

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

**126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for October 12, 2021 held at 5:00 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, October 12, 2021 5:00 PM. The *The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Vidrine.*

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, Councilwoman Faye Lemoine, Councilmen Bryant Riggs, Lionel Anderson, Donald Sam, Jerry Joseph and Mike Perron, and City Clerk Shountilez L. Williams, Police Chief Neal Lartigue, Fire Chief Chris Soileau, City Attorney, Administrative Secretary, Hilda Edward and Dirk Deville, Chief Administrative Officer.

Following the Invocation and Pledge, roll called by Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk, 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.

- **Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting September 14, 2021**

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

- **Monthly Report for September 2021 (Budget to Actual)**

The expenses for the month of September were \$197,634.77 and the expenses for the month of August were \$202,728.93. The expenses were \$5,094.16 less in the month of September than in the month of August. Budget to Actual for all departments included.

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the monthly report for the month of September. All in favor motion carried. The LAMP Report was also presented.

Added two items to the agenda:

1. **Liquor Permit accountant**
2. **Fire Dept. hiring**

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Joseph to add the two items to the agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

City Engineer Ronnie Landreneau

Mayor's Comments:

Council Comments:

Councilman Anderson inquired about the condition of some of the streets, he also inquired about the overgrown grass behind Renaissance Housing

Councilwoman Lemoine congratulated The Acosta Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce for the great job with the Tee Cotton Bowl mural. Ms. Lemoine inquired about the long standing water leak near Danielle preschool.

Councilman Perron also inquired about the overgrown grass by the car wash. Mr. Perron inquired about the use street sweeper.

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

Agenda Items:

1. Fire Chief Report

There were 28 calls made in the month of September to the Ville Platte Fire Department, which includes 9 for Fire District #2 and 19 for the Ville Platte Fire District. Fire Chief announced the month of October is Fire Prevention Month. Fire Chief Soileau reminded everyone to check your smoke alarms and the carbon monoxide detectors. Mr. Soileau reported on the large fire on Lincoln Road. Mr. Soileau and Councilman Perron thanked the Junior Classmen for doing a great job with helping with the fire.

Fire Chief reported that a Firefighter Recruit left to take a another job offer, leaving as vacancy and Chief Soileau recommended the hiring of Spencer Bordelon as a Fire Fighter Recruit. It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the recommendation of the Fire Chief to hire Spencer Bordelon. All in favor, motion carried.

2. City's Engineer's Report-Ronnie Landreneau

Mr. Landreneau reported that the specs and plans for the Street Project has been approved and Mr. Landreneau has been authorized to advertise for bids for the project and will receiving bids on November 9th at 12:00 PM and will present the bids at the November Council meeting.

Mr. Landreneau has been working with DEQ to resolve issues with the Sewer Plant and he has been reporting the progress every Thursday.

Councilwoman Lemoine reminded Mr. Landreneau that she received approval by Council to clean out the drainage on the east side in the Shady Acres Subdivision and Mr. Landreneau met with Mr. Don White to develop a plan to work on the project. He will check on the equipment and the man power. Mr. Landreneau will also contact the Police Jury for assistance with the project. Mr. Riggs inquired about the project on Reed and Jefferson.

3. City Halloween Trick or Treat hours

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Perron to set the Trick or Treat hours for 6 PM to 8PM on October 31st. All in favor, motion carried

4. Arthur Sampson-Discuss contract the city has with CLECO

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Sampson appeared before the Council with concerns about the high electricity bill and the 30 year contract with CLECO. Councilman Anderson asked why the city signed a 30 year contract with CLECO and is there any way to cancel the contract.

Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties

Hilda Edwards reported:

- 1. Two houses were torn down on Allen St. and several lots were cleaned.**
- 2. Owner of the house on Stagg St. would like to donate the house.**

Resolutions

1. Resolution regarding Development of City Zoning Plan-no action taken

Introduce an amendment to the grease trap ordinance

Introduce by Councilman Perron, Public Hearing will be held on November 9th at 4:45

Any commercial building, occupying business operating as a cafeteria, bar, restaurant, night club, hospital, hotel, sanitarium, school kitchen, market, factory or day care center kitchen are required by the office of Public Health to have three compartment sink shall install a grease trap or grease interceptor in its sewer line. The size of the grease trap shall be determined by the City Building Inspector,

understanding the minimum size shall be no less than 200 gallons, except when the opinion of the City Building Inspector is not necessary.

Proclamation

Permits:

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the liquor permit for Cheap and Best located at 1215 West Lincoln Road, Ville Platte. All in favor, motion carried.

Repts

Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 679 calls for assistance in the month of September 2021---18 citations, 3 arrests of which 2 were felony arrest. Officers responded to 24 automobile accidents.

Chief Lartigue requested the approval of the Mayor and Council to have the large tree behind the Police Department building remove.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Vidrine thanked the Street workers for coming out on Sunday for coming out and picking up the trash on Main St. after the parade. Councilman Riggs also commented on the condition of the litter in the city.

Adjournment

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

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk