

City of Ville Platte

Regular Monthly City Council Meeting

126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for August 10, 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, August 10, 2021 5:00 PM.

The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Vidrine.

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

- Absent was: City Attorney, Eric Lafleur

Item added to the agenda: Pay increase for employees

It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Sam to add the item to the agenda as requested by Mayor Vidrine. **All in favor, motion carried.**

- **Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting July 13, 2021**

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the minutes of July 13, 2021 as presented. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously**

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

It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the monthly report for the month of July. **All in favor, motion carried.**

The City's expenditures for the month of June were \$249,671.89 and the expenditures for the month of July were \$194,839.18. The City's expenses were \$54,831.71 less in the month July. The reports also include the budget to actual, the year to date balance and each department remaining budget balance.

Mayor's Comments

1. COVID-19 Vaccination will be administered on 08/21/2021 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
2. On Mondays and Thursdays the inmates will be used to help with the litter pick up in the city, and will supervised by Mr. Linton Fontenot.
3. Moment of silence for Mr. Dirk Deville's brother who passed away on Sunday.
4. Looking into litter grants with Keep Louisiana Beautiful.
5. The City will be getting more trash cans
6. Mr. Fontenot will be issuing citations for littering and overgrown lots, giving the property owner 10 days to comply.
7. Discussed the Pocket Parks and Street Zones has been assigned

The City is still hiring. Mayor discussed several upcoming projects: The Pocket Parks, Play Ground Equipment and the Reed St. Project. Still taking bids for the repairs at the Annex and the City Barn.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Lemoine inquired about the locations of the property that was donated to the City.

1. Lot 1 is located behind Burger King
2. Lot 2 is on Lasalle next to KVPI
3. Lot 3 is located behind Ville Platte Medical Hospital
4. Lot 4 is located on 167 across from Teet's Grocery

Councilman Riggs inquired about the loud music. Can citations be issued?

Councilman Joseph inquired about the shooting that is still going on in the city.

Public Comments on agenda items listed (4 minutes)

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Chris Soileau- Fire Chief Report

Fire Chief Soileau reported for the month of July the Ville Platte Fire Department responded to 8 calls in the City and 10 calls for the Parish.

2. Phillip Faulkenberry & Gilbert Aucoin, Consideration for approval of Liquor Permit

Mr. Faulkenberry appeared before the Board to appeal the decision, not to issue him a liquor permit. The application will be returned to the city attorney for review and advice the board at a later date.

3. Recreation Board Appointee replacement-Desmond Thomas with Cody Jones

It was moved by Councilman Perron and Councilman Joseph to approve the appointment of Cody Jones replacing Desmond Thomas on the Ville Platte Recreational Board. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Amend Minutes 2019-2020

MOTION: To adopt the amended minutes of the Ville Platte Council Meeting held on June 28, 2019 to read as follows:

Instead of "that the amended budget ending June 30, 2019 is \$14,413,795.00" the minutes should have and shall be recorded as "that the amended Ending Fund Balance for the Budget ending June 30, 2019 is \$14,413,797.00"

Furthermore, instead of "the following ordinance was adopted the Operating Budget of Revenue and Expenditures of \$14,070,991.00 for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and Ending June 30, 2020." The minutes should have and shall be recorded as "the following ordinance was passed adopting the Operating Budget with Revenues of \$13,363,905.00 and Expenditures of \$13,785,709.00 for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and Ending June 30, 2020."

MOTION PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Ville Platte in a meeting held on the 10th day of August, 2021 upon motion made by **Board Member Faye Lemoine, Seconded by Board Member Donald Sam**, by a vote of all, and is effective this **10TH day of August, 2021.**

Accepted by:

Witness Signature:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Dirk Deville
Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor Vidrine announced that city employees will be getting a pay increase. Part-time employees who are currently being paid \$9.00 will increase to \$10.00 an hour, and employees who are being paid \$10.00 an hour will increase to \$11.00 an hour. Other staff members and supervisors will also get a pay increase. **It was moved by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the pay increase for city employees effective, August 27, 2021. All in favor, motion carried.**

Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties

Several letters were delivered and more is scheduled for delivery. Several properties were cleaned. Mayor Vidrine requested approval to demolish the city's storage building located on the corner of Coreil and E Cotton St. It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the demolition of the building. All in favor, motion carried.

The Mayor and Council will consider adopting a resolution that will penalize landlords for dumping trash and old furniture on the street after cleaning their rental property. All trash and furniture should be picked up and disposed of at Solid Waste dump site.

Resolutions—Land Acceptance Resolution

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve and accept the land donated to the City of Ville Platte. All in favor, motion carried

RESOLUTION #08102021-1 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR JENNIFER VIDRINE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN PROPERTIES BEING DONATED TO THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE

WHEREAS, Upon approval of the City attorney, the City of Ville Platte will be recorded as the Vendee in certain Acts of Donations; and

WHEREAS, these donations will include the following described properties:

Item 1:

A certain tract or parcel of land together with all buildings and improvements thereon, being the Western fifty feet (50') of Lot #2 of Block #5 of the DeMonchervaux Park Subdivision having a front of fifty (50') feet on DeMonchervaux Boulevard by a depth between parallel lines of one hundred thirty eight feet (138') and being bounded on the North by DeMonchervaux Boulevard; on the West by Lot #1 of Block #5 of said subdivision; on the South by portion of Lot #4 of Block #5 of said subdivision south of the western most 50' of the boundary between Lot #2 of Block #5 of said subdivision and Lot #4 of Block #5 of said subdivision; and on the East by the remaining 20' of Lot #2 of Block #5 of said subdivision.

Item 2:

A certain tract or parcel of land together with all buildings and improvements thereon, being all of Lot #1 of Block #5 of DeMonchervaux Park Subdivision, being triangular in shape, having a front of one hundred seventy-eight feet, four inches (178.3') on DeMonchervaux Boulevard.

Item 3:

A certain tract or parcel of land together with all buildings and improvements thereon, being the Western triangular tract of Lot #4 of Block #5 of DeMonchervaux Park Subdivision having a width of fifty feet (50') on the North side and being bounded on the North by the western most fifty feet (50') of the boundary between Lot #2 of Block #5 of said subdivision and Lot 4 of Block #5 of said subdivision; South by Progress Road and East by the remaining portion of Lot #4 of Block #5 of said subdivision (the Eastern boundary being more clearly defined as a continuation of the property line between the 50' of Lot 2 of Block 5 of said subdivision being conveyed herein to vendee and the 20' of Lot 2 of Block 5 of said subdivision remaining as the property of vendor, said property line running perpendicular to the property line dividing lots 2 and 3 of Block 5 of said subdivision from Lot 4 of

Block 5 of said subdivision until its intersection with the boundary line between Lot 4 of Block 5 of said subdivision and the public right-of-way along Progress Street).

Item 4. Those certain lots or parcels of ground, located in the Claude Morein Subdivision west of the Town of Ville Platte, La., measuring jointly one hundred fifty (150) feet, front on former Highway #22, now 167, by a depth between parallel lines of one hundred fifty (150) feet, being bounded on the North, now or formerly, by Claude Morein, South by Highway No. 167; East by property reserved for street separating property from, now or formerly, Samuel Miller and West, now or formerly, by Thelma McCauley Soileau, et ux. LESS AND EXCEPT the portion sold to the State of Louisiana for \$4,328.00 by Act of Sale on April 13, 1994 recorded as Act No. 457094 recorded in COB C0173, page 232 of the records of Evangeline Parish, Louisiana.

Item 5. Three (3) certain vacant lots or parcels of ground, located in Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, being lots 21, 22 and 23 of Plat "D" of Plat of Survey and subdivision of Estate of Ernest Etienne Ortego, made by C. D. Latour, Surveyor, filed in the Plat Book records of Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, being further described as follows: Lot No. 21 measuring 100 feet front on Ville Platte-Opelousas paved highway, by a depth of 208.7 feet between parallel lines. Lot No. 22 having a front on Ville Platte-Opelousas paved highway of 200 feet, and measuring 234.6 feet on the West line running along Guillory Street or public gravel road, 208.7 feet on East line. Lot No. 23 having a front on Guillory Street or public gravel road of 234.6 feet, and a front on Etienne Street of 85.7 feet, and measuring 208.7 feet on East line. Less and except (a) the portion of these lots sold to SYDRAN FOOD SERVICE, II, L. P. by Act of Cash Sale recorded on June 8, 1988, in Conveyance Book C-237, page 77, as Act No. 500987 of the records of the Clerk of Court Evangeline Parish, Louisiana and (b) the portion of these lots sold to the State of Louisiana by sale recorded on August 27, 1991 as Act No. 468485 of the records of the Clerk of Court of Evangeline Parish, Louisiana.

Item 6. A certain tract or parcel of land situated in the Town of Ville Platte, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, and described as Lots No. 5 and 6 of Block No. 2 of the Mrs. E. A. Soileau Subdivision to the Town of Ville Platte, and being part of the same property acquired by Gussy S. Puryear from Estate of Mrs. E. A. Soileau, as per Act of Sale on record in clerk of courts office, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana. Said lots measuring ninety-three and eight tenth feet fronting on W. LaSalle Street by a depth of 145 feet running between parallel lines, and bounded, now or formally, east by E. E. Demourelle, West by Dr. B. A. Soileau, North by Bruce Soileau and South by W. LaSalle Street. Less and except the portion sold to the State of Louisiana by Act of Cash Sale recorded as Act No. 457094 recorded in Conveyance Book C-173, page 232 of the records of Evangeline Parish, Louisiana.

Item 7. A certain tract or parcel of ground together with all buildings and improvements thereon and thereto appertaining, located in Section 28, T-4-S, R-2-E, Evangeline Parish, La. Said tract containing 1 acre, and being further described as beginning at the Northwest corner of that tract of property acquired by Charles J. Aswell, III and thence proceed Westerly along the right of way of the extension of the DeMonchervaux Boulevard, a distance of 208.7 feet, thence Southerly a distance of 208.7 feet, thence Easterly a distance of 208.7 feet, thence Northerly a distance of 208.7 feet, to the point of beginning.

WHEREAS, The City of Ville Platte desires to designate Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor, as an authorized signer accepting such donations in these certain Acts;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE:

That the City of Ville Platte designates Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor, as an authorized signer accepting the above described properties through Acts of Donations;

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Ville Platte in a meeting held on the 10th day of August 2021.

Vendee: City of Ville Platte

Witness Signature

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Dirk Deville, Chief Administrative Office

Proclamations

Permits—

Reports

Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 657 complaints for assistance in the month of July 2021---17 citations, 19 arrests of which 15 were felony arrest. Officers responded to 40 automobile accidents.

City Engineer's Report-Ronnie Landreneau-

Mayor Vidrine is looking to apply for funding for new water well and refurbish one. DEQ is requiring the City to refurbish two lift stations. The budget amount for the project was \$154,000, bids were taken and only one bid was received for \$280,500.00. Mr. Landreneau asked the Mayor and Council to reject the bid; it is substantially out of budgeted. Mr. Landreneau request from DEQ, that instead of advertising and seeking new bidders, they would allow the project to be combined with the Sewer and Water Program, that program is currently opened and has a deadline of September 24, 2021. The application would be very good, because the city has plans that have been approved and the Mayor would like to add other lift stations.

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Joseph to reject the bid of the \$280,500.00 as recommended by Mr. Landreneau. All in favor, motion carried.

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the Street Improvement Project Resolution as presented by the City Engineer Ronnie Landreneau. All in favor, motion carried

RESOLUTION—08102021-1A

**CITY OF VILLE PLATTE
PARISH OF EVANGELINE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Mayor and Council of the city of Ville Platte, state of Louisiana, acting as the governing body of said City, in its regular meeting on Tuesday, August 10th, 2021; do hereby enact the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the City is a recipient of Capitol Outlay Facility Planning & Control funds as outlined in FP & C No. 50-MU-4-18-02, and ;

WHEREAS, said FP & C Project is for a total amount being \$1,218,667.00 of which state cash is \$914,000.25 and entity cash is \$304,666.75, said entity cash being a 25% match, and;

WHEREAS, the City desires to use additional city funds for the purpose of expanding the number of streets which are being improved by this project, and;

WHEREAS, the additional funds which will be added to the total value of said project is 2,634,355.55, and such addition to said project does not require any additional funding by the State, and;

WHEREAS, this additional funding by the City will increase the value of the project to \$3,853,022.55, of which the State's share remains as \$914,000.25, said amount as the original match of \$304,666.75, therefore increasing the City's share of this project to \$2,939,022.30

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ville Platte herby has budgeted by this resolution an additional \$2,634,355.55, said amount to supplement and expand its original Match of \$304,666.75, therefore increasing the City's share of this project to \$2,939,022.30

I, Jennifer Vidrine, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly passed and adopted by the City of Ville Platte on the 10th day of August. 2021

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Mayor's Report:

Adjournment

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

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk