TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 – 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, September 2, 2020 at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the flag was led by Mrs. Toni Daigle.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilors Wilson Cazes, Tate Acosta, Kevin LeBlanc, Rusty Parrish, Rhonda Kelley.

Absent: None

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the August 5, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Cazes and adopted unanimously.

The minutes of the August 23, 2020 special meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Lester Poirrier asked about the proposed new subdivision located on the Myhand property near the ballpark. Mayor Toups advised that this item is on the agenda and all comments from the public would be welcomed at that time.

Mrs. Bliss Bernard, a candidate for Town Council, advised that a session on grant and funding opportunities is on the agenda for the upcoming LMA Virtual Convention. She asked Mayor Toups to encourage his staff to attend the session.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Toups did not have any correspondence to share.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**West Nic Drive Drainage Recommendations – Toby Fruge, Owen & White, Inc. –** Phil Smith, Director of Public Works advised the Council of Mr. Fruge’s recommendations to alleviate the drainage issues in the West Nic Drive/First Street area. In his letter dated, August 25th, Mr. Fruge identified 5 (five) areas that need attention to allow this area to more efficiently drain to the railroad. Councilor Acosta advised that he spoke with a boring company and it seems like boring under First Street would be the most effective method to use for this project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Engineer Report:** No report was provided.

**Parish Council Report:** Parish Representative, Mr. Kirk Allain provided an update on the following projects: Water Line, Walking Trail, Construction of Highway 1, Intracoastal Bridge, Highway 415 Connector and Mosquito Abatement.

**Police Report:** The police report for the month of August 2020 was given by Chief Anderson and included 91 traffic citations, three misdemeanor arrests, one felony arrest and four accidents. The misdemeanor arrests included one simple assault and two simple battery incidents. The Felony arrest was on Narcotics.

**Public Works Report:** Phil Smith advised that the new slope mower has been received. He further advised that last week, preparations for the then impending storm were made throughout the town. Following the storm, there were no road blockages due to downed lines and no flooding issues; however, two blockages were found in the storm drains. Sugar Hollow was the only street that held water. Councilor Kelley advised that she received a complaint on drainage on 6th Street and Foret. Mayor Toups advised that the state needs to be contacted regarding this problem. Councilor LeBlanc commended the Fire Department and Police Department for their hard work preparing for the Hurricane. Mayor Toups thanked West Baton Rouge Parish and Republic Services for their assistance.

**Sewer:** The sewer report for the month of August 2020 was given by Phil Smith and included 60 residential and commercial equipment calls; 26 lift station equipment calls; one tank installation; 154 LA One call tickets completed and 11 new construction tie-in inspections. A brief discussion was held regarding the pipe that is still laying along River Road.

**Planning & Zoning Commission:**

**Application for Rezoning – Myhand Property – Mr. Scott D’Agostino:** There were no representatives present for the rezoning of property request at Myhand Street/Laws Road; however, Mayor Toups opened a public hearing to discuss this request. Following a discussion on the pros and cons of rezoning, Mayor Toups closed the public hearing and turned the discussion over to the Council for their discussion and action. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc to deny the rezoning request on the property located at Myhand Street/Laws Road from Agriculture to R-50. The motion was adopted unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance 2020-03 (Street Light Requirements) -** Mr. Larpenteur read the following ordaining clause, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE ADDIS CODE OF ORDINANCES, PARTICULARLY***, PART II – LAND DEVELOPMENT; CHAPTER 111 - SUBDIVISIONS, § 13 IMPROVEMENTS, PARAGRAPH “n”- STREET LIGHTING by amending § 13 (n)*** TO provide FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS ON ALL CONSTRUCTED ROADS WITHIN THE TOWN OF ADDIS, that the developer shall be responsible for the installation and costs thereof, AND PROVIDING specifications for said street lights”. Mayor Toups opened a public hearing on the ordinance giving those present an opportunity to express their opinion. Following a discussion, the public hearing was closed and turned over to the Council for its discussion and action. A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to adopt Ordinance 2020-03 as presented, effective September 2, 2020. The motion was adopted on the following roll call vote: **Yeas**: Rusty Parrish, Kevin LeBlanc, Rhonda Kelley, Tate Acosta, Wilson. **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstaining:** None

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

Councilor Acosta introduced an Ordinance 2020-04 which would put a 1-year limitation on rezoning request after denial. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance :** A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously. The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no adverse comments or opposition from the Council or the Public.

**Police:** Chief Anderson advised there will be COVID testing on September 8th and 9th at the Addis Community Center.

**Personnel:** None

**Sewer:** None

**Drainage:** None

**Buildings:** In reply to Councilor Parrish’s question concerning the abandoned trailer on Myhand Street, Mayor Toups advised that the Parish will assess this property and give a report to the Town. This will be discussed again when the Parish’s report has been received. Councilor LeBlanc provided an update on the Town Hall renovations. He advised that if we stay on track with the current timeline, bids on the project would go out in the Spring of 2021 with work to begin in the Summer.

**Streets and Roads:** Mayor Toups advised that the 2020 Road Project should be completed by the end of September. He further advised that after completion of this project, the balance in the budget for roads will be reviewed and perhaps used towards maintenance/crack sealing.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no Executive Session.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilor Kelley informed the council of an issue along Ed Lejeune road near the Ponderosa culvert. She stated that the ditch was filled with gravel, which appeared to be causing issues with the roadway being washed away. Councilor Acosta asked that we look into this and find out who is responsible for dumping the gravel in that location.

A motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Kelley to have Town Attorney, Mr. Dana Larpenteur prepare the necessary documents for the donation of the Delahaye property located near Ed Lejeune and the Railroad tracks to the Town. The motion was adopted unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m. on a motion by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Parrish and adopted unanimously by those present.

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

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