TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2021 – 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, April 7, 2021 at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the flag was led by Mrs. Paige Fitzgerald.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilors Rusty Parrish, Bliss Bernard, Rhonda Kelley, Kevin LeBlanc, Ray Lejeune Sr.

Absent: None

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the March 3, 2021 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Someone from the public inquired about the laws regarding livestock/farm animals on residential property. He reported that that there is a home located on West Nic that may be in violation of the town ordinance. Mayor Toups stated that he would look into this further and a certified letter would be sent to the homeowner.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Toups didn’t have any correspondence to share.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Live at Five on the Westside – Update:** Mayor Toups advised that Fall 2021 Live at Five on the Westside events are scheduled for Friday, October 1st,15th and 29th. Don Rich, Ryan Foret and Phat Hat are the bands that have been booked and in order to accommodate everyone, the event start time has been pushed back from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Remote-Control Slope Mower Bid – Crawler Supply LLC.:** Mayor Toups called for bids from the audience/public three times. Town Attorney, Mr. Larpenteur opened the one and only sealed bid, which was received on Thursday, April 1st at 9:24 a.m. from Covington Sales & Service located in Denham Springs, LA in the amount of $55,798.00. After brief review, Public Works Director, Phil Smith, made a recommendation to accept the bid. A motion to accept the bid received from Covington Sales & Service for a 2021 Model Remote Controlled Tracked Slope Mower (including winch and kit options) in the amount of $55,798.00; and authorize Mayor Toups to sign all required documents, was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

**Tipton Associates – Town Hall Building Renovation Update:** Mr. Shane Higdon provided an update on the Town Hall Building Renovation. He advised that the original plan was to renovate within the existing structure in multiple phases; however, due to drainage issues and outdated electrical and utility systems, a completely new building is the best option with regards to budget and timing. Exterior and interior renderings of the new building were shown. Drainage and funding were two main concerns discussed. Councilor Bernard inquired about grant funding opportunities that are available and Mr. Higdon stated that there are possible options such as a USDA Rural Development grant or a low interest loan. Councilor LeBlanc stated that he would like to engage the town’s drainage engineer to provide a comprehensive drainage study of the area.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Dangerous Animal Permit #3:** A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Dangerous Animal Permit issued to David & Charlotte LeBlanc and the multiple issues involving their dog. After hearing from all parties involved, a motion was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc to declare the animal a nuisance and immediately revoke the Dangerous Animal Permit. The motion was adopted on the following roll call vote: **YEAS**: Bernard, Kelley, LeBlanc, Parrish, Lejeune; **NAYS**: None; **ABSENT**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Engineer Report:** No report.

**Planning & Zoning Commission:**

1. **Application for Home Occupation, Dama Hracek:** A motion to approve the application for Home Occupation submitted by Mrs. Dama Hracek to operate a Medical Billing computer business was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor Lejeune and adopted unanimously.
2. **Zoning Map:** Mayor Toups presented the updated zoning map and asked everyone to review it and send him any changes that need to be made. Per Mayor Toups recommendation, a motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Bernard to approve expenditures for the development and printing of the map.

**Parish Council Report:** Parish Representative, Mr. Kershaw, provided an update on the following: (1) the new parish waterline has reached substantial completion, (2) the broken well head has been repaired, (3) GRON Industries is coming to Port Allen and will be building on port property. This is a $9.2 billion plant that created renewable diesel and jet fuel manufacturing lines. Total property tax is estimated at $662 million and the estimated sales tax is $388 million (2022/2023), (4) due to the GRON Industries plant, the original 415 project route will have to be re-routed. This is currently being redesigned.

**Police Report:** The March 2021 police report, given by Chief Anderson, consisted of 280 traffic citations issued; 6 misdemeanor arrest; 0 felony arrest; 3 vehicle crashes and 196 calls for service. Of the misdemeanor arrests, 2 were traffic related; 1 narcotic; 1 criminal damage to property; and 2 were domestic abuse battery.

**Public Works and Sewer Report:** The March 2021 sewer report, given by Mr. Phil Smith, included 24 residential and commercial equipment calls; 44 tank issues; 36 collection system issues; 191 one-call tickets completed; and 13 new construction tie-in inspections. He advised that there are three control panels that are being replaced due to age and component wear, two of which are critical to be changed (Mouch’s and Washeteria). Smith advised that there is one duplex pump station where all electrical is being rerouted and new panel installed due to poor access to underground conduit and wiring unable to be replaced. The Public Works Department patched multiple potholes throughout town; three sets of culverts for homeowners will be set; all accessible town ditches are being cut with slope mowers; bushhogging right of ways; all new highway flags and hardware has been received and brackets will be installed beginning in April.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance 2021-3 (5G Policies & Procedures):** Dana Larpenteur read the ordaining clause. Mayor Toups then opened the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was then closed and Ordinance 2021-3 was turned over to the Council for review/discussion. A motion to approve Ordinance 2021-3, “ An Ordinance To Amend And Reenact The Town of Addis Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 113 (“Zoning”), Article IV (“Supplemental Regulations”), Section 2 (“Communications Towers and Antennae”) and To Establish Standards For “Small Wireless Facilities” In The Rights-Of-Way Of The Town of Addis”, was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted on the following roll call vote: **YEAS**: Bernard, Kelley, LeBlanc, Parrish, Lejeune; **NAYS**: None; **ABSENT**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

**Ordinance 2021-4 (Fireworks):** Dana Larpenteur read the ordaining clause. Mayor Toups then opened the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was then closed and Ordinance 2021-4 was turned over to the Council for review/discussion. A motion to approve Ordinance 2021-4, “ AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE ADDIS CODE OF ORDINANCES, PARTICULARLY***, ADDIS CRIMINAL CODE, CHAPTER 8, § 8-3 FIREWORKS, PARAGRAPH (d)*** TO provide This section shall be held and deemed inapplicable for the calendar periods of December 22 through January 3, which comprises the traditional Christmas/New Year holidays, and for the calendar period of JULY 1 through July 5, which comprises the traditional 4th of July celebration. This section shall not be applicable to persons not in compliance with this section during these stated periods”, was made by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted on the following roll call vote: **YEAS**: Bernard, Kelley, LeBlanc, Parrish, Lejeune; **NAYS**: None; **ABSENT**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

**Ordinance 2021-5 (Sidewalks):** Dana Larpenteur read the ordaining clause. Mayor Toups then opened the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was then closed and Ordinance 2021-5 was turned over to the Council for review/discussion. A motion to approve Ordinance 2021-5, “ AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE ADDIS CODE OF ORDINANCES, PARTICULARLY***, PART II – LAND DEVELOPMENT; CHAPTER 111 - SUBDIVISIONS, § 113-13 IMPROVEMENTS PARAGRAPH (2) Street Improvements SUBPARAGRAPH (d)*** TO provide specifications for width, material and length of sidewalks in subdivisions in the town of Addis”, was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted on the following roll call vote: **YEAS**: Bernard, Kelley, LeBlanc, Parrish, Lejeune; **NAYS**: None; **ABSENT**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

**Ordinance 2021-6 (Chief of Police Salary Increase):** Dana Larpenteur read the ordaining clause. A motion to amend the salary amount listed in Ordinance 2021-6 to $84,157.23 was made by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously. Mayor Toups then opened the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was then closed and Ordinance 2021-6 was turned over to the Council for review/discussion. A motion to approve Ordinance 2021-6, “ AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE YEARLY SALARY FOR RICKY ANDERSON, CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE TOWN OF ADDIS FOR THE REMAINDER OF HIS PRESENT ELECTED TERM AT $84, 157.23 PROVIDED HE ENTERS THE POLICE RETIREMENT DROP PROGRAM ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2021 AND SAID SALARY SHALL COMMENCE MAY 1, 2021.”, was made by Councilor Lejeune; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted on the following roll call vote: **YEAS**: Bernard, Kelley, LeBlanc, Parrish, Lejeune; **NAYS**: None; **ABSENT**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**Home Occupations:** Councilor Bernard introduced changes to the home occupation ordinance. Councilor Leblanc also had some suggested changes to the checklist that is required as a part of the packet. They will work together on these revisions and present them at the next meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance :** A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously. The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no comments.

**Police:** Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel.

**Personnel:** None

**Sewer:**

1. **Addis Sewer Plant Rehab – Request for Proposal (RFP):** Per Phil Smith’s recommendation, a motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Bernard to rescend the motion made at the March 3rd meeting, which approved the quotation received from Beard International in the amount of $323,700 for the expansion of the clarifier at the Addis Sewer Treatment plant. The motion was adopted unanimously. A motion was then made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor Kelley to accept Request for Proposals (RFP’s) through LaMATS e-Auction & Bid Services. The motion was adopted unanimously. A motion authorizing the expenditures to advertise for RFP’s through LAMATS was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously.

**Drainage:**

1. **First Street Drainage Project Update:** Mayor Toups advised that the First Street Drainage Project is progressing and there is a meeting scheduled for April 14th with the engineers.

**Buildings:** None

**Streets and Roads:**

1. **2021 Road Rehab Project**: Following review and discussion, a motion was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Parrish to go out for bids on the 2021 Road Rehab Project with a total estimated construction cost of $499,360.96 and authorize Mayor Toups to sign all required documents. The motion was adopted unanimously.
2. **Union & Yatton Drive (Sugar Mill Subdivision):** Residents expressed concerns with speeders in the area. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Bernard; seconded by Councilor Lejeune to expend the funds to purchase and install stop signs at Yatton & Union Drive, Ambrosia & Union Drive, and Clarkland & Union Drive. The motion was adopted unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to amend the agenda to add an Executive Session to discuss police personnel was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously. A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Police Personnel was made by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor LeBlanc and adopted unanimously. A motion to return to Regular Session was made by Councilor LeBlanc; seconded by Councilor Bernard and adopted unanimously. As a result of the Executive Session, a motion to reinstate Steven Turner as a Reserve Officer for the Addis Police Department was made by Councilor Kelley; seconded by Councilor LeJeune and adopted unanimously.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. on a motion by Councilor Parrish; seconded by Councilor Kelley and adopted unanimously.

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

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