

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAFAYETTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF LAFAYETTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 22, 2023 HELD AT 705 W. UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LAFAYETTE, LA.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL: Josh Carlson (Chair, District 3), Bryan Tabor (Vice-Chair, District 1), Kevin Naquin (District 2), John Guilbeau (District 4) and Abraham “AB” Rubin (District 5)

ABSENT: None

COUNCIL STAFF: Veronica L. Arceneaux (Clerk of the Council), Joseph Gordon-Wiltz (Assistant Clerk of the Council) and Jeremy J. Swiney (Senior Administrative Assistant)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: Joshua Guillory (Mayor-President), Cydra Wingerter (Chief Administrative Officer), Lowell Duhon (Interim Chief Financial Officer), and Paul Escott (Assistant City-Parish Attorney)

(4:31:00) **COMMENCEMENT**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to order

Chair Carlson called the Regular Parish Council Meeting of August 22, 2023 to order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair called upon Councilmember Tabor to cite the invocation and called upon Councilmember Guilbeau, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME AND CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carlson made the following announcements:

- Wished Warren Abadie, Director of Traffic, Roads and Bridges a Happy Birthday, which he celebrates on September 4th.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guilbeau announced that he attended a forum on health equity this past Friday and that they did an excellent job bringing this to the community.

Rubin payed homage to a great guy, Earl Nicky Picard, who did many great things. He requested prayers for the Picard family.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: EXECUTIVE/MAYOR-PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Guillory noted that the Governor has issued an emergency order due to the excessive heat temperatures and that there are local resources available for those in need. He further announced

the temporary opening of a cooling station at the Domingue Center.

REPORT AND/OR DISCUSSION ITEM

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Update on the Northeast Regional Library

Sarah Monroe, Library Administrator, reviewed the land acquisition status noting that the intended property is available for \$339,000 but the Library Board’s vote to purchased failed yesterday. She further noted the projected timeline of completion to be 2027/2028, if actions move forward with the purchase very soon. She finally stated that with increased construction costs the project scope would need to be decreased or funding would need to be increased.

Larry Angelle, Library Operations Manager, stated that the Library is currently on track to be able to afford the operations costs for the new facility.

The Lafayette Parish Council shared their frustrations with the Library Board for not moving forward with the property purchase, their annoyance with the lack of progress on this project, the community’s need for this library, and requested that the Library Board call a special meeting as soon as possible to approve the property purchase.

Robert Judge, Library Board President, defended his ‘no’ vote on purchasing property stating that he favored the lease option to quickly provide services to the community.

Kerry Williams, Mary Guercio, Anne Laughlin, Lynette Mejia, Andrew Duhon, Alton Trahan, Nell Hahn, Claire Delcambre, Melany Champagne, Christine Menard, Marja Broussard, Whalen Gibbs, Nureaka Ross and Francesco Crocco all spoke in favor of the NE Regional Library and the purchase of the land.

Wayne Colvin spoke in opposition to the new library.

Three (3) citizens signed in, in support of the Northeast Regional Library, but did not wish to speak.

(5:55:00) Motion to extend the meeting 30 minutes by Tabor, seconded by Naquin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion to extend meeting until 6:30 was approved.

ORDINANCE FOR FINAL ADOPTION

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: PO-050-2023 An ordinance of the Lafayette Parish Council authorizing the Lafayette Mayor-President to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government and the City of Scott concerning assistance with various maintenance issues, motion to adopt by Guilbeau, seconded by Tabor, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Motion to adopt was approved.

JOINT ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ADOPTION

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: JO-047-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council authorizing the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government to sell at public auction and public internet auction surplus vehicles, equipment and other miscellaneous moveable property which are no longer needed for public purposes, as per the attached list (Public Auction and Public Internet Auction), motion to adopt by Naquin, seconded by Guilbeau, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Motion to adopt was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: JO-051-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council authorizing the Lafayette Mayor-President to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement on behalf of the Parish of Lafayette, the City of Lafayette, and Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government with McComb-Veazey Neighborhood and Lafayette Habitat for Humanity, Inc. concerning oversight of funds budgeted for neighborhood redevelopment, motion to adopt by Guilbeau, seconded by Rubin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Motion to adopt was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: JO-052-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council authorizing the Non-Warranty Donation of various properties to McComb-Veazey Neighborhood, a qualified non-profit, pursuant to La. R.S. 47:2205, motion to adopt by Tabor, seconded by Guilbeau, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Motion to adopt was approved.

Tina Shelvin Bingham spoke on behalf of McComb-Veazy Neighborhood and reviewed prior and current neighborhood projects, McComb-Veazy's partnership with Habitat for Humanity, and noted that all of the properties in the ordinance should be improved and back in commerce within the next three (3) years.

Melinda Taylor signed in, in support of the ordinance, to answer any questions. There were no

questions.

One (1) citizen signed in, in support of the ordinance, but did not wish to speak.

INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

A motion to introduce agenda items 10-11, in globo, was offered by Naquin, seconded by Guilbeau.

- 10. PO-051-2023 An ordinance of the Lafayette Parish Council amending the FY 22/23 operating budget of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government by increasing the Use of Prior Year Fund Balance in Fund 105 Parish General Fund in the amount of \$42,298 and appropriating within the Registrar of Voters Office.
- 11. PO-052-2023 An ordinance of the Lafayette Parish Council amending the FY 22/23 capital budget of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government by transferring \$1,250,000 in American Rescue Plan/21-Parish 651 Funds from the War Memorial Health & Safety Updates account to the Milton VFD Match account (\$62,500) and to the Homewood Enhancements/Parish Recreation & Parks Improvements account (\$1,187,500) and appropriating within the Fire Department and the Public Works Department.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Comments from the public concerning the above introductory ordinance.

Item #11: Simon Hays shared his concerns regarding the Homewood project and the need for the property to be kept safe and maintained.

The Chair then called for a vote to introduce the ordinances (items 10-11), in globo, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion to introduce, in globo, was approved.

JOINT INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

A motion to introduce agenda items 13-15, in globo, was offered by Naquin, seconded by Rubin.

- 13. JO-053-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council amending the FY 22/23 operating budget and adjusting manning tables of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government by increasing the use of Prior Year Fund 101 (City General Fund) Fund Balance by \$2,614 and increasing the use of Prior Year Fund 105 (Parish General Fund) Fund Balance by \$1,287 to implement an increase in the salary of elected judges of the City Court of Lafayette, Louisiana to correspond with a statewide judicial salary increase.
- 14. JO-054-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council amending the FY 22/23 operating budget and adjusting the manning tables of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government by moving two (2) Compliance Inspector positions and

one (1) Clerk III position from the Codes Division to the Compliance Division within the Community Development and Planning Department.

15. JO-055-2023 A joint ordinance of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette Parish Council providing for the abandonment of a ten (10') foot by ten (10') foot utility niche on Lots H-2 and H-3 of the Village of River Ranch, Phase XI-A and the Village of River Ranch Office Park, Phase II Subdivision, located at 1240 and 1244 Camellia Boulevard.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Comments from the public concerning the above introductory ordinance.

Item #13: Judge Jules Edwards and Judge Douglas Saloom signed in to speak in support of the ordinance and to answer any questions. There were no questions.

Two (2) citizens signed in, in support of Item #13, but did not wish to speak.

The Chair then called for a vote to introduce the joint ordinances (items 13-15), in globo, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Tabor, Naquin, Carlson, Guilbeau, Rubin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion to introduce, in globo, was approved.

(6:20:00) **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chair Carlson declared the Regular Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Veronica L. Arceneaux
VERONICA L. ARCENEUX,
LAFAYETTE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL