TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES

May 4, 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, May 4, 2022 at the Addis Municipal Center. The pledge to the flag was led by Mr. Brady Mabile.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilors Rhonda Kelley, Kevin LeBlanc and Rusty Parrish

Absent: Councilors Bernard and Lejeune

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 6, 2022 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

A motion to add an Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Toups shared that the first Rockin’ on the Railroad event was well attended and everything ran smooth. Next event is scheduled for Friday, May 13th.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CORY CROCHET – SEWER SYSTEM VARIANCE REQUEST – 3128 DAIRY LANE:** Mr. Crochet presented his request for a sewer system variance at 3128 Dairy Lane. He advised the Council that a mobile home was recently moved on the property but due to the high river levels the Town of Addis cannot install the permanent sewer system needed in order for the homeowner to move in. He is asking for a variance to install a temporary holding tank provided by River Parish Portables. He advised that with the Council’s approval, he will have (3) 250-gallon tanks installed and serviced twice or more per week. Mr. Crochet has spoken to the adjacent neighbors and will provide a signed letter showing their approval. Phil Smith, Public Works Superintendent advised that the Town has received the sewer installation fees from the homeowner and there is a tank on hand that will be installed as soon as the river levels drop enough and it’s safe to dig. A motion to approve the sewer system variance request for temporary sewer service at 3128 Dairy Lane was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.

**UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD MEETING RECAP:** Mayor Toups advised that a meeting was held with Union Pacific Railroad management, West Baton Rouge Parish officials and our Louisiana Senators & Representatives to discuss the ongoing issues and safety concerns we have with regards to the blocked crossings. We learned that the main line going through Addis is controlled out of Houston and that the number of cars at the Addis yard is up from 11,000 a month to 32,000 a month. Mayor Toups advised that Union Pacific must do better at communicating with local officials when a train will be blocking a crossing for long periods of time, so we can notify our citizens. He has also instructed Phil to order signs with each crossing number and the UP-hotline number to be installed on both sides of each crossing. The 1-800 number on these signs is the only documented number on file with UP. In order for your complaints to be on file, you must call this number.

**ALEKS GREGORY – OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE FEES:** Mr. Gregory did not attend the meeting; therefore, no business or action was taken by the Council.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**ENGINEER REPORT:** A motion to approve the First Street Drainage Project construction plans and begin the bid process was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present.

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:**

1. **KO Storage – Plan Review:** KO Storage site plans were reviewed and approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.
2. **Thomas Acosta, Jr. – Application for Rezoning of Property:** Mr. Acosta representing the heirs of the Tircuit family, presented the request for rezoning of the property located at 3912 Addis Lane & 3932 Addis Lane. They are requesting it be rezoned from R-60 to C-1. Mayor Toups opened a Public Hearing. Hearing no comments from the public, the hearing was closed and turned over to the Council for review and discussion. A motion to approve the rezoning request as presented was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present.

**PARISH COUNCIL REPORT:** Parish representative, Chris Kershaw reminded everyone of the Tier III reporting deadline. He shared that the tax renewals for West Baton Rouge Museum and Council on Aging both passed. He also discussed redistricting as well as the legislation on Mayor’s Court.

**POLICE REPORT:** The April 2022 police report, given by Chief Anderson, consisted of 393 traffic citations issued, 129 calls for service, 6 misdemeanor arrests, 6 felony arrest and 10 vehicles crashes. The misdemeanor arrest included: Warrants (4), DWI (1), Hit and Run (1) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (1). The felony arrests included: Warrant (1), Illegal poss. of a firearm by convicted felon (1), Possession of a stolen firearm (1), Illegal poss. of a stolen vehicle (1), Illegal poss. of stolen things (appliances) (1), Possession w/intent to distribute marijuana (1), Illegal poss. of firearm w/CD’s (2) and Possession of schedule 2 (meth) (1).

**PUBLIC WORKS/SEWER REPORT -** Phil Smith reported for the month of April 2022 there were 42 residential/commercial control panel issues, 28 residential/commercial tank issues, 19 collection system issues, 0 sewer plant issue, 9 new inspections, 119 dig tickets and 218 total calls. He advised that Sugar Mill 7 pump station was broken into and gates were damaged enough to be replaced. He is working with our SCADA company to install cameras and lighting at the remote pump stations that we have had issues at. He also advised that the new boat clarifier extension has been delivered to the plant and they are working on the planned outage timing with the contractor to get it installed. He reported that on the Public Works side there has been an issue with signage being stolen, so he is looking to convert to tamper proof hardware. He advised that grass is being cut daily and the “Caution Deaf Child” signs have been installed on Peter Messina Road.

**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 Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.
2. **Monthly Budget to Actual Reports:** The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no comments.

**POLICE:** No report.

**PERSONNEL:** Phil Smith advised that the deadline to submit applications for the Public Works Laborer and Class III Wastewater Supervisor was Monday, April 25th. He advised that we have received quite a few applications and we will begin the interview process within the next few weeks.

**SEWER:**

1. **2022 Hurricane Prep:** Phil Smith made a recommendation that the Council accept the proposals from Better Pumps & Solutions for pumps and Sun Industries for the generators as they were the only proposals who fully met our plan specifications. A motion to approve the 2022 Hurricane Preparation proposals obtained from Sun Industries and Better Pumps & Solutions was made by Councilor Parrish seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously by those present.

**DRAINAGE:** No report.

**BUILDINGS:** No report.

**STREETS AND ROADS:** No report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present. A motion to return to Regular Session was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present. As a result of Executive Session, the following motions were made and adopted: (1) A motion to accept the resignation of Officer Joshua Falcon effective May 5, 2022 was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present; (2) A motion to promote Officer Ron Carroll to Corporal with an increase of $150/month was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously by those present; (3) A motion to increase the salary of Officer Keegan Allen by $150/month was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously by those present; (4) A motion to hire Justin McFarlain as a full-time police officer at a rate of $17.33/hour was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A motion to reschedule the June 2022 Town Council meeting to Thursday, June 2nd was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously by those present. Mayor Toups advised that we will advertise the updated meeting date as required.

**ADJOURN**

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

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

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