Town of Addis Minutes

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Mr. Deano Moran.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mayor Toups; Councilor Acosta; Gauthreaux; Kelley; Parrish.

Absent: Councilor Cazes.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 2nd regular meeting were approved, as mailed, on a motion by Councilor Kelley, 2nd by Councilor Acosta and adopted.

**Additions to Agenda:** None

**Public Comments:** Mr. Lester Poirrier addressed the Council in regards to the proposed road to be built between 415 and Sid Richardson Road. Mayor Toups advised Mr. Poirrier that plans were underway for this route. The Parish has established where the road is going and right-of-way are being obtained from the various land owners. He was further advised that plans are underway for the new fire station to be built west of the VFW hall.

**Correspondence:** None

**WBR Hazardous Mitigation Plan:** Mr. Deano Moran of the Parish was recognized and presented an overview of the Plan. He advised that it has been approved by FEMA, the State and WBR Council. Following Mr. Moran’s presentation, a motion was made by Councilor Acosta to adopt the WBR Parish Hazardous Mitigation Plan, as presented, the motion was 2nd by Councilor Parrish and unanimously adopted by those present.

**Resolution to DOTD-River Road speed limit:** Following a discussion on pros and cons of changing the speed limit on River Road, a motion was made by Councilor Acosta to adopt a resolution requesting the State to change the speed limit on River Road, within the Town of Addis, from 45 to 35 mph. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present. A copy of this resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Copies will be sent to the Parish and State.

**Reports: Parish Council:** Parish representative Kirk Allain reported that Sid Richardson donated money for improvements to Myhand Park. This project has been completed.

Mayor Toups advised that Addis and the Parish has had a significant increase in train traffic on the branch which has caused some KCS tracks being flooded and some of their trains were rerouted through the branch line to Port Allen.

**Police Report:** The monthly police report, given by Chief Anderson, included 226 traffic citations issued; 27 misdemeanor arrests; 1 felony arrest and 6 vehicle crashes. The **misdemeanor arrests** were:

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5-disturbance related; 8-traffic related; 1-damage to property; 8-warrants; 3-peddlers permits; 1-theft; and 1-leash law. The **felony** arrest was on narcotics.

**Sewer Report:** The monthly sewer report, given by Mayor Toups, included 39 equipment failures; 7 jammed pumps; a grease problem in Plantation Ridge pump station; and the repair of the manhole in River Boat Trailer Park. There were 46 Scada calls and pumps were changed at 5 locations.

**Planning & Zoning Commission: 11th Filing of Sugar Mill:** Mr. Evan Scroggs representing the Sugar Mill owners requested that the final plat approval of the 11th Filing of Sugar Mill Subdivision be deferred until the May meeting. A motion was made by Councilor Acosta, 2nd by Councilor Gauthreaux to table action on the final plat of the 11th filing of Sugar Mill Subdivision until the May 4th meeting of the Mayor and Town Council. The motion was adopted.

**Sugar Mill Rezoning:** Mr. Evan Scroggs, representing the Sugar Mill owners reviewed the request of the rezoning of a piece of property to accommodate the construction of apartments. At 6:29 p.m., Mayor Toups opened a public hearing on this request. Mr. Freddie Blanchard addressed the Council and spoke in favor of the rezoning request. Mr. Ray LeJeune, an adjacent property owner, thanked the Council for their attention to his concerns and assured them that he and the Sugar Mill owners have come to an agreement on his concerns and he is okay with whatever their decision is on the matter.

With no further comments forthcoming, Mayor Toups closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m. and turned the discussion and/or action over to the Council.

A short discussion was held on the request for the rezoning of property in Sugar Mill for the construction of more apartments. Mayor Toups advised that the Planning & Zoning Commission voted 3-2 in favor of the rezoning. Councilor Gauthreaux advised that his opinion that no more apartments are needed at this time, and no commercial has been proposed, is still the same.

Councilor Acosta made a motion to approve the rezoning request, as presented. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Councilor Gauthreaux made a motion to deny the request for rezoning property to allow more apartments to be built in Sugar Mill. The motion was 2nd by Councilor Kelley and adopted on the following roll call vote: **Yeas:** Gauthreaux; Kelley; Parrish.  **Nays**: Acosta **Absent:** Cazes

**Public Hearing & Action on Ordinance:** None

**Introduction of Ordinance:** None

**Committees: Finance:** A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Councilor Gauthreaux, 2nd by Councilor Acosta and Adopted.

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**Police:** Chief Anderson advised that the two new units are in. Mayor Toups advised that the new town truck which the Chief used until he got his new vehicle is at the shop for decals and a new bed installed.

**Sewer:** A motion was made by Councilor Acosta, 2nd by Councilor Kelley to put the Sewer plant improvements out for bids. The motion was adopted. The bids for this project will be received by the Town until 3:00 p.m. on May 3rd at which time they will be opened and read aloud.

Mayor Toups advised that Environmental Science Services has been contracted to collect survey data on our existing sewer system network. Personnel from this firm will need to access all grinder pumps and sewer manholes within the Town limits. He asked that the public work with these individuals so the information can be collected in a timely manner.

**Personnel:** Mayor Toups presented the new personnel manual to the Council and asked that they review it and advise him of any changes, corrections or additions they wish to express. The approved manual will be furnished to employees.

The health insurance for town employees increased about 10% for 2016. A motion to accept the new rates and continue the health insurance for town employees was made by Councilor Acosta, 2nd by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously by those present.

**Drainage:** Mayor Toups advised that the culvert program has had some additions for 2016. New applications for 2016 were taken until March 31st. He further advised that culverts were being installed in Myhand Ditch under the present LGAP program.

**Streets, Roads, etc.** A motion was made by Councilor Acosta, 2nd by Councilor Parrish to go out for bids on the proposed 2016 road project with bids to be accepted until and opened at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3rd. The motion was adopted.

**Executive Session:** A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel was made at 7:05 p.m. by Councilor Acosta, 2nd by Councilor Kelley and adopted. At 7:30 p.m. a motion to return to Regular Session was made by Councilor Kelley, 2nd by Councilor Acosta and adopted. Mayor Toups advised that Personnel was discussed in Executive Session.

Following a recommendation of Chief Anderson, a motion was made by Councilor Kelley, 2nd by Councilor Acosta to accept the resignation of Officer Kenneth DeCook, II and hire Ricky Parsons, Jr. to fill the position at a salary of $13.50 per hour to move to $14.00 per hour after he is POST certified. The motion was adopted.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. on a motion by Councilor Parrish, 2nd by Councilor Gauthreaux and adopted.

Vera T. Lucas, Town Clerk DAVID H. TOUPS, MAYOR