the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee.

VISITORS

- Assistant Medical Director Dr. Martha Smith Overton Brooks VA Medical Center and Public Relations Jennifer Kirsop received the Special Resolution Commemorating The 75th Anniversary Of The Abolition Of Segregation In The United States Military.
- The Director Vernon Williams Shreveport VA Vets Center received the Special Resolution Declaring Purple Heart Recognition Week And Purple Heart Day.
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ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Mrs. Bryant explained the purpose of an ordinance to amend the budget for the opioid fund and the process that is needed to establish and use the settlement funds. Mrs. Bryant presented the July 2023 financial report. Mrs. Bryant reported the population at Juvenile Services and the number of probation cases. Mr. Sushil Kumar, Public Information Officer of the Small Business Administration (SBA), presented SBA disaster assistance and provided reference materials to the Commission. Mr. Kumar discussed disaster loans and reviewed the use of SBA loans as supplemental coverage to disaster damage. Mr. Kumar indicated that his remote SBA office was located at the Independence Stadium on 3305 Fair Drive and their office is open 8 am to 5 pm through August 25th. Mr. Jackson inquired about the duplication of disaster loan benefits, which Mr. Kumar explained the possible effects of HUD involvement in disaster recovery and the funding source of different SBA loan programs. Mr. Kumar indicated that he would send Mrs. Bryant a brochure of the SBA disaster loan information. Mr. Jackson inquired whether parish property or an inherited property would qualify for disaster loans, which Mr. Kumar explained the criteria needed to qualify for loans. Mr. Kumar provided his direct phone number 916-878-1495 and that he could be reached by email. Mr. Johnson clarified the directions to locate the SBA remote office at the Independent Stadium. Mr. Hopkins inquired whether the SBA could visit far north Caddo Parish, which Mr. Kumar advised Mr. Hopkins to speak with Homeland Security Director Jump. Homeland Security manages the SBA's location.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Epperson requested that Mrs. Bryant provide an update on the Amazon facility and the speed enforcement proposal on Thursday.
- Mr. Atkins called a rescheduling of the Natural Resources Committee meeting for Monday, August 21st at 1:30pm to continue discussion on the noise ordinance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Burrell invited the Commission to an unveiling of a Power Of The Ballot Mural on Wednesday August 16th at 3132 Greenwood Road. Mr. Burrell explained that a local artist wrote a grant for murals and that the artist requested Commissioners recommend buildings to support community art.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance No 6347 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Amend Volume li 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 Northeast Corner Of Greenwood Springridge Road And Buncombe Road, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, From R-A Rural Agricultural Zoning District To C-2 Corridor Commercial Zoning District, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Cothran, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No 6348 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Amend Volume li 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 Northwest Corner Of Wells Island Road And Mallott Drive, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, From R-1-7 Single-*

Family Residential Zoning District To I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning District, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto be moved to Thursday's agenda

Mr. Jackson discussed the need to address heavy industrial use in residential areas with MPC Director Clarke. Mr. Clarke addressed Mr. Johnson's inquiry about incorrect zoning of the property. Mr. Clarke explained that per the future land use MPC staff recommended that the property remains as residential zoning and that the MPC Board overturned the MPC Staff's recommendation to have the zoning changed for the property. Mr. Clarke indicated that the property owner is requesting to change the zoning to make the property more marketable.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Cothran, *that Ordinance No. 6348 of 2023* be postponed to the next work session meeting.

Mr. Chavez inquired about the purpose of the zoning change, which Mr. Clarke explained that the property owner requested industrial zoning to make it more marketable. The Clerk clarified that Ordinance No. 6348 of 2023 would be up for final hearing on the September 21st Regular Session.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Ordinance No. 6349 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 On The East Side Of Mansfield Road, Approximately Four Hundred- And Fifty-Foot South Of Stagecoach Road C-2 Corridor Commercial Zoning District To I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning District, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Cothran, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance 6350 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending The 2023 Budget To Adopt The Budget Of Estimated Revenues And Expenditures For The Opioid Settlement Fund And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mrs. Bryant explained that the ordinance is to create a budget for opioid settlement funds and explained the process to be able to appropriate the opioid settlement funds. Answering Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Bryant indicated that small and emerging businesses would be encouraged to apply for RFP. Mr. Johnson requested that the ordinance be worded to allow participation from small and emerging businesses.

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No 6351 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Authorize The Purchase Of Property Located In Section 11, Township 23 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Dr. Ward explained the purpose of the ordinance and that it is an investment for the Parish.

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

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance 6352 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending And Reenacting Section 32-90 Of The Caddo Parish Code Of Ordinances Pertaining To Burning Control, And Otherwise Providing With Respect Thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mrs. Gage-Watts discussed severe drought in Caddo Parish. Attorney Bernstein explained that the Parish was not in compliance with state law and that the ordinance would bring the parish into compliance. Epperson explained that fire districts would determine burn bans.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and advance the following items to Thursday for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. Ordinance 6352 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending And Reenacting Section 32-90 Of The Caddo Parish Code Of Ordinances Pertaining To Burning*

Control, And Otherwise Providing With Respect Thereto.

- *Ordinance No 6353 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending And Reenacting Section 42-108 Of The Code Of Ordinances Relative To Littering, To Provide With Regard To Issuance Of Summons By Constables And Adjudication Of Littering Violations By Justices Of The Peace, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto.*
- *Local Assessment No. 62 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Re-Inscribe Liens Securing Special Assessments For A Portion Of Maggie Lane Being Located In A Portion Of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, And 19, Woodstock Estates Said Subdivision Being Located In Section 16, Township 16 North, Range 13 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*
- *Local Assessment No. 63 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Re-Inscribe Liens Securing Special Assessments For A Portion Of Split Oak And Green Oak Drives Being Located In A Portion Of Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 21, 22, 23, And 24, Wildoak Subdivision, Unit 4, Said Subdivision Being Located In Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 13 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*
- *Local Assessment No. 64 Of 2023, An Ordinance To Re-Inscribe Liens Securing Special Assessments For A Portion Of Goldsberry Road Being Located In A Portion Of Lots 7, 14, 16, 17, And 20, Shadow Pines Estates, Unit 1, Lots 1, 10, 11 And 12, Shadow Pines Estates, Unit 2, Lots 1, 2, 3 And 4, Shadow Pines Estates, Unit 5, And Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 And 12, Shadow Pines Estates, Unit 6, Said Subdivision Being Located In Section 34, Township 16 North, Range 13 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*
- *Special Resolution Of Recognition And Appreciation For Greenwood Acres Full Baptist Church*

Attorney Frazier addressed Mr. Lazarus' inquiry for property renters to burn in the Parish. Mrs. Bryant addressed Mr. Atkins' inquiry about local assessments for citizens who have not paid off their property lien balance. Mrs. Bryant explained that the Parish provides invoices, payment plans and periodical reminders to settle unpaid balances. Mr. Johnson inquired about a brief summary of what is different with burn ban ordinance, which Attorney Frazier addressed.

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

COMMUNIQUE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson called a Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee meeting on September 5th at 2:30 p.m.
- Mr. Johnson requested that finance provide a list of NGO applicants, which Mrs. Bryant indicated that the NGO list would be provided at the end of September.
- Mr. Cothran discussed his attendance to Louisiana Key Academy on August 8th and the 3 year anniversary celebration event of Mrs. Betty Jordan as the Southwood High School Principal. Mr. Cothran announced that that he would call an ARPA Committee meeting after he meets with the Administration to discuss how the previous ARPA grant appropriations were used. Attorney Frazier explained the special election in District 8 to finish the unexpired term and the eligibility of Mr. Cothran to run for District 10 Commissioner. Attorney Frazier indicated that due to redistricting Mr. Cothran is now in District 10 and is eligible to run for the District 10 seat.
- Mr. Burrell discussed re-elections of current Commissioners.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance 6345 Of 2023, An Ordinance Amending The Budget Of Estimated Revenues And Expenditures For Oil And Gas Fund To Provide Air Conditioning To Caddo Citizens And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6346 Of 2023, An Ordinance Declaring The Intent Of The Parish Under La.R.S. 47:2236 To Acquire Full Ownership Interest In Six Parcels, Namely*

Lot Thirty-Three (33) And West 5.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Four (34), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0099); The East 30.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Five (35) And West 15.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Six (36), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0100); The East 20.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Seven (37) And West 25.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Eight (38), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0115); Lot Thirty-Two (32), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0032); The East 35.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Four (34) And West 10.0 Feet Of Lot Thirty-Five (35), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0110); Lot Thirty (30), Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo No. 181331-072-0030), And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

s/ Linda J. Montgomery
Linda J. Montgomery
Administrative Specialist I

Roy Burrell
President