TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – JULY 3, 2019

The regular meeting of the Town of Addis was called to order by Mayor Toups at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at the Addis Town Hall. The Pledge was led by Mrs. Staci Joffrion.

Mayor Toups then asked for a moment of silence for members of the Fitzgerald family who were killed in a plane crash in Kenner on July 9, 1982. Mayor Toups advised that the Fitzgerald’s were active members of the community and served in various capacities in the Town.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Toups; Councilors Kevin LeBlanc; Rusty Parrish; Rhonda Kelley.

**Absent:** Councilors Wilson Cazes; Tate Acosta

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of June 5, 2019 were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A lengthy discussion was held on drainage problems in the Town. Mayor Toups advised that he called a meeting to discuss the drainage and invited representatives of DOTD, the Parish, the Town of Brusly, and area farmers. DOTD has advised that they will begin digging ditches along the highway to help divert water and the farmers will work with the “field ditches” to control the flow of water. The Town has hired Mr. George Hudson, a Hydrologist to study the drainage in the area and report back to the Town.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Toups advised that the annual WBR Acadian Heritage celebration will be held at the activity center at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Brusly on Sunday, July 28th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He further advised that the Brusly Town Hall and the Parish offices will be closed on Friday, July 5th.

**OPEN CONTAINERS**

Requests for Open Containers for (1) Carli Jo Memorial Softball tournament on July 13th and 14th; (2) the Brusly High School Alumni Softball Tournament on July 19th–21st ; (3) Hunter Schurba Benefit Softball tournament on July 27th and 28th and (4) St John High School Alumni Softball Tournament on August 10th and 11th were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

**JEREMY LACOMBE**

Mr. LaCombe was unable to make tonight’s meeting and asked to be rescheduled for his appearance.

**2018 AUDIT**

Mrs. Staci Joffrion of Baxley & Associates, who headed the 2018 audit for the Town was introduced. She thanked the Mayor, Jade and other employees for the assistance she received while performing the audit.

Mrs. Joffrion reviewed various sections of the audit with the Mayor and Council and invited questions and/or comments concerning the various items visited. She complimented the Mayor and Council on their handling of the funds of the Town and advised that the Town’s financial condition is very good. Mayor Toups thanked Mrs. Joffrion for the audit and her presentation.

**OSCAR BOUDREAUX REPORT**

Phil Smith presented a change order for the Acadian Crossing/Bernhardt Force Main, in the amount of $3,000.00, which was done on an emergency basis and signed by Mayor Toups. A motion was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc to ratify Mayor Toups signature on the Change Order. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Boudreaux’s report, presented by Mr. Phil Smith included:

1. **LDEQ/SRF Loan Project Updates:** 
   1. Addis Place Sewer Rehabilitation – EES Project No. 1332. - This work is complete.
   2. Acadian Crossing/Bernhardt Force Main-EES Project No. 1626 - This project was substantially completed on Friday, June 21. All wastewater from Sunset and Sugar Hollow Pump Stations are currently being pumped to Bernhardt Pump Station. We ask that the Council accept this project as substantially complete.
   3. Bernhard Pump Station Upgrade – EES Project No. 1607 - This project has been completed.
   4. YMCA Force Main – EES Project No. 1627 - Contractor is waiting on the Mississippi River to drop. Work is currently on hold. We anticipate late July or early August for work to begin.
2. **Town Funded Projects:** 
   1. Sugar Mill Parkway Upgrade – EES Project No. 1808 - Bids were received on March 26, 2019. Notice to Proceed and construction contracts are complete. A pre-construction conference was held and work will begin shortly.
   2. Drainage - The consulting engineer GSE, completed his work on the Lousteau Property.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Parish:** Mr. “Fish” Kershaw gave the monthly Parish report which included the following:

i. Mr. Kershaw thanked the Mayor for the invitation to attend the dedication of Carroll Bourgeois

Road.

ii. He mentioned the fact that 6.9” of rain was recorded in an hour during the recent storm and they

were advised that this did not come anywhere close to the 100-year flood determinations.

iii. The new 20” transmission main water line presently being planned will cost approximately 2.5

million dollars with Phase I and will run from the new water well to the Brusly Water Tower.

Projected start date is August 1, 2019 with anticipated end date of Mach, 2020.

iv. The Parish is trying to push condemnations of neglected and/or abandoned homes/structures in

the Parish. Mr. Danny Rabalais has been hired to do inspections on these properties.

v. There will be no meeting of the Parish Council in July due to the Convention.

**Police:** The June, 2019 report of activities, given by Chief Anderson included 120 traffic citations issued, 24 misdemeanor arrests, 37 felony arrests and 8 vehicle crashes. The Misdemeanor arrests were: 2-disturbance related; 3 warrants issued; and 19 narcotics. The Felony Arrests were: 34 Narcotics; 1 aggravated assault with fire arm; 1 possession of stolen firearm and 1 aggravated battery. Chief Anderson advised that the motorcycle has been received. Officer Graves will take a class to be certified on the motorcycle on July 29th, after which time the motorcycle patrol will be implemented.

**Public Works:** Public Works Superintendent Phil Smith advised:

i. Four tons of cold mix have been laid out in potholes in Sugar Mill and around town. Still

have more to complete.

ii. The new truck is in; we are waiting on the dealer to service and invoice us so that we can

go pick it up.

iii. Attachments for the skid steer have been ordered under the State Contract.

iv. Low hanging tree branches around town have been trimmed.

v. All public works pickup trucks and the sewer utility truck have had amber and clear

warning lights installed for high visibility while parked on roadways and shoulders. The

two new vehicles will be outfitted upon arrival.

Vi. The back-hoe had a fuel injection failure. Repairs will cost $5,200.00.

Proposals were put out for a “ Hurricane Preparedness Contract” for generators in emergency situations. Three proposals were received but only one met all requirements set out in the Town’s proposal. Mr. Smith recommended that the proposal submitted by Sun Electric be accepted, even though the price was a little higher than the others because theirs was the only one which met all requirements of the Town’s proposal. This contract will only be activated when a “State of Emergency” type of event occurs.

Following a discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Kelley, 2nd by Councilor LeBlanc to accept the proposal for the “Hurricane Preparedness Contract” submitted by Sun Electric. The motion was adopted.

An “After storm” contract with the Parish is separate from the regular debris contract. Mayor asked that the Council give him the authority to help negotiate and sign a contract with the Parish to enter into this contract. A motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc, 2nd by Councilor Parrish to give Mayor Toups the authority to help negotiate an After-Storm contract for debris cleanup, with the Parish and sign the contract to take care of cleanup after major storms. The motion was adopted.

**Sewer:** Mr. Smith’s report for June 2019 included 42 residential and commercial equipment calls; 22 lift station equipment calls. Other calls included 4 new construction tie ins, and 161 LA One Call tickets completed. Total for the month was 165 for other services. A short discussion was held on the LA One Call tickets. Phil advised that he has one man doing this on a daily basis. This is a necessary action to be taken to protect our system in the event of any construction being done. There was a lightning strike at the Peter Messina pump station. The damage was extensive, but was repaired during the weekend with the staff out working. A discussion was held on how the citizens could be made aware of the damage that “personal wipes” cause to the sewer system pumps. This will be pursued further.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON ORDINANCE**

None

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance:**

i. A motion was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc, to pay invoices found in order.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

ii. Mayor Toups advised that the monthly budget to actual expenditures and income report is included in

their packets and asked that they be reviewed.

iii. Following a request by Mayor Toups, a motion was made by Councilor Parrish, 2nd by Councilor LeBlanc

to update the signature cards at The Cottonport Bank to be sure Jade’s name is included. The motion was adopted.

**Police:** None

**Personnel:** None

**Sewer:** None

**Drainage:** None

**Buildings:** A meeting of the members of the Building Committee has been called for 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at the Town Hall to further discuss renovations to the Town Hall.

**Streets and Roads:** The Road project is on temporary on hold waiting for the water to fall in the Mississippi River.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc to temporarily close the Regular meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel. The motion was adopted. A motion was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted to return to regular session. The motion was adopted.

As a result of Executive Session, Chief Anderson requested that Mr. Christian Beard be hired to fill the vacancy created by the addition of the Motorcycle patrol. A motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Kelley to accept the recommendation of Chief Anderson and hire Mr. Christian Beard as a Police Officer at a salary of $14.25 per hour, plus State Supplemental Pay, to cover the position vacated by the addition of the Motorcycle patrol. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Chief Anderson further requested that Chris Hogan be promoted to Corporal with an increase in salary of $100.00 per month. A motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc, 2nd by Councilor Kelley to accept the recommendation of Chief Anderson and promote Officer Chris Hogan to Corporal with an increase in salary of $100.00 per month, which breaks down to 55 cents per hour. The motion was adopted unanimously by those present.

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

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

Jade V. Simpson, Town Clerk David H. Toups, Mayor