

Final

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

**126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA  
Minutes for November 10, 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, November 10, 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, Donald Sam, Jerry Joseph and Mike Perron, and City Clerk Shountilez L. Williams, Police Chief Neal Lartigue, Fire Chief Fabian Poullard, Administrative Secretary Hilda Edwards and City Attorney Eric Lafleur, Chief Neal Lartigue

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.

**Attending in person:** Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, City Clerk Shountilez Williams, Councilmen Bryant Riggs, Lionel Anderson, Councilwoman Lemoine, Administrative Assistant Hilda Edwards and Fire Chief Neal Lartigue.

**• Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting October 8, 2020**

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the minutes of October 8, 2020 as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

**• Monthly Report for October 2020 (Budget to Actual)**

Mayor Vidrine announced the expenses for the month of October were \$177,470.93 expenses for the month of September were \$171,916.27; the expenses for the month of October were \$5,554.66 more than the month of September due to some unexpected expenses.

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

**Mayor's Comments:**

1. November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day and Mayor Vidrine recognized the Veteran's for everything they've done for our country.
2. Mayor Vidrine announced, DOTD will be repairing and/or overlaying Main St., Lasalle, and Tate Cove Road, there are State Roads. DOTD will be back in Ville Platte to do an assessment of the drainage on Lasalle St., South Chataignier Road and Main St. They will be cutting trees branches that are obstructing street lights on the three main roads.
3. Main Street sidewalks are on the list for repairs.
4. Councilwoman Lemoine brought up the issue of faded street signs. Mayor Vidrine said they will be replaced in French and English.
5. Med Express will be helping the City by providing a listing of all of the street signs and stop signs that needs to be replaced throughout the city.
6. Mayor Vidrine announced there will be no Christmas Parade due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Town Square Park will be lit up, but there will be no gathering in the park for lighting and City Hall will be decorate for window viewing only.
7. Mayor Vidrine reminded everyone that City Hall is not Closed, the drive thru is open and if anyone needs in person service they can come inside.
8. Mayor Vidrine announced, they are working on purchasing a backhoe the Street Sweeper is being repaired.

**Council Comments:**

1. Councilman Riggs inquired about the Utility Rate changes and Councilwoman Lemoine also inquired on the large water bills, that people have had issues with.
2. Councilman Anderson commended the landlords in his District for taking the initiative to cut their grass and take down some of the dilapidated houses.
3. Mayor Vidrine announced that the Substation across from L & V area is open with police presence and security cameras will be installed soon.
4. Councilwoman Lemoine asked about the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Police Jury. Ms. Lemoine announced that representatives from the Lieutenant Governor's office were here to do a walk- through of the City's Main St.

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

**Agenda Items:**

Mayor Jennifer presented a plaque to each of the employees for their retirement. Mr. Ervin Bourque with the Police Dept./Animal Control, and James Glenn Johnson and Chris Harrison with the Ville Platte Fire Dept.

**1. Fire Chief Report**

There were 27 calls made in the month of October to the Ville Platte Fire Department, which includes the Fire District and one lawn mower fire reported.

**2. Intergovernmental Agreement, Fire District #2 & 911 Communications**

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Fire District # and 911 Communications. All in favor, motion carried.

**3. Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire**

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Sam to approve the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as requested by the City’s Auditor. All in favor, motion carried.

**4. Dump Trailers**

Mayor Vidrine requested the purchase of two new dump trailers for the Street Department. It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the purchase of two new dump trailers. All in favor, motion carried.

**5. Fire Chief Appointment**

Mayor Vidrine announced the appointment of Christopher Soileau, as the new Fire Chief for the Ville Platte Fire Department, effectively November 20, 2020. He was selected from three candidates who applied for the position. .

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman-Riggs to approve the appointment of Chris Soileau as the new Fire Chief. All in favor, motion carried.

**Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties**

1. Mayor announced that two houses on Railroad St. was demolished
2. The house on Blake St., was demolished
3. The house 301 E. Long St. is being demolished
4. Guy Mitchell Fontenot cleaned two properties on Stagg Street.
5. Trailer on Rev. E. D. Alfred is scheduled for demolition.
6. The house at 406 Calcasieu St. has been demolished
7. The owner of the house on E. Long is still waiting for a dumpster.

Resolutions:

Ordinance:

Proclamations

Permits

1. **Liquor Permit-Caleb Patrick, Tamlan 2 store, 625 B West Main St.**

It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilwoman Lemoine to approve the Liquor Permit for 625 B. West Main St. All in favor, motion carried.

Reports

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

There were a total of 708 complaints in the month of October -2020 of which 300 required reports. There were 6 citations issued 23 arrests of which 16 were felony arrest and there were 27 accidents reported. Chief of Police Neal Lartigue announced that the Baton Rouge Sheriff Department donated three vehicles to the Ville Platte Police department.

1. **2010 Chevy Impala vin#2G1WA5EK2A1121030**
2. **2009 FORD Vin#1FMFU155X9EB03169**
3. **2010 CHEVY IMPALA VIN#2G1WD5EN2A1124616**

**City Engineer’s Report-Ronnie Landreneau-**

City Engineer Ronnie Landreneau reported that the Street Project Ville Platte will not begin until January 2021.

With there being no other business, Mayor Vidrine called for a motion to adjourn. A motion by Councilman Sam and seconded by Councilman Joseph to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried

**Meeting was adjourned at 6:05**

**Approved By:**

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**Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor**

**Attest By:**

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**Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk**