

City of Ville Platte
Regular Monthly City Council Meeting

126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for December 8, 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, December 8, 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, Chris Soileau, Fire Chief and Administrative Secretary Hilda Edwards

Absent: Police of Chief Neal Lartigue and city Attorney, Eric Lafleur

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, and Lionel Anderson, Admin. Asst. Hilda Edwards and Chris Soileau, Fire Chief

On Zoom: Councilmen Donald Sam, Jerry Joseph, Mike Perron and Councilwoman Faye Lemoine.

Mayor Vidrine requested the following items be added to the agenda:

1. Special meeting minutes for November 20, 2020
2. Mayor Pro-Tempro
3. Liquor Permit

It was moved by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Joseph to add the three items to the agendas as requested by Mayor Vidrine. All in favor, motion carried

- **Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting November 10, 2020**

It was moved by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

Item added to the agenda-Special Meeting for 11.20.2020

It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held 11/20/2020. All in favor, motion carried

- **Monthly Report for November 2020 (Budget to Actual)**

Mayor Vidrine announced, the expenses for the month of October were \$177,470.93 expenses for the month of November were \$155,682.04; and the expenses for the month of November were \$21,788.89 less than the month of October.

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

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor reminded everyone that we are still in Phase 2 of COVID 19 and testing will be given on December 9th at the Civic Center from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

The Ribbon cutting for the new AT&T tower located near Walmart is up and running. Ville Platte will also have another internet service coming to Ville Platte

The Street Department staff has increased to 24 workers and with that the city purchased two new dump trailers.

Mayor Vidrine congratulated Nicole Snoody as the new City Marshal.

The Street Sweeper has been repaired and the new operator has been practicing and reading the guidelines for operating the street sweeper.

All of the new equipment for the street department has been picked up.

Council Comments

Councilman Sam-no comments. Councilman Joseph- no comments, Councilwoman no comments, Councilman Riggs inquired about the refinancing the Bonds. Councilman Riggs inquired about the fence on Derouen, Mayor said she is waiting on one more quote.

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

No public comments

Agenda Items:

1. Fire Chief Report

There were 26 calls made in the month of November to the Ville Platte Fire Department, which includes the Fire District. The Fire department has an opening for a Firefighter Operator.

It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the list of holidays as present by the Mayor for the year 2021-2022. All in favor, motion carried.

Holiday Closures:

1. Martin Luther King's Day-January 18, 2021, Monday
2. President's Day-February 15, 2021, Monday
3. Mardi Gras-February 16, 2021, Tuesday
4. Good Friday-April 2, 2021, Friday
5. Memorial Day-May 31st, 2021, Monday
6. Juneteenth Day – June 18, 2021, Friday *(*Observance*)
7. Independence Day-July 5th, 2021, Monday *(*Observance*)
8. Labor Day, September 6, 2021, Monday
9. Columbus Day-October 11, 2021, Monday
10. Veteran's Day-November 11, 2021, Thursday
11. Thanksgiving Day-November 25, 2021, Thursday
12. Day after Thanksgiving Day-November 26, 2021, Friday
13. Christmas Eve Day-December 24, 2021, Friday
14. Christmas Day-December 27, 2021, Monday *(*Observance*)
15. New Year's Day-January 3, 2022, Monday *(*Observance*)

***Observance-Holidays that falls on a Saturday or Sunday**

Juneteenth Day – June 19, 2021, Saturday

Independence Day, July 4, 2021, Sunday

Christmas Day, December 25, 2021, Saturday

New Year's Day, January 1, 2022, Saturday

2.

Item added: Mayor Pro-Temp

It was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Joseph to approve Councilwoman Lemoine as Mayor Pro-Temp for the year 2021. All in favor motion carried.

Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties

Mayor announced that we are still sending letters out for overgrown grass and blighted property.

We will continue to serve property owners with Letters of Compliance for abandoned houses and overgrown lots.

Two houses for demolishing located at 829 West Hickory and 733 S. Dupre Street, Ville Platte.

Resolutions:

Ordinance:

Proclamations

Permits—Liquor permit for Mr. Phillip Faulkenberry to open Scooter's Bar on Main St.

It was moved by Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Riggs to detain the liquor permit requested by Mr. Phillip Faulkenberry until January, pending review of the application by the legal department. All in favor, motion carried.

Reports

Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 633 complaints in the month of November -2020 of which 450 required reports. There were 10 citations issued 29 arrests of which 15 were felony arrest and there were 22 accidents reported.

Mayor Vidrine announced that, retired State Trooper Willie Williams has joined the Ville Platte Police Department as a Trainer and Consultant. The bids for the teaser for the Ville Platte Police Department were opened and the process of purchasing the teaser has started.

City Engineer's Report-Ronnie Landreneau-

Mr. Landreneau reported on the gas meters.

Mayor Vidrine requested that a map be provided to the council of the streets that will be repaired or overlay.

Adjournment

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

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:41

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Shountilez L. Williams, City Clerk