MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSON
HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF OCTOBER, 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. J. Young, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Blake, Burrell, Cothran, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jones, Kracman, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and Mr. J. Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given during a previous committee meeting. There were no Agenda Additions, Citizens Comments, nor Visitors, so the Commission moved onto the Administrator Report.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Juvenile Detention

Parish Administrator, Erica Bryant, said that there are nineteen children in the Detention Center; one of which is OJJ. There is one 17-year old, and sixteen children at CCC. There are 469 children on probation.

- CAPRA National Accreditation—Caddo Parks & Recreation

Mrs. Bryant announced that the Caddo Parish Parks & Recreation Department is now nationally accredited.

Mr. Wesley thanked the Commission for their support in the process of the Parks & Recreation Department's work towards becoming accredited. He also thanked his A-Team staff for all of their hard work through these past few years.

Mr. Cothran, Mr. Jones, Mr. Burrell, Mr. Thomas, Mrs. Gage-Watts, and Mr. Epperson all congratulated Mr. Wesley and his staff on their accreditation. Accolades were given to their customer service skills, community service skills, and thinking outside of the box as it relates to programs to increase the quality of life in Caddo Parish.

- 2024 September Financials

Mrs. Bryant said that the 2024 September Financials are attached to the agenda, as well as, being placed at each Commissioners' station.

- Budget Introduction on October 31

Mrs. Bryant reminded the Commission that the Budget Introduction is scheduled for October 31, 2024.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Epperson asked for a synopsis on the bills for the Governor's Special Session in November. He asked that this be sent to him and the Commissioners prior to the PJAL Regional Meeting.

- Mr. Burrell asked for an update on broadband for the rural areas. He also would like Dr. Whyte to provide an update on the biohazards for Fairgrounds Field. He does not want the biohazards to affect the surrounding neighborhoods.

- Mr. Atkins wanted to know if there was a process to fill out the staff in the Legal Department. Attorney Frazier said that they are working on it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. J. Young would like the resolution regarding Fairgrounds Field to be discussed further in the Long Range Planning Committee. Mr. J. Young said that the bats from the stadium have been displaced and encouraged all to check their attics for bats. He asked that Animal Services put together a document about what to do if they find bats in their attics. He also asked anyone who would like to discuss his feelings on a matter to reach out to him prior to discussing those matters.

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. J. Young,** seconded by Mr. Jones, *that Resolution No. 65 of 2024, a resolution expressing the support of the Caddo Parish Commission for the efforts to renovate and improve Fairgrounds Field and the efforts of the Friends of the Fairgrounds Field towards that goal, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be remanded to the Long Range Planning Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Thomas,** seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 6469 of 2024, an ordinance adopting the budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Shreve Memorial Library Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Substitute motion by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the following ordinances be moved to Thursday's Regular Session for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 6469 of 2024, an ordinance adopting the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Shreve Memorial Library for the year 2025*

- *Ordinance No. 6470 of 2024, an ordinance to deem property surplus and to authorize the transfer of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo to Town of Greenwood, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6471 of 2024, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose millages providing for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2024 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6472 of 2024, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose millages providing for an increase in the millage rates not in excess of the prior years maximum rates, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2024 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6473 of 2024, an ordinance to donate surplus property under Chapter 19, Article II, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinances relative to donation of adjudicated property acquired by the Parish under LA. R.S. 47:2236 et seq., to authorize the donation of property to Friends of Friends, Inc., and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6474 of 2024, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund to provide an additional appropriation for the Safe Summer Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6475 of 2024, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish under LA. R.S. 47:2236 to acquire full ownership interest in six parcels of property identified by Caddo Parish Tax Assessor's geographical numbers 171402-127-0038-00, 181437-055-0010-00, 181437-068-0043-00, 181437-122-0024-00, 171401-158-0002-00, and 171423-054-0001-00 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Ordinance No. 6476 of 2024, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish under LA. R.S. 47:2236 to acquire full ownership interest in a parcel of property identified by Caddo Parish Tax Assessor's geographical number 181435-128- 0054-00 and described as Lot 54 and one half adjacent abandoned alley, Boisseau Annex, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Mr. Cothran asked for more clarification on Ordinance No. 6473 of 2024. Mr. Thomas explained the process of Reinvest Caddo. He also provided a handout to the Commissioners for reference.

Mr. William Talton, Public Works, came before the Commission and further explained that these properties are adjudicated. He also explained that there is no specified timeframe based on legislation. Mr. Cothran understood.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' substitute motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by Mr. G. Young,** seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6477 of 2024, an ordinance to adopt Chapter 2, Article V, Division 4 of the Parish Code of Ordinances relative to Parish contracts, to provide for the payment of a living wage by contractors with the Parish, to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be postponed to the November 18, 2024 Work Session. Motion carried unanimously.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts,** seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the following items be advanced to Thursday's Regular Session for consideration:*

- *Resolution No. 69 of 2024, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale, and conveyance of State Agency Lease 2775 from Palo9ma Natural Gas, LLC, to BPX Operating Company, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

- *Resolution No. 70 of 2024, a resolution adopting a citizen participation plan for the CDBG Program*

- *Resolution No. 71 of 2024, a resolution creating the Citizens Film & Entertainment Advisory Board and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Joint Proclamation for Veterans Celebration Committee*

- *Special Resolution of Recognition to SFD*

- *Reappointment of David Hoey to the Northwest Louisiana Human Services District. Term to expire October 20, 2027*

Mr. Epperson reminded everyone that the Joint Proclamation signing will be held on November 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion to englobo carried unanimously.

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus,** seconded by Mr. Thomas, *that the appointment of Caddo Parish Sewerage District No. 8 Board member* be postponed to the December 2, 2024 Work Session. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mrs. Blake reminded everyone that Caddo Parish is currently in a burn ban.

- Mr. Thomas wished his mother a Happy Birthday.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ordinance No. 6465 of 2024, an ordinance amending the Budgets of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Building Maintenance Fund, Capital Improvement Fund I, Oil & Gas Fund, Public Works Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Parks & Recreation Fund, Juvenile Justice Fund, Heath Tax Fund, General Fund, Detention Facilities Fund, and the Capital Outlay Fund for the year 2024 to terminate completed or lapsed capital projects, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Ordinance No. 6466 of 2024, an ordinance to amend Article VI of Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo relative to Section 26-189, Schedule I, No Truck Zones, on Brown Street and Coley Road and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Ordinance No. 6467 of 2024, an ordinance to authorize the purchase of the surface parking lot, located at Texas at McNeill Streets, Shreveport, Louisiana, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Ordinance No. 6468 of 2024, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties, 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 4:12 p.m.

J. Nations

Assistant to the Commission Clerk