

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
PROPERTY STANDARDS HEARING COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 2nd DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023

The Caddo Parish American Rescue Plan Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 2:05 p.m., in the Government Plaza Chambers, with Mr. Young, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (6). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson and Jones (4).

The Chair extended the invocation and pledge of allegiance from the previous Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chair administered the oath.

- Case #1- 7780 Kemrock Dr., Mooringsport, LA 71060
Mr. Chuck Wilson, Property Standards Specialist, presented case #1 to the Committee. It was explained that the house on the property is uninhabitable with overgrown grass and weeds, a storage shed and piles of stuff around the property. The owner Carolyn Schaffer was sent all of the proper notifications but did not respond to the invitation to attend the hearing.

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to go with the recommendation to demolish and clean up 7780 Kemrock Dr., Mooringsport, LA 71060 as well as the inclusion of all testimony and documentation into the permanent record.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, and Young (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Lazarus, (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- Case #2- 7720 Dixie Blanchard Rd., Shreveport, LA 71107
Mr. Wilson presented case #2 to the Committee. Mr. Wilson explained that a house is falling apart and is open to the elements and is uninhabitable. The owner John Wilkinson Jr was sent all of the proper notifications. John Wilkinson, Jr. discussed his growing up in Shreveport and his disability situation. Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. explained that he lived in the house, but the house failed an inspection due to the livable condition issues. Mr. Wilkins, Jr. discussed the zoning change of his residential property to a commercial zone to have a business in the area. Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. discussed his family history living in the formerly residential area where there is a Dollar General store and indicated that he had not received a notice about a zoning change. Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. discussed the displacement of children playing.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to extend Mr. Wilkinson, Jr.'s time for 3 minutes.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, and Young (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Lazarus (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. discussed emergency concerns to enter and exit his property due to the traffic of the commercial business. Mr. Hopkins indicated that the issue is with property standards and clarified that Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. responded to one of the three notices with Mr. Wilson. Mr. Hopkins clarified the difference between the zoning issue Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. mentioned and the property standards issue. Mr. Hopkins indicated that the three notices Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. received since May 2022 and that Mr. Wilkinson, Jr. must clear the property in the next 30 days or the Parish would do it.

Dana Elliott discussed Mr. Wilkinson, Jr.'s disability and suggested more time to work on the property. Mrs. Elliott discussed the authority to place a lien on a property for ten years if the Parish clears the property, which Mr. Hopkins addressed. Mrs. Elliot clarified the amount that the lien would be for and that she received quotes to have the property cleaned up. Mr. Hopkins indicated the property owner could consider going with the cheaper quote to clear the property. Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Young explained the process of the Parish clearing the property. Mr. Young requested Mrs. Bryant to have the Dollar Tree at Dixie Blanchard to clean up their commercial property. Mr. Epperson discussed the need for commercial properties to maintain property standards.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body sixty days for the property owner to clean up the property of 7720 Dixie Blanchard Rd., Shreveport, LA 71107 as well as the inclusion of all testimony and documentation into the permanent record.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, and Young (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Lazarus (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- Case #3- 0 Highway 1, Vivian, LA
Mr. Wilson presented case #3 to the Committee and recommended clearing the property.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to recommend to the full body the cleanup and demolition of 0 Highway 1, Vivian, LA as well as the inclusion of all testimony and documentation into the permanent record.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES:

Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- Case #4- 6548 Caspiana Lane, Keithville, LA 71047

Mr. Wilson provided a brief on the case #4. The property had a structurally sound trailer that needed to be sealed, two dilapidated sheds and an inoperable recreational vehicle with a carport covering junk beneath. The trailer is uninhabitable. The owners were sent proper notifications. Answering Mr. Young about having to hear the case again to clear the trailer, which Mr. Wilson indicated that the trailer was structurally sound but needed to be sealed. Mr. Lazarus indicated that he supports the recommendation to clear the rest of the property except the structurally sound trailer.

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to recommend to the full body thirty days for the property owners to seal up trailer, demolish carport and storage sheds and clean up the property of 6548 Caspiana Lane, Keithville, LA 71047 as well as the inclusion of all testimony and documentation into the permanent record.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- Case #5- 0 West Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Shreveport, LA 71107

Mr. Wilson provided a brief on the case #5. The property owner cleared the abandoned boat and had received 30 days to clear the barn, but the barn was not demolished. Mr. Wilson recommended to have the barn demolished. The property owner was provided all proper notifications.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to recommend to the full body the cleanup and demolition of 0 West Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Shreveport, LA 71107 as well as the inclusion of all testimony and documentation into the permanent record.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Blake, Burrell, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (6). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.



Linda J. Montgomery
Office Specialist I