

TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES
DECEMBER 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, December 2, 2020 at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the flag was led by Councilman Wilson “Hook” Cazes.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 4, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

State Representative Jeremy Lacombe presented a resolution to Councilman Wilson “Hook” Cazes, expressing appreciation and congratulating him for his twenty-eight years of service to the Town of Addis and West Baton Rouge Parish. Afterwards, Representative Lacombe provided a Legislative update which included discussion of the LA Cares Act Legislation and 2021 re-districting.

Mayor Toups thanked Representative Lacombe for attending the meeting and for his continued support. He also thanked Councilor Cazes and Councilor Acosta for their service to the Town of Addis and wished them well.

Mrs. Bliss Bernard, thanked Councilor Cazes and Councilor Acosta for their public-service to the citizens of Addis. She also advised that DOTD has a current call for projects for the LADOTD Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which is a federally funded program administered through LADOTD. Mrs. Bernard shared the various projects that are accepted and advised that the deadline to apply is December 16th. Mayor Toups informed the audience that the Parish applied for this program and the levee trail and sidewalks leading to Myhand Park will be funded through this program. Mrs. Bernard encouraged the Mayor and Council to consider applying for a project that could extend/connect the walking trail to other areas within the community. Mayor Toups stated that applying for grants requires planning and that he doesn’t think we can meet the December 16th deadline which is only two weeks away. He said that it’s definitely something that we can look into for the future.

Following a brief discussion, a motion to approve the installation of stop signs near the intersection of Olivia Drive and Eliza Drive in Sugar Mill Plantation Subdivision was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Kelley and unanimously adopted. Mrs. Bernard suggested the Town contact LADOTD regarding the MUTCD compliance of the plaques on the newly installed stop signs at the intersection of Myhand Street and LA Highway 1. Councilor LeBlanc suggested that we also reach out to LADOTD regarding the installation of speed limit signs along River Road.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Toups did not have any correspondence to share.

OLD BUSINESS

Trailer Abatement – Mr. Dana Larpenteur advised that certified letters will be sent to the property owner and a notice will be published in the West Side Journal. Public Hearing will be set for the January 2021 meeting. Mr. Ray Lejeune, Sr. advised that he will try to obtain additional contact information.

Roadway Management Technologies, LLC (RMT) – Councilor LeBlanc stated that per Councilor Acosta’s request, he reviewed the RMT contract and spoke with their Chief Operating Officer to address a few concerns he had. He stated that RMT has agreed to revise the proposal with regards to the termination period and fees. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Acosta; seconded by Councilor Cazes to enter into a one-year contract with Roadway Management Technologies, LLC., with no early termination penalties and locked-in pricing. The motion was adopted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning & Zoning Commissioners Per Diem – Town Attorney, Mr. Dana Larpenteur presented the plan of paying a per diem to the members of the Planning & Zoning Committee. He advised of the technical steps that need to be followed to have the Town of Addis added to the state statute. After brief discussion, the Council agreed to move forward with the process.

Councilor Kelley advised that Mr. Ron Leveron expressed his interest in serving on the Planning & Zoning Committee.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Engineer Report: Mayor Toups provided an update on the YMCA Force Main project. He advised that most of the work along River Road has been completed with 200’ near the trailer park including the tie-in and about 800’ near the end of the line still remaining. After this is completed, the next phase is 1600 linear feet west of River Road. The Town Engineer, Mr. Oscar Boudreaux expects the project to be complete by the end of January 2021.

Parish Council Report: The Parish Council report was provided by Parish Representatives, Mr. Kershaw and Mr. Allain. They advised that beginning Monday, December 7, 2020, WBRP Natural Gas & Water Systems will be flushing all hydrants and scouring all lines on the south portion of the Parish for the next 2 weeks. This is the recommended process to remove mineral build up in the water lines that have produced brown water for some residents, including but not limited to when there is a broken water main or when fire hydrants are opened. They further advised that they will be following best practices and begin the flushing at the wells near the Intracoastal Canal and will work their way to the south end of the Parish Line. This will likely cause a brown or reddish tint to the water. The Parish is asking for your patience as they complete this process. Although it is discolored, the water is safe to consume and bathe in and not all residents will be affected. Other items briefly discussed included: (1) 2021 Budget, (2) 5G Ordinance, (3) Rosedale Road re-zoning, (4) Fire Department manpower/station location issues, (5) Water line estimated to be completed by March, weather permitting.

Police Report: The November 2020 police report, given by Chief Anderson, included 196 traffic citations issued; 6 misdemeanor arrests; 1 felony arrest; 4 vehicle crashes. The misdemeanor arrests for the month included 1 theft (shoplifting); 2 disturbances; 1 aggravated assault and 2 traffic.

Public Works Report: Mr. Phil Smith advised that an order has been placed for new street signs. Culverts have been installed in West River Subdivision to assist drainage. Christmas decorations have been installed.

Sewer Report: The November 2020 sewer report, given by Mr. Phil Smith included 47 residential and commercial equipment calls; 18 lift station equipment calls; 150 LA One call tickets completed and 9 new construction tie-in inspections.

Planning & Zoning Commission:

- i. **Application for Home Occupation – Mr. Aron Stewart:** Mr. Stewart presented an application for a Home Occupation to operate a construction handyman business. He advised that only office related task for the business will take place at his home. No signs and he is state licensed. The request for a Home Occupation presented by Mr. Aron Stewart was approved on a motion made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance : A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously. The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no comments. Mayor Toups reminded everyone about the Special Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th at 6:00 p.m. He stated the purpose of the meeting is to review and adopt the 2021 budgets.

Police: Chief Anderson advised that one new police unit was ordered in November and it should arrive in February.

Personnel: After brief discussion, the Council decided to not have an end of the year/holiday employee meeting due to COVID.

Sewer: None

Drainage: None

Buildings: None

Streets and Roads: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc to go into Executive Session to discuss property negotiations. Motion was adopted unanimously. A motion was made by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Acosta to return to Regular Session. The motion was adopted unanimously. Mayor Toups advised that a discussion was held on property negotiations.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. on a motion by Councilor Cazes; seconded by Councilor Acosta and adopted unanimously.

/s/ Jade V. Simpson
JADE V. SIMPSON, TOWN CLERK

/s/ David H. Toups
DAVID H. TOUPS, MAYOR