

TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES
AUGUST 5, 2020 – Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council for the Town of Addis was called to order by Mayor Toups at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Mrs. Bliss k. Bernard.

Mayor Toups asked for a moment of silence to remember former Addis Mayor, Mr. Carroll P. Bourgeois who recently passed away.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilors Wilson Cazes; Tate Acosta; Rusty Parrish.

Absent: Councilors Kevin LeBlanc; Rhonda Kelley

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of July 1, 2020 were approved as presented on a motion by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Parrish and unanimously adopted by those present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A discussion was held with Mr. Dennis Carlin with All Star Land, LLC on the development of the 16th Filing Phase II in Sugar Mill Subdivision. It was decided that a Special Meeting could be held contingent upon the completion and receipt of required documents on the Final Plat Check List.

Mrs. Bliss Kelley Bernard announced her candidacy for Town Council in the upcoming election. Mayor Toups thanked Mrs. Bernard on her interest in running for Council and her interest in the wellbeing of the Community.

Mr. Tim Poirrier asked about the status of a solution to solve the flooding issue that is currently occurring on his property. A lengthy discussion was held on the various problems with drainage from First Street to the Railroad. Mayor Toups advised that the Council is continuing to work to resolve the issue.

Mr. Ray LeJeune announced his candidacy for Town Council in the upcoming election. Mayor Toups thanked Mr. Ray on his interest in serving the Town of Addis.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Toups did not have any correspondence to share.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2019 AUDIT REPORT – STACI JOFFRION, BAXLEY & ASSOCIATES LLC.** - Mrs. Staci Joffrion with Baxley & Associates provided an overview of the 2019 Audit report stating that there were no findings and that the Town of Addis is in a great financial position. She thanked Mrs. Simpson, Mr. Smith and Mayor Toups for their assistance in making the audit run smoothly. Mayor Toups thanked Ms. Joffrion for her presentation and congratulated the Town Council and employees for a clean audit and a job well done.
- **WEST BATON ROUGE PARKS & RECREATION TAX RENEWAL** - Mr. Anatole Vincent and Mr. Jason Manola of West Baton Rouge Parish provided important information on the upcoming tax renewal for WBR Parks & Recreation. He advised that the election is scheduled for August 15th and asked that the Town help spread the word. Mr. Vincent and Mr. Manola thanked Mayor Toups and the Council for giving them the opportunity to speak and asked that everyone consider supporting the tax renewal.

- **TRIPPE HAWTHORNE, SPECIAL COUNSEL** - Mayor Toups advised that there are presently some highly technical and highly contract generated circumstances involved in the solution of some issues within the sewer rehab project. He asked the Town's Attorney, Mr. Larpenteur to introduce Mr. Trippe Hawthorne, Special Counsel, who is an expert in contracts. Mr. Hawthorne is associated with the law firm of Kean Miller in Baton Rouge. A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Parrish to authorize Mayor Toups to sign a contract with Mr. Trippe Hawthorne, Attorney, to assist the Town of Addis with the issues associated with the YMCA Force Main Sewer Project. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.
- **SUGAR MILL PARK – SHADE & CONCRETE QUOTE** – Following a brief discussion and review of the submitted quotes from GameTime and JR Construction Solutions, a motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to expend funds, approximately \$25,000.00, for the addition of concrete parking and a shade cover at Sugar Mill Park. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.
- **2020-2021 HIGHWAY GRASS MOWING – ADVERTISE FOR BIDS** - A motion authorizing Mayor Toups to advertise for 2020-2021 Highway 1 Grass Cutting Bids was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor Acosta and adopted unanimously by those present.
- **TRAILER ABATEMENT – 5037 MYRLE DRIVE** - A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to start the abatement process to remove the abandoned trailer located at 5037 Myrle Street. The motion was unanimously adopted by those present.
- **MUNICODE MEETINGS UPDATE** - Mrs. Simpson provided an update on the web-based meeting platform that the Council approved to move forward with in 2019. She informed the Council that moving forward all meeting packets/documents would be sent electronically and no longer printed and mailed.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Engineer Report: No report was provided.

Parish Council Report: Parish Representative, Mr. Chris Kershaw asked for support of WBRP Parks & Recreation Tax Renewal in the upcoming election on August 15th. Mr. Kershaw also advised that the water line being run from Port Allen to Addis has been completed to Brusly with plans to complete the line to Addis by the end of the year. Mr. Jason Manola advised that there are approximately 4,000 students enrolled in West Baton Rouge Parish schools, which includes close to 1,000 who chose to enroll in the WBRP Virtual Academy. A general discussion was held on the new school building and various plans for the coming year.

Police Report: The monthly Police report for July, given by Chief Anderson included: 216 traffic citations issued; 10 misdemeanor arrests; 1 felony arrests; 6 vehicle accidents worked. The misdemeanor arrests were: 1-disturbance; 2 Simple Battery; 2 DWI; 3 traffic; 2 narcotics. The felony arrest was 1 cruelty to animals.

Sewer | Public Works Report: Phil Smith, DPW advised that for the month of July, the Sewer & Sanitation Department had 75 calls for Residential and Commercial Equipment and 23 calls on lift station equipment. Other services included 1 electrical relocation; 174 LA One call tickets completed and 17 new Construction Tie-in Inspections for a total of 192 calls for Other Services.

Planning & Zoning Commission: Revision of the Planning & Zoning Bylaws was discussed.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to introduce an Ordinance 2020-3, which revises the Town's Subdivision Ordinance; particularly street lighting requirements. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance : A motion to pay all bills found in order was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor Acosta and adopted unanimously by those present with no questions or comments from the Council or Public. The monthly budget to actual expenditures and income was reviewed with no adverse comments or opposition from the Council or the Public.

Police: None

Personnel: Phil Smith, DPW advised that he will soon begin interviewing for the Public Works Laborer position.

Sewer: None

Drainage: None

Buildings: The Town Hall Building Committee continues to meet with Tipton Associates to review design plans.

Streets and Roads: Bids on the 2020 Road Project were received and opened on July 6th. A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to accept the lowest bid submitted by Barriere Construction Company in the amount of \$341,730.00; and also authorizing Mayor Toups to sign the contract and any other pertinent documents which are required. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations and potential litigation, was made by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Acosta and adopted unanimously by those present. A motion to return to regular session was made by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Acosta and adopted unanimously by those present. Again, Mayor Toups advised that the Executive Session was held to discuss property negotiations and potential litigation.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Toups announced again that there would be no Live at Five events this Fall due to COVID-19.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. on a motion by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes and adopted unanimously by those present.

JADE V. SIMPSON, TOWN CLERK

DAVID H. TOUPS, MAYOR