

City Council Regular Monthly Meeting

**City of Ville Platte, Louisiana
126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
April 12, 2016 5:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ville Platte met in a regular session in the Council Chamber in City Hall, 126 E. Main St. Ville Platte, LA on **Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 5:00** PM the council meeting was called to order by Mayor Vidrine.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, Councilmen Donald Sam, Jerry Joseph, C. J. Dardeau, Freddie Jack(5:15), Bryant Riggs(5:10), Mike Perron and City Clerk Shountilez Williams, Chief Neal Lartigue, Fire Chief Chris Harrison

Absent: City Attorney, Eric Lafleur

Roll called by City Clerk Shountilez Williams announced that we have a quorum.

Following the Invocation by Girl Scouts Savanna and Pledge by Bethany and roll call by the Shountilez L. Williams, the Mayor and Board of Alderman of the City of Ville Platte were duly convened as the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte.

New Item added to the agenda: Chief Neal requesting the hiring of police officers.
It was moved by Councilman Joseph and Councilman Sam.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

Minutes –Monthly meeting for March 15, 2016

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the minutes for March 15, 2016 as presented. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Monthly report for March 2016

The expenditures for the month of **February \$216, 348.81** and the expenditures for the month of **March were \$307,186. 46** the city spent **\$90,837.65 more in the month of March than in the Month of February, this is attributed to several major repairs to sewer system, collapse water line, and a down well.**

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Dardeau to approve the expenditure for the month of March. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Council Comments- on Agenda Items Listed (4 minutes)

Public Comments on agenda items listed (4 minutes each)

Agenda Items:

911 Intergovernmental Agreement: (see attachment)

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the 911 Intergovernmental Agreements between the City of Ville Platte, Fire District and the Communication District. The City of Ville Platte will pay half (1/2) and Fire District Two will pay half (1/2) for a total of \$1059.47. The city's cost would be \$529.73 monthly. This agreement shall be for a period of one year. After one year the agreement will be revisited to find out how many calls that were taken. Without this agreement, the city's fire rating would be reduced by 10 points.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

Sales Tax Comparison

The City of Ville Platte has an increase of 4.86 % from February 2015 to February 2016.

City's Minimum Wage Increase

It was moved by Councilman Dardeau and seconded by Councilman Joseph to increase the employees minimum from \$7.25 to \$8.00 per hour, effective September 2016 or before, with hopes of increasing it again in 2017.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

Employee's Salary Increase: It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the 3% salary increase for all City employees.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

The City's Medical Insurance (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) has gone up by 8%, effective May 1, 2016, but the city will absorb the cost of the increase and not pass it on to the employees. The drug portion of the insurance will not have a deductible. They are also looking for dental and vision insurance that will cut the cost to the employees.

New Item added--Police Hire:

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the hiring six full time police officers, part-time police officer and a part-time dispatcher, if they meet all of the city requirements.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

Empire Night Club-Frank Miller & Davina Davis

Mr. Frank and Ms. Davis address the Board with concerns about the Liquor Permit that was previously approved at the March Meeting.

Abandoned Property: None

The Mayor continues to remind everyone to cut their grass or they will receive a letter from the city.

Resolutions

Keep Louisiana Beautiful (Dianna Johnson) grant to purchase the red trash cans

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the "Keep Louisiana Beautiful" proclamation.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF VILLE PLATTE REQUIRING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE "KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL" For A Litter Abatement Program

WHEREAS, "KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL" is a nonprofit organization formed to assist the state in its litter reduction efforts, and

WHEREAS, the mission of "KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL" is to "promote personal, corporate and community responsibility for a clean and beautiful Louisiana", and

WHEREAS, "KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL" is tracking Louisiana's litter problem with a three-pronged approach focusing on education, enforcement and clean up; and

WHEREAS, receiving a "KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL" grant makes it possible to improve the beauty and appearance of the City of Ville Platte by providing, education about the importance and value of a litter-free environment, by enforcing city ordinances enacted to encourage citizens to maintain their homes and business in a neat and orderly condition; and by assisting the city in cleaning up those properties that do not meet acceptable standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby:

1. Requested a grant from the 'KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL' Grant Program;' and
2. Certifies that the City will have complete the community beautification projects as outlined in its grant application, and
3. Appoints the Mayor as agent of the City of Ville Platte to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment request and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Approved and adopted this 12th day of April 2016

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by Ville Platte City Council following roll call vote:

Yeas: Councilman Jerry Joseph, Mike Perron, Freddie Jack, CJ Dardeau, Donald Sam and Bryant Riggs

Nays: None

Absent: None

Louisiana Community Development Authority

This resolution signify that the Mayor and the city of Ville Platte is a member of the Louisiana Community Development

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Sam:

Resolution

A RESOLUTION INDICATING THE INTENTION OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TO APPROVE THE TWO (2) YEAR APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR JENNIFER VIDRINE AS A DIRECTOR THE BOARD OF THE LOUISIANA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (THE “AUTHORITY”) AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 10-D OF TITLE 33 OF THE LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES OF 1950, AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, chapter 10-D of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, amended, comprised of R. S. 33:4548.1 through 4548.16 is known as the Louisiana Local government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority Act (“the Act”) ; and

WHEREAS, the Act creates the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority (the “Authority”) for the purpose of assisting political subdivision, as defined in the act, and other designated entities in acquiring , financing and development purposes and to otherwise establish programs to aid in the financing of local government and economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana , previously passed a resolution to become a participating political subdivision of the Authority in accordance with the Act; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, acting in such capacity;

SECTION 1. Approved the appointment of Mayor Jennifer Vidrine to serve as Director of the Authority for a term of two years from the date hereof.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take in effect immediately and a certified copy hereof shall be forwarded to the offices of the authority.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: COUNCILMEN DONALD SAM, BYRANT RIGGS, MIKE PERRON, CJ DARDEAU, FREDDIE JACK AND JERRY JOSEPH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

And the resolution was declared and adopted on this 12th day of April, 2016

ATTEST: _____

NAME _____

TITLE:

TITLE:

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted on April 12, 2016 by the governing authority of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, a t a meeting thereof having been given, and I further certified that the same remains in full force and effect.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, THIS 12th, DAY OF APRIL, 2016.

TITLE:

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

I, _____ do hereby appoint **Jennifer Vidrine**, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development authority representing the City of Ville Platte.

Name _____

Title _____

Date: _____

It was move by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the Louisiana Community Development Authority. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Municipal Water Pollution Prevention-Charles Jones (Report on file)

It was moved by Councilman Jack and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention as presented by Supervisor Charles Jones.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

Proclamation--None

Permits--None

New Business

Reports

• **Fire Chief's Report –Chris Harrison**

There were a total of 20 calls for the month of March 2016. Ville Platte had 12 calls and Fire District #2 had 8 calls. Firefighter Kyle Dupre graduated from the academy in Opelousas on Friday, April 8, 2016. He also receive the "Team Work" award

• **Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue**

For the month of March 2016 there were a total of 673 calls in which 591 required reports. There were a total of 99 arrests include (13) felony arrests (47) motor vehicle accidents and wrote (47) citations.

• **City Engineer's Report—Ronnie Landreneau**

City Engineer Ronnie Landreneau reported that he is currently working on several small projects with the Mayor and Council. The City had major sewer problems that had not been planned for. Councilman Perron thanked Ronnie for his help on Washington St. Councilman Jack addressed the water leak in Court and Edward "Knotoe" Thomas St.

• **Mayor's Report-Jennifer Vidrine**

Mayor Vidrine purchased 6 vehicles and plan on purchasing 5 more in the future. She is currently working on street signs.

- The Mayor is also looking to purchase a dump truck and five more vehicles.
- The city is currently replacing street signs and street lights.
- The basketball courts have been delayed due to the weather.
- The City will be getting new software next month with brand new programs.
- The Ville Platte Youth on the Move still taking application until April 15, 2016.
- The Mayor is still in contact with the Hotel Chain.
- The Boys and Girls Club will be opened to all kids, parish wide.

Councilman Jack recommended that any reports with Social Security number should be excluded. Councilman Riggs thanked the Council and Mayor for approving the raise for the employees.

Adjournment

With no further business, it was moved by Councilman Jack and seconded by Councilman Sam to adjourn. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Time: 5:53

Approved:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk