

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
PUBLIC SAFETY AD HOC COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 8TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2024

The Caddo Parish Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee met in legal session on the above date at 2:00 p.m., in the Government Plaza Chambers, with Mr. Epperson, presiding, and the following members in attendance: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (5). ABSENT: None (0).

Mr. J. Young gave the invocation, and Mrs. Gage-Watts led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no Agenda Additions or Public Comments, so the Committee moved onto New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Discussion on the War on Litter, clean up days, Tire Amnesty Day, blight remediation, and other matters related to environmental nuisances and hazards*

Mr. Epperson started the discussion with the War on Litter. He asked that each Commissioner be in accordance in carrying out what is stated in Resolution No. 35 of 2024. He said that you should clean your house whether you have company coming over or not. Mr. Epperson said that this is a never-ending task. There are seventeen compactor sites, yet there is so much trash and litter all over the Parish. He suggested getting with businesses to help with keeping the trash out of the roadways.

The compactor sites will take 5 tires at one time, he said. The tires are a public safety hazard and are breeders for mosquitos. Businesses who are collecting fees to dispose tires should be fined if they are not disposing of them properly. All hands should be on deck for litter and blight, he said. There needs to be a consistent press release and education on cleaning up the Parish.

Mr. Epperson suggested that there be two major cleanup days for Caddo Parish per year.

Mrs. Gage-Watts receives several calls about tires and all the issues that come with improper disposal of tires. She said that there are several complaints about trash and tires on Raspberry Lane.

She would like a cleanup day be scheduled for the third week of September, then another cleanup day thirty days following this. Mr. Epperson said that the third week in September falls on September 20th.

Mr. G. Young wanted to know what type of costs would be associated with this. Mrs. Bryant said that this can be promoted through social media, but there could be an additional cost for more advertising. Administration would have to come up with a cost because Solid Waste monies cannot be used within incorporated areas.

Mr. G. Young asked about compactor sites. Mrs. Bryant said that all of the compactor sites are outside the city limits. Mr. G. Young then asked about the costs of dumpsters. Mrs. Bryant said that it may need to go through the budget process, depending on the costs. She said that she will work with the Commissioners to coordinate dumpster sites.

Mr. G. Young mentioned that dead end roads are attractive for people who litter or dead bodies. He suggested putting up concrete barriers.

Mr. J. Young asked for an update on the constables/JOPs with regards to litter. Attorney Frazier said that they are scheduling a training session.

Mrs. Bryant asked that this Committee provide a resolution asking administration to support the event. They would then establish a process and the logistics for the cleanup days.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. G. Young, *for Administration to be able to move forward with Tire Amnesty Day and clean up days to be scheduled quarterly.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that a young lady was killed in her district, and she was found in a grassy area. These areas are overgrown and full of litter.

She would like literature and education to be available for the citizens to learn more about how to clean up their neighborhoods and the effects of litter on a community.

Mr. Epperson said that community volunteers can help with these days. He suggested that this committee set one date, September 20, then work out the logistics for the future clean up days.

Friendly amendment by Mr. Epperson to hold the first cleanup day September 20-21. Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed and suggested that the hours be from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Bryant said that Shreveport Green can dispose of hazardous household goods. Mrs. Gage-Watts suggested that they run this congruently with the cleanup days. Attorney Frazier pointed out that they need to get an outside agency for the hazardous household goods, i.e. paint.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Epperson, Gage-Watts, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (5). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. J. Young suggested that a webpage be put on the website to advertise the cleanup days. Mrs. Bryant said that an ongoing program will come with a cost. She reiterated that Solid Waste dollars cannot be used inside of Shreveport and Vivian. She would need to research and come up with an estimated cost.

Mr. Epperson then talked about dead end streets. Mr. G. Young would like dead end streets shut down or have some type of surveillance. He asked Administration for help to develop a plan. Mrs. Bryant said that street closures have to go through the Commission body by ordinance to close streets down. Mr. Epperson suggested signage and deer cameras for these dead-end roads.

Mr. Epperson would like the litter signs to be a different color to get people's attention. Mrs. Bryant will ask if the current equipment at the sign shop can handle this request.

Mr. Epperson also said that he provided literature and education to students during the back to school nights.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that taking every opportunity to be in front of the citizens and educating the children of taking care of your space and not littering.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk