

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 4th DAY OF MAY, 2023

The Caddo Parish Long Range Planning Committee met in legal session on the above date, at 2:05 p.m., in the Government Plaza First Floor Conference Room, with Mr. Johnson, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins Jackson, Johnson, and Young (7). ABSENT: None (0).

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

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to hear Ordinance No. 6317 of 2023 for 30 minutes before Discuss Parish Zoning and Rural Master Planning. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins and Young (4). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- Discuss Ordinance No. 6317 Of 2023, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for The Oil and Gas Fund to appropriate funds for a Caddo Community Lighthouse Pilot Project and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Mr. Chavez explained that competing organizations have identified an issue and offered a solution. Mr. Chavez explained the Parish is to determine whether to finance the solution. Mr. Chavez enquired about the Parish's responsibility to fully fund the program and suggested an alternative plan using a local generator to provide emergency power. Mr. Chavez explained that Gemini Energy Solutions at Antioch Baptist Church requested to receive funding for solar panels like the Caddo Community Lighthouse Pilot Project. Mr. Young suggested not to appropriate funds without organizations seeking funds from other sources. Mr. Jackson indicated that Antioch Baptist Church has a need to stabilize itself and that the solar project would not be a good fit. Mr. Johnson suggested the use of ARPA funds for the project under green infrastructure. Mr. Johnson indicated the benefit of the solar project in the event of natural disaster. The Lighthouse team addressed Mr. Hopkins' enquiry regarding housing shelters as part of the pilot project and the Lighthouse team's outreach plan to bring energy to households in need. Mr. Hopkins suggested that the Lighthouse Pilot Project be funded through green infrastructure ARPA dollars instead of the Oil & Gas Fund. Mr. Chavez suggested inviting Mr. Robert Jump from Homeland Security to discuss the GOHSEP (Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness) disaster plan.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to recommend Ordinance No. 6317 of 2023 to the full body.*

Mr. Johnson discussed the Homeland Security plans. Mr. Young requested to discuss ownership of the solar panels. Mr. Chavez requested that Legal research the best way to fund the Lighthouse Pilot Project, which Attorney Frazier addressed. The Committee and the Lighthouse team reviewed the cost of the project,

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to amend the title of Ordinance NO. 6317 of 2023 to include the option to consider ARPA dollars if applicable.*

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

- Discuss Parish Zoning and Rural Master Planning
Attorney Bernstein and the Committee discussed how the Caddo Parish had set the planning limit and reduced planning limits. The Committee discussed zoning districts and certain areas that did not want zoning. Attorney Frazier discussed zoning and planning laws and the importance of compliance. Mr. Young suggested the Parish does not need to zone the five-mile area, does not need to do a master plan or zone the unincorporated areas. Mr. Chavez indicated that the Parish could pay the City of Shreveport to copy their updated master plan for less. Mr. Johnson indicated the need for zoning. Mr. Jackson discussed future growth, being visionary of where growth could occur, and the importance of zoning. Mr. Hopkins discussed ensuring that the north Caddo unincorporated areas provide their input, because the UDC does not fit the rural area. Mr. Chavez and Mrs. Bryant discussed the budget for a master plan. Mr. Burrell and Dr. Wilson discussed the study of a three-mile radius of the I-49 interchanges, but not the entire rural part of the parish. Mr. Chavez requested that the Administration look into the City of Shreveport's master planning contractor.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

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