

**City of Ville Platte
Regular Monthly City Council Meeting**

**126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for January 11, 2022 held at 4:00 PM**

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, January 11, 2022 4:00 PM. The *The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Vidrine.*

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, Councilwoman Faye Lemoine, City Councilwoman Christina Sam, Councilmen Bryant Riggs, Jerry Joseph and Mike Perron, and Administrative Secretary, Hilda Edwards and Dirk Deville, Chief Administrative Officer, Chris Soileau, Fire Chief, Neal Lartigue, Police Chief and City Attorney, Eric Lafleur

Following the Invocation and Pledge, roll called by Hilda Edwards and announced that a quorum was present. 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.

1. Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting December 14, 2021

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Jordan Anderson to approve the minutes of December 14, 2021 as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

2. Item added to the agenda: Minutes of January 7, 2022 Special Meeting

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilwoman Christina Sam to approve the minutes of January 7, 2022, All in favor, motion carried.

3. Monthly Report for December 2021 (Budget to Actual)

The expenses for the month of November were \$215,060.19 and the expenses for the month of December were \$177,466.25. The expenses for the month of December were \$37,593.44 less than the month of November. Budget to Actual for all departments included.

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilwoman Christina Sam to approve the December monthly report. All in favor, motion carried.

The LAMP Report was also presented.

Mayor's Comments:

Council Comments:

Public Comments on Agenda Items listed (4 minutes each)—No public comments

#8 on the agenda

Mayor Vidrine requested that the appointment of a City Clerk be added to the agenda, it was moved by Councilman Jerry Joseph and seconded by Councilman Jordan Anderson to approve. All in favor, motion carried.

Agenda Items:

1. Land Use Program-Mr. Purvis Morrison/Eric Lafleur

Mr. Morrison appeared before the Mayor and Council to present the Land Use Program and how it can be utilized in the city.

2. Firemen Mandatory 2% increase

Fire Chief requested the approval of the 2% increase for the firemen, it was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Joseph, all in favor, motion passed, with Councilman Mike Perron abstaining from the voting.

3. Fire Chief Report- January to December 2021

There was 37 calls for the Ville Platte area and a total of 18 calls with the Parish. One fatality in December for the Ville Platte area and 5 fatalities for the parish and two auto aids and 1 Hazmat call.

4. Audit Ending Report-June 30, 2021- Mr. Casey Ardoin

Mr. Ardoin appeared before the board to give an overview of the City budget ending June 30, 2021, Mr. Ardoin said that the City is in very good financial standing with over a million dollars in surplus.

5. Engineer’s Report-Ronnie Landreneau (Toby Manuel presented the report)

Sewer Plant-there were two bids. Contractor was awarded to Luke Deshotel to remove the sludge. Trek – Clarifier Boat Repair. Motion to approve three contracts for Ronnie Landreneau and Associates, motion by Councilwoman Faye Lemoine and seconded by Councilwoman Christina Sam. All in favor, motion carried. The Street Project will begin in March 2022

6. Employees Longevity Pay

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Jordan Anderson to approve the longevity pay for all employees that have been employed with the City for more than five years.
All in favor, motion carried

7. Mayor’s Pro-Temp 2022

Councilman Perron nominated Councilman Riggs as the Mayor-Pro-Tempe for the year 2022, motion was seconded by Councilman Anderson. All in favor, motion passed.

8. New item added to the agenda: City Clerk appointment

With the resignation of Shountilez Williams as City Clerk, Mayor Vidrine recommended the appointment of Hilda Edwards as the Interim City Clerk, motion was made by Councilman Mike Perron and seconded by Councilman Jerry Joseph to approve the appointment. All in favor, motion carried

Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties

Hilda reported that two houses were demo; one on E. Long and one on Railroad.

Resolutions

Ordinances:

1. Introduction

Proclamation-None

Permits

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilwoman Faye Lemoine to approve the liquor license for the Swamp Pop dance on February 28, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

Reports

Chief of Police’s Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 766 calls for assistance in the month of December 2021---6 citations, 4 arrests of which 2 were felony arrest. Officers responded to 29 automobile accidents.

Mayor's Report:

A grant for \$400, 000 was submitted, the phone system for City Hall will be here soon. More mural scheduled for the city. Sidewalks and street cameras coming up and Street lights. Many projects are planned for the city in the future and I will keep you informed.

They will be replacing the steps with ramp at the Ville Platte Civic Center, and will be taking bids to paint the Swamp Pop Museum.

Mayor announced that a Public Hearing will be held at 4:45 on February 8, 2022 to approve the ordinance for the Animal Control.

Adjournment

With there being no other business, Mayor Vidrine called for a motion to adjourn. A motion by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Joseph to adjourn.

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:22

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Hilda Edwards, City Clerk