

City of Ville Platte

Regular Monthly City Council Meeting

126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for April 14, 2020 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, April 14, 2020 5:00 PM. The Meeting was conducted through Zoom due to the Coronavirus pandemic and in compliance to the Governor's stay at home orders, the City Council meeting will be held online.

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

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, Councilwoman Faye Lemoine, Councilmen Bryant Riggs, Lionel Anderson and Jerry Joseph, Mike Perron, and City Clerk Shountilez L. Williams, Police Chief Neal Lartigue, Fire Chief Chris Harrison, Administrative Secretary Hilda Edwards and City Attorney Eric Lafleur **Absent: Donald Sam**

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.

1. Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting February 11, 2020

It was moved by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the minutes for February 11, 2020 as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

2. Minutes-Special Meeting March 5, 2020

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 5, 2020. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

3. Monthly Report for March 2020 (Budget to Actual)

Mayor Vidrine announced, the expenses for the month of March were 155,113.53 expenses for the month of February were 169,969.34; and the expenses for the month March were less 14,855.71 less than the month of February.

It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the Expense Report for the month of March. Council compared budget to actual as presented, year to date from the monthly report. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously**

LAMP Report: The City earned \$870.90 with LAMP's account for the month of February and March.

Council Comments:

Riggs commented on the Revenue Expense Report

Public Comments on Agenda Items listed (4 minutes each)—

No public comments

Agenda Items:

1. Interim Fire Chief

With the retirement of Fire Chief Chris Harrison on March 31, 2020, the board voted to appoint Fabian Poullard as Provisional Interim Fire Chief until a Fire Chief Examination is given at a later date.

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the appointment of Fabian Poullard as Provisional Interim Fire Chief. **All in favor, motion carried.**

2. Interim Asst. Chief

Asst. Fire Fabian Poullard was appointed as Provisional Interim Fire Chief, leaving an opening for an Asst. Fire Chief. Jacob Demourelle was promoted to Substitute Asst. Fire Chief until a permanent Fire Chief is appointed wants an examination is given. It was moved by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Riggs to appoint Jacob Demourelle as Substitute Asst. Fire Chief. **All in Favor, Motion carried.**

Fire Chief Report: Fabian Poullard

There were 20 calls made to the Ville Platte Fire Department that includes the Ville Platte Fire District.

Resolutions:

Ordinance:

Proclamations

Community Development Block Grant Program
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has operated since 1974 to provide local governments with the resources required to primarily meet the needs of low and moderate income person; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program is among the few remaining federal programs available to address the needs of low and moderate income persons and small cities; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant Program has provided the state of Louisiana with important and flexible assistance to meet the needs of low and moderate income residents of small cities by funding sewer, water, and street improvement projects, economic development projects, and other public improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, Congress and nation acknowledge the critical value of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the significant projects that relay on its funds for support; and

WHEREAS, THE WEEK OF April 13-18, 2020 has been reserved for the recognition and appreciation of the Community Development Block Grant Program

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana do hereby proclaim the week of April-18, 2020 as

Community Development Week in the State of Louisiana

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol in the City of Baton Rouge this 14th day of April A.D. two thousand twenty.

Attest By
The Governor

John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
Secretary of State

National Fair Housing Law

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The State of Louisiana

GOVERNOR

John Bel Edwards

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THE 52ND anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans-individually and collectively-to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom from housing discrimination whenever it exists; and

WHEREAS, this law guarantees for each citizen the critical, personal element fo freely choosing a home; and

WHEREAS, the fair housing law has been passed the State of Louisiana, and implementation of the law requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each of our citizens; and

WHEREAS; barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen to freely choose a home will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I John Bell Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana do hereby proclaim the month of April 2020, as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol in the City of Baton Rouge this 14th day of April A.D. two thousand twenty.

Attest By

The Governor

John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana

R. Kyle Ardoin
Secretary of State

Permits

Reports

Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 97 complaints in the month of March-2020 of which 67 required reports. There were 37 citations issued 44 arrests of which 16 were felony arrest and there were 29 accidents reported.

Chief Lartigue reported there were 11 suspects arrested in the burglaries of several local businesses.

Item added to the agenda:

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Riggs to amend the agenda to include the hiring of two police officers. **All in favor, motion carried.**

1. Police Hiring:

Chief Lartigue requested the hiring of two P.O.S.T Certified police officers, Bryan Wiles and Darrien Guillory. Motion by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the hiring of the two police officers, providing they meet all of the city's requirements.

All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Riggs commented that he is very pleased with the 911 dispatch and the 411 TIP line.

City Engineer's Report-Ronnie Landreneau-

The City is preparing to start with the street overlay project this summer; Mr. Landreneau is asking that every Council submit three or four streets that needs repairing, starting from block to block. Mr. Landreneau reported that the Lift Station behind Sacred Heart is no longer working and will need some repairs.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor reported that City Hall employees are working on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, while the lobby remains closed. Mayor is still asking everyone to wear mask and gloves.

Mayor announced that she will be speaking with representatives with the Ville Platte Housing Authority to restore the Police Sub-Station located across from the old L&V Store.

Adjournment

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

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk