

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF  
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION  
HELD ON THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2023

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 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, Lazarus, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1).

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

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to expand the agenda and add 2023 Flood Awareness Week Proclamation.*

The Chair 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 Chair closed the public hearing.

Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Cothran, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Public comment by Yolanda Rushall regarding fracking near their home. Mr. Young requested that Mrs. Bryant connect the citizen with Public Works to address their concern. Public comment Richard Dugens regarding launching a non-profit that uses shut-down schools as green facilities for homeless women and children. Mr. Young requested that the Administration assist Mr. Dugens.

**ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Regular Session Minutes August 3, 2023 be adopted.* Motion carried.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Special Resolution Of Recognition And Appreciation For Greenwood Acres Full Baptist Church be adopted.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Cothran, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION HONORING GREENWOOD ACRES FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the importance of community organizations that tirelessly contribute to the betterment of our local neighborhoods; and WHEREAS, it is with great honor and appreciation that we acknowledge Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Reginald Dodd, for their exceptional commitment to serving the citizens of Caddo Parish; and WHEREAS, Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church, established in the spirit of unity and faith, has consistently demonstrated an unwavering dedication to fostering spiritual growth, social harmony, and community empowerment; and WHEREAS, this esteemed institution has played a pivotal role in the lives of countless individuals, providing spiritual guidance, moral support, and a sense of belonging that has positively impacted the lives of many; and WHEREAS, Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church has actively engaged in many outreach programs, initiatives, and charitable activities that have directly addressed the needs of the less fortunate, uplifted the vulnerable, and promoted a culture of compassion, goodwill and civic involvement; and WHEREAS, through their commitment to education, mentorship, and youth development, Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church has shown a profound dedication to shaping the next generation of responsible citizens; and WHEREAS, their commitment to community-building is evident through the establishment of partnerships with local organizations, including the Parish of Caddo who is able to depend on them to serve as a site for the distribution of resources, supplies or information to help community members in need and improve the quality of life in Caddo Parish; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and achievements, that we extend our sincere gratitude to Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church for their exceptional service, leadership, and dedication to the betterment of our community. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be presented to Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church as a token of our appreciation and be shared with the wider community as a testament to their exemplary commitment to making Shreveport a better place for all.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that 2023 Flood Awareness Week Proclamation be adopted.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES:

Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Cothran, and Young (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Jones (5). ABSTAIN: None (0).

### **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes floods are one of the most common natural disasters in the United States and can happen anytime, threatening life, property and the economy; and WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has experienced widespread urban flooding due to high intensity precipitation events in recent years, When large amounts of rainfall come down in a short period of time; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo's future flood risk will increase as a result of rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of storms; and

WHEREAS the Parish of Caddo joins in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and participates In the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) whereby residents purchasing NFIP backed flood insurance can receive a discount; and

WHEREAS, Flood Awareness Week is intended to educate Louisianans as to the potential risk to life and property from flooding and to promote flood insurance and Safety precautions; and

WHEREAS, we ask all Caddo Parish citizens to observe Louisiana Flood Awareness Week by preparing their homes for floods, adhere to prudent land-use planning, including the purchase of flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to strengthening our flood mitigation strategies and management; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the professional staff from the Parish of Caddo and Caddo Parish Office of Homeland Security for the important role they play in making our public infrastructure more resilient and safer for residents every day and in times of disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, due in legal and regular session, that it does here by August 21, 2023 through August 25, 2023 as:

"LOUISIANA FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK 2023"

in Caddo Parish and hereby commend all persons who are committed to and work toward becoming a more resilient city.

### **COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mr. Cothran discussed meeting with the Community Foundation of North Louisiana, attending a Demotic Violence Taskforce meeting and a ride-along with the Parish property standards team and Councilman Dr. Jackson to review situations that needed to be addressed.

- Mr. Epperson discussed the paying \$564 for his wife's covid test and informed his congressional delegate and Dr. Whyte about the covid test cost. Mr. Epperson called a Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee meeting on September 5th at 2:30 p.m. Mr. Epperson reported that the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee meeting voted to have a Citizens Disaster Recovery and Review Committee to work with the Commission and agencies. The citizen committee would consist of one appointment from each district and one appointment from the administration. Mr. Epperson announced that Animal Services Assistant Director Mr. Kelvin Samuels was requested to speak at an event in Monroe. Mr. Epperson reported that the Veterans Celebration Comm has published their 2023 agenda and that their relationship with the State Fair was in good standing.

- Mr. Atkins reported that the Natural Resources Committee, Parish Attorney, Consultants and Public Works were working on the noise ordinance. The next Natural Resources Committee was scheduled for Monday August 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm to discuss the changes to the noise ordinance.

- Mr. Young requested the Administration to focus restoring the audio and visual system, which Mrs. Bryant acknowledged that the Parish is working with the City of Shreveport to upgrade the system.

- Mr. Epperson requested the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee to advise the public to attend the committee meetings. Mr. Atkins indicated that all committee meetings are public.

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- Mrs. Bryant provided the 2022 Financial Report to the Commission and announced that the Department of Finance completed the audit without any findings. Mrs. Bryant reported that the Amazon facility was on schedule to open in mid-2024. Mrs. Bryant reported that the Administration would issue RFPs around the beginning of October for the speed camera system and that the Administration would report to the Commission in 45 days. Mr. Patrick Wesley introduced Katina Williams as the new Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Robert Jump, Homeland Security, reported that Homeland Security is in disaster recovery, had documented 1100 impact points with 263 impacted citizens. Mr. Jump discussed qualifications for federal funding through the SBA and encouraged citizens who were impacted to reach out to the SBA. Mr. Burrell presented a special proclamation to Robert Jump.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Burrell discussed the unveiling of the voting rights mural event and the impact it has on the community. Mr. Burrell discussed the financial report having no audit findings.

### ***PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES***

The President of the Commission opened the public hearing for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 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*

Public comment by Jeremy Taylor in support of Ordinance No. 6346 of 2023. Mr. Taylor discussed his purpose for the property and that financial and land plans were unavailable. Mr. Clark addressed Mr. Cothran's inquiry about time stipulation on the property development.

There being no one else to speak in favor or against these ordinances, the President closed the public hearing on ordinances.

### ***ORDINANCES (for final passage)***

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Ordinance 6345 of 2023 be postponed to September 7, 2023 Regular Session. Motion failed*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson (5). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (5). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, and Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance 6345 of 2023 be postponed to September 21, 2023 Regular Session.*

Mr. Johnson discussed the courtesy to postpone an agenda item.

**Call for the Question by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus. Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (5). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (5). ABSENT: Commissioners Jackson, Jones (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young, (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Jones (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance 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 be adopted.*

Mr. Chavez discussed Mr. Taylor's vision for the property. Mr. Johnson discussed Mr. Taylor's local banking relationships, which Attorney Bernstein reported letters of support from banks regarding Mr. Taylor's property investment relationship with each bank. Mr. Jackson discussed the benefit

of the program and the proprietary status of financial information. Mr. Burrell discussed minority property developers in Shreveport.

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).

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 6346 of 2023**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION: 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 THIRTYFIVE (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 WHEREAS, Taylor Family Property, LLC has applied under Section 19-51 of the Code of Ordinances to acquire certain property adjudicated to the Parish for unpaid property taxes; WHEREAS, those properties are adjudicated to the Parish for unpaid property taxes; WHEREAS, the Parish is required to take full ownership interest in those properties prior to transferring them to Taylor Family Property, LLC; WHEREAS, taking full ownership interest under La. R.S. 47:2236 requires the Parish to duly adopt and record an ordinance declaring the Parish's intent to acquire full ownership of the subject properties; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that, pursuant to La. R.S. 47:2236, it does declare its intent to acquire the full ownership interest in the following described properties: a) Lot 33 and West 5.0 feet of Lot 34, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0099); b) The East 30.0 feet of Lot 35 and West 15.0 feet of Lot 36, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0100); c) The East 20.0 feet of Lot 37 and West 25.0 feet of Lot 38, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0115); d) Lot 32, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0032); e) The East 35.0 feet of Lot 34 and West 10.0 feet of Lot 35, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0110) f) Lot 30, Block C, Highland Park Subdivision (Geo. No. 181331-072-0030) BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Parish Administrator or his designee is directed to comply with the requirements of La. R.S. 47:2236, including but not limited to recordation of this ordinance, giving of notice in accordance with the statutes, filing of the notice, and filing of the affidavit in accordance with the statutes. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

#### **ZONING ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)**

- *Ordinance No. 6347 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 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*
- *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-Feet South Of Stagecoach Road C-2 Corridor Commercial Zoning District To I-2 Heavy Industrial Zoning District, And To Otherwise Provide With Respect Thereto*

#### **LOCAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)**

- *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*

**ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)**

- *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*
- *Ordinance 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*
- *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 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.*

**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Young, *that Work Session Minutes from August 14, 2023 be ratified. Motion carried.*

**COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS**

- Mr. Jackson requested the Administration to address citizens being asked to wait until January and that Parish staff does not discourage citizens from the Reinvest Caddo Program, which Mrs. Bryant addressed. Mr. Jackson indicated that the Commission Clerk does the work for the Commission and that the adjudicated property or Reinvest Caddo programs should not be directed to the Commission Clerk.
- Mr. Burrell discussed his efforts to create a consistent adjudicated property program across the State. Mr. Burrell requested that the staff over adjudicated property manage the program complaints.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

  
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Linda J. Montgomery  
Administrative Specialist I

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Roy Burrell  
President