

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 3rd DAY OF JUNE, 2024

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. John Paul Young, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, and J. Young (9). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Thomas, and G. Young (3).

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

AGENDA ADDITIONS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that the agenda be expanded to add Special Resolution for Art Heals Day under New Business.*

There being no one to speak in favor or against the agenda addition, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. J. Young's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Kracman, Lazarus, and J. Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Jones, Thomas, and G. Young (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

This item was added as a New Business item. There were no Citizens Comments and no Visitors, so the Commission moved onto Reports.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Traffic Camera Update

Assistant Parish Administrator, Clay Walker, said that SB 302 became Act 103 with regards to traffic cameras. Legal will be examining this Act to determine whether or not they can maintain the current RFP.

- Juvenile Detention

Mr. Walker said that there are nineteen children in the Detention Center; three of which are OJJ. There is one 17-year old, and nineteen children at CCC. There are 576 children on probation.

- Juneteenth Holiday

Mr. Walker announced that the Governor has declared Wednesday, June 19 as the Juneteenth holiday. Parish facilities will be closed in observation of this day.

There were no Commission Remarks, so the Commission moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watt**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and move the following items to the June 20, 2024 Regular Session agenda for introduction/consideration and to cancel the June 6, 2024 Regular Session:*

- *Ordinance No. 6432 of 2024, 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 north side of East 70th Street, approximately 2,525' east of Bert Kouns Industrial Loop, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, from C-1, Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, to C-3, General Commercial Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6435 of 2024, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation for Compassion for Lives, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6436 of 2024, an ordinance outlining procedures for displaying flags at Caddo Parish facilities, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 38 of 2024, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Lease #19734 from BPX Operating Company to Cirrus Operating, LLC, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

- *Resolution No. 39 of 2024, a resolution to relocate the polling place for Precinct 5-8 from Werner Park Elementary School, 2715 Corbitt Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71108 to Caddo Heights Math/Science Elementary School, 1702 Corbitt Street, Shreveport, LA 71108, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 40 of 2024, a resolution to relocate the polling place for Precinct 7-8 from Sunset Acres Elementary School, 6514 West Canal Blvd, Shreveport, Louisiana 71108 to Westwood Elementary School, 7325 Jewella Avenue, Shreveport, Louisiana 71108, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 41 of 2024, a resolution honoring Flag Day in Caddo Parish and outlining procedures for displaying flags at Caddo Parish facilities, and otherwise providing with respect thereto.*
- *Resolution No. 42 of 2024, a resolution amending Resolution No. 35 of 2024 to extend Caddo Parish's War on Litter*
- *Special Resolution Recognizing the Northwood High School Track Team for their State Championship Relay*
- *Special Resolution for Juneteenth*
- *Special Resolution for the Let the Good Times Roll Festival*
- *Special Resolution for African American Music Month*
- *Special Resolution for Pride Month*
- *Selection of the Official Journal for the Parish of Caddo. Applications received from: The Caddo Citizen & Focus SB/The Inquisitor*
- *Special Resolution for Art Heals Day*

Mrs. Gage-Watts explained that there will not be a quorum for Thursday's Regular Session due to many of the Commissioners traveling for the NOBCO Convention.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Kracman, Lazarus, and J. Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Jones, Thomas, and G. Young (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Atkins asked to allow Mr. Rock to speak in regards to his zoning case. At this time, it was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to suspend the rules and allow General Rock to speak for five minutes relative to Ordinance No. 6432 of 2024. Motion carried by acclamation.*

General Rock came before the Commission and gave the following comment:

Thank you so much for working me in today. This was short notice for me as well. What you will have—what you are going to have in front of you on June 6th was an introduction to change some zoning of 2522 E. 70th Street. There is currently a business there now, Shreveport Little Works In Progress. There was some vacant land just to the east of it towards the Jimmy Davis Bridge. Its just large enough to put my small business, you know, there—which is a drive-thru coffee business. It's a franchise called, Scooters. Its drive-thru only. I think it was supposed to be voted on June 20th.

Mr. J. Young said that it will be for introduction on June 20, then a final vote in July.

General Rock continued:

For those of you that are unfamiliar with Scooters—headquartered in Omaha and have about 700 stores nationwide currently. They are fast spreading across the South. There's about a half a dozen open locations in Texas currently. The closest one—actually, there are two in Longview. There's another one that just started construction in Bossier. I have the rights to do two in southeast Shreveport. There's another owner's group currently that has about five different locations. They're trying to pick out regionally in some of the smaller towns, you know, nearby. So, if you don't know them yet, but within the next 24 months, you're going to get to know them really quite well. They're known for fast, friendly, drive-thru service. They do all espresso based drinks—typically reaching your commuter traffic in the morning, so we look for high-traffic flow areas to do that. Ours generally run from somewhere around 5:30 or 6:00 in the morning to around 8:00 or 9:00 in the night—it depends on the traffic that goes through it. They also have some snack items and some breakfast items like you would expect. In the afternoons, we'll do protein drinks and slushies and blends and all kinds of cold drinks, as well. It's not just coffee, but a lot of it is espresso-based drinks. My wife and I will be running and operating the business. I just retired from the Air Force. I've been in the community for forty years. I was an Airman Basic when I showed up January 9,

1984. I was fortunate enough to retire as a 1 Star on September 29 of this year. Thirty-six of those forty years were spent in the Air Force Reserve. I have a financial services business in town that I've had for thirty-five years in Shreveport. I own another business in Benton. It's Benton Storage. I've had it for fifteen years. I felt like I needed something to do in retirement—or what I affectionally refer to as graduation. So, we're just graduating onto a couple of Scooters here locally. One of the reasons I decided to do Scooters was not just because I needed something to do, but because I spent the last fourteen years mentoring young people from every background imaginable. It's something that I enjoy doing—I spent three hours last night at a local restaurant mentoring a Colonel from Barksdale last night, so I still do it. I'm going to do it regardless. Somebody gave me a chance when I was fourteen years old, and then I met a professional that gave me another opportunity when I was around 19 or 20, and it completely changed my life. It completely changed my vision of what I thought I could achieve in my life. I never one time thought I could retire as a Brigadier General. I want to be able to do that for other young people. That's who primarily who will be pulling into our businesses. Each one of those will have approximately twenty people working for them—mostly part-time. We'll typically have one full-time manager that does occasionally. That's it for my public address and announcement, but I'm happy to take any questions.

The Commission went back in to regular order by acclamation.

COMMUNIQUES/ COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson announced that June 6, 2024 will be the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion. He also announced that the U.S. Army's 249th Birthday is on June 14.
- Mr. Atkins congratulated Mr. Cothran and his wife on their marriage. Mr. Cothran thanked everyone who could attend.
- The Commission Clerk's Office student workers, Finesse, Jacob, and Nevin, introduced themselves to the Commissioners.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 6425 of 2024, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, relative to short-term rental property, with all their provisions included herein, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 3:50 p.m.


Assistant to the Commission Clerk