TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES

April 6, 2022 – REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council for the Town of Addis was called to order by Mayor David Toups at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at the Addis Municipal Center. The pledge to the flag was led by Mr. Tom Acosta, Jr.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilors Bliss Bernard, Ray Lejeune Sr. and Rhonda Kelley

Absent: Councilors Leblanc and Parrish

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 2, 2022 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Addis Officer, Christopher Graves expressed his concerns regarding the extremely high grass along Highway 1 between Brusly and Addis (Lukeville area) stating that it is a safety hazard for motorcyclist. Mayor Toups advised that he would reach out to LA-DOTD regarding the concern.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**TIER III FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS – DUE MAY 16TH:** Mayor Toups reminded the Council members and Chief Anderson of the May 16TH deadline for filing their reports.

**LMA DISTRICT H MEETING – TUESDAY, JUNE 14th :** Mayor Toups advised that as District H Vice President he must host the annual meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Addis Community Center. Formal invitations will be sent out soon.

**LMA 85TH ANNUAL CONVENTION – LAFAYETTE, LA:** Mayor Toups advised that the 85th Annual Convention will take place in Lafayette and is scheduled to begin Thursday, July 28th through Thursday, July 31st. He noted that rooms have been secured and asked the members of the Council to check their schedules and let him know as soon as possible if they are planning to attend.

**NEW MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE – PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Mayor Toups advised that there are six public meetings scheduled to review and discuss the current possible bridge placements. One in which will be held on Wednesday, April 27th from 5-7pm, at the Addis Community Center. He encouraged everyone to attend.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**FIRST STREET DRAINAGE PROJECT STATUS:** DPW, Phil Smith provided an update on the final construction plans. Hoping to advertise for bids after the May meeting is approved by members of the Council after review of plans.

**ADDIS MUSEUM:** Councilor Bernard advised that herself, Mayor Toups and Phil met with Sid Gray which is a Historic Building Consultant and they found out that there is no moisture in the building. The layer of bricks on the outside of the building does need to be sealed. Planning to leave the internal brick wall exposed and have the windows reframed. Councilor Bernard thanked Mayor Toups & Phil for being so proactive.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OPEN CONTAINER PERMIT – ROCKIN’ ON THE RAILROAD:** The open container permit for the 2022 Spring ROCKIN’ ON THE RAILROAD events was approved on a motion made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Bernard and adopted unanimously by those present.

**LA-DOTD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – LITTER & GRASS CUTTING:** The contract between the Town of Addis and LA-DOTD for the maintenance of grass and debris along LA 1 within the Town limits was presented by Mayor Toups and reviewed. The contract is for a one-year period with reimbursements up to $6,860 to be made by DOTD on a semi-annual basis. A motion approving Mayor Toups to sign the 2022-2023 Maintenance Agreement (including mowing and litter pick-up) between the Town of Addis and the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor LeJeune and adopted unanimously by those present.

**WBR HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION – SALES TAX RENEWAL:** Tom Acosta, West Baton Rouge Historical Association President, advised that on April 30, 2022, West Baton Rouge voters will decide whether to renew a 2-mil property tax to support the West Baton Rouge Museum for another 10 years. He informed everyone that it is a tax renewal, not an increase. He noted that West Baton Rouge homeowners with a home valued at $250,000 pay $35/year to support the West Baton Rouge Museum. In exchange, they get free access to 90+ events per year, including museum admission, year-round exhibits, community-minded programming, educational opportunities, and entertainment. Early voting is April 16-23rd and every vote is important.

**2022 ROAD REHAB PROJECT – NOVUS REB ENGINEERING COST PROPOSAL:** A motion to approve the engineering cost proposal for Novus Reb Engineering was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor Lejeune and adopted unanimously by those present.

**2022 ROAD REHAB PROJECT – CONSTRUCTION PLAN REVIEW:** Following review and discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor Lejeune approving the 2022 Road Project Construction plans as presented by Novus Reb Engineering with a total estimated construction cost of $680,000; and authorizing Mayor Toups to advertise for bids and sign all required documents. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.

**DAVID MESSINA:** A motion authorizing Mayor Toups to write a letter contingent upon review & approval from the town attorney, in regards to Mr. Messina’s ditch relocation on his private property located at 5386 Lorraine Street, was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Lejeune and adopted unanimously by those present.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**ENGINEER REPORT:** No report.

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:**Mayor Toups advised that the March meeting minutes were included in the packet for review. No action items to discuss.

**PARISH COUNCIL REPORT:** No report.

**POLICE REPORT:** The March 2022 police report, given by Chief Anderson, consisted of 290 traffic citations issued; 12 misdemeanor arrests; 4 felony arrest; 5 vehicle crashes and 145 calls for service. The misdemeanor arrest included: Warrants (9), DWI w/accident (1), Reckless Operation of a MV (1), Flight from an Officer (1) and MISD Theft (1). The felony arrests included: Possession w/Intent to Distribute Marijuana (1), Possession of Schedule 2 - Meth (1), Possession of Stolen Firearm (1), Public Bribery (1) and Felony Warrant (1).

**PUBLIC WORKS/SEWER REPORT -** Phil Smith reported that for the month of March 2022 there were 38 residential/commercial control panel issues, 38 residential/commercial tank issues, 0 sewer plant issue, 20 collection system issues, 5 new inspections, 100 dig tickets and 201 total calls. He advised that all things ran very well in March and the wastewater treatment plant has been running exceptionally smooth. The Ditch Witch trencher that was ordered in 2021 is finally set for delivery. He ordered the “Caution Deaf Child in Area” sign for Peter Messina; filled potholes with cold mix as needed; cut all primary drainage ditches and installed culverts at three residential ditches per request. A motion to declare scrap items surplus was made by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor Bernard and adopted unanimously by those present.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES**

**None**

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE:**

1. **Pay Bills Found in Order:** A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor Bernard and adopted unanimously by those present.
2. **Monthly Budget to Actual Reports:** The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no comments.
3. **Provost Salter Harper & Alford, LLC (PSHA) –** **2022 Engagement Letter:** The Provost Salter Harper & Alford, LLC. (PSHA) engagement letter outlining the Accounting/Bookkeeping services for 2022 was reviewed and approved on a motion made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Lejeune and adopted unanimously.

**POLICE:** Chief advised that the department received the four new Ford Explorers.

**PERSONNEL:** DPW, Phil Smith advised that the advertisements for the Public Works Laborer and Class III Wastewater Supervisor have been published in the West Side Journal. The deadline to submit applications is Monday, April 25th.

**SEWER:** No report.

**DRAINAGE:** No report.

**BUILDINGS:** No report.

**STREETS AND ROADS:** No report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Bernard and adopted unanimously.

/s/ Jade V. Simpson ­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_ /s/ David H. Toups\_

JADE V. SIMPSON, TOWN CLERK DAVID H. TOUPS, MAYOR