

City Council Regular Monthly Meeting

**City of Ville Platte, Louisiana
126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
March 15, 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 March 15, 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, Fire Chief Chris Harrison and City Attorney, Eric Lafleur

Absent: Councilman Bryant Riggs, City Clerk Shountilez Williams, Chief Neal Lartigue, Councilman Mike Perron,

Roll called by Mayor's Secretary, Hilda Edwards announced that we have a quorum.

Following the Invocation by Gabrielle Chapman, Girl Scouts and Pledge by Tyra Freeman, Girl Scouts and roll call by Hilda Edwards, 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.

Minutes –Monthly meeting for February 11, 2016

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the minutes for February 11, 2016 as presented. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Monthly report for February

The expenditures for the month of **February \$216,348.81** and the expenditures for the month of **January \$163,289.97.** The city spent **\$53,058.84 more in the month of February than in the Month of January.**

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

Item added to the agenda:

Mayor Jennifer requested that the Councilman approved adding one item to the agenda. It was moved by Councilman Jack and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve adding the resolution to the agenda. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

It was moved by Councilman Jack and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve adding the resolution to the agenda. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Council Comments- on Agenda Items Listed (4 minutes)

Councilman Jack announced that, he is very grateful that the abandoned house next door to him has finally been cleaned.

Public Comments on agenda items listed (4 minutes each)

Agenda Items:

- **Police Hiring:**

Captain Shawn (Police Chief was absent) announced the hiring of three new full time police officers, providing they meet departmental standards: **Matthew Willis, Jordon Veillon and Ericka Pontier.**

It was moved by Councilman Dardeau and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the hiring of three full time police officers. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

George Morgan-State Troopers working inside city limits

Mr. Morgan appeared before the board to speak on Law enforcement.

Abandoned Property:

Mayor Vidrine reiterated to everyone, letters are being sent out and if anybody has abandoned property, they need to take care of it or the city will clean it and the cost will be passed on to the property owners.

Resolutions: Establish a Commission to conduct an evaluation and make recommendations for the purpose of a City of Ville Platte zoning ordinance.

This resolution will give the Mayor the authority to appoint a commission that will evaluate the city and see what needs to be done.

City Attorney Eric Lafleur reiterates that this is just a temporary commission to make recommendation to the Council to help decide which structure they want. The commission will consist of seven members, which will include some of the council members.

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the resolution to establish a commission to conduct an evaluation and make recommendations for the purpose of a City of Ville Platte zoning ordinance. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO CONDUCT AN EVALUATION AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF A CITY OF VILLE PLATTE ZONING ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognize the benefits in promoting the orderly, responsible, and beneficial development and use of land within the City;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognize the importance of protecting the character and stability of residential, institutional, business, industrial, and natural areas within the City;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen encourage compatibility among different land uses and desire to protect the scale and character of existing development from the encroachment of incompatible uses;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen, in view of the foregoing, intend to consider a Zoning Ordinance for the City of Ville Platte;

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognize that the input from a cross-section of business leaders within the community would prove valuable in creating such an ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen desire to authorize the Mayor to create and establish a Commission comprised of business leaders from across the City to evaluate the City's zoning needs and to make recommendations on same;

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

Mayor Jennifer Vidrine is hereby authorized to establish a Commission to be comprised of a cross-section of business leaders working or residing within the City of Ville Platte to consider, evaluate, and provide recommendations on the zoning needs of the City of Ville Platte as the governing authority considers the adoption of a Zoning Ordinance for the City of Ville Platte.

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

Yeas: Councilmen Freddie Jack, Donald Sam, Jerry Joseph, and C J Dardeau,

Nays: none

Absent: Councilmen Bryant Riggs, Mike Perron

And the resolution was declared adopted on this 15th day of March, 2016.

Mayor

Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing is an exact copy of a resolution adopted on the 15th day of March, 2016, by the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, at a meeting thereof regularly convened and after proper notice thereof having been given; and I further certify that the same remains in full force and effect.

City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, this 15TH day of March, 2016.

Clerk

**Proclamation
Permits**

- **Davania Davis, Empire Night Club**

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the liquor permit for Empire Night Club. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

- **J.C. Ceaser-Wing Shack**

It was moved by Councilman Dardeau and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the pick-up and go liquor permit for J.C. Ceaser (Wing Shack) located at 816 Martin Luther King.

In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried

- **Ashley Armand, The Bar**

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the liquor permit for Ashley Armand, The Bar. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

New Business

Senator Eric Lafleur reported that the City of Ville Platte will receive 1.4 million dollars for the Ville Platte Recreational Park. This money will be used to complete the seconded phase of the Recreational Park.

Reports

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

There were a total of 14 calls for the month of January 2016. Ville Platte had 8 calls and Fire District #2 had 6 calls.

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

For the month of February 2016 there were a total of 487 calls in which 431 required reports. There were a total of (64) arrests include (11) felony arrests, (3) Drug charges, (39) motor vehicle accidents and wrote (47) citations

- **City Engineer's Report—Ronnie Landreneau (Todd Deville)**

Todd Deville-Engineer with Landreneau and Assoc. reported that Phase Three of the Water Project is going good and should be completed within the next 6 months and the Hardening Project, replacing windows and doors at City Hall, has started and should be completed in the next two weeks.

- **Mayor's Report-Jennifer Vidrine**

Mayor announce a trash bash for the City of Ville Platte on March 28-31, 2016. Sponsored by Keep Evangeline Beautiful for Project Front Yard.

Mayor Jennifer reported reminded everyone about the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 26, 2016 from 10:00 -12:00.

A Sewer collapsed on Ardoin St., and collapsed line on N. Chataignier St. Phase Four will consist of repairs on Lasalle St. and Main St.

Mayor Jennifer also recognized Don White, who is replacing Cliff Fontenot, who is currently on sick leave.

Donald Chapman addressed the Mayor and Council with concerns about the trash on Lithcote Road. Michael Doucet commended Senator Lafleur for saving a person's life, while at the Capitol in Baton Rouge.

- **Adjournment**

With their being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Dardeau to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 PM. **In Favor: All Against: None Motion Carried**

Attest:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk

Approved:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor