

Ville Platte City Council Minutes for May 10, 2022

City of Ville Platte, Public Hearing held at 4:45 PM

Public Hearing to receive public comments and input regarding on the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant application, more specifically an application regarding the “Love Louisiana Outdoors” Program and the housing and community development needs of the City of Ville Platte, Louisiana.

126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA

Chief Administrative Officer Dirk Deville opened the Public hearing for the Love Louisiana Outdoors grant and gave a brief explanation as such. Mayor Jennifer Vidrine further iterated the commencement of the Love Louisiana Outdoors grant Public Hearing receiving public comments regarding the City of Ville Platte’s application for same and read the posting announcing same on the May10, 2022 Ville Platte City Council Agenda.

There was brief discussion amongst council members present.

No other comments were made.

At 5:00 PM Mayor Jennifer Vidrine announced the public hearing was concluded.

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

**126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for May 10, 2022 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, May 10, 2022 5:00 PM. The *The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Vidrine.*

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jennifer Vidrine, Councilwoman Faye Lemoine, Councilmen Jerry Joseph, Mike Perron, Jordan Anderson, Bryant Riggs, and City Clerk Hilda Edwards, and Dirk Deville, Chief Administrative Officer, Chris Soileau, Fire Chief.

Absent was: Councilwoman Christina Sam and City Attorney Eric Lafleur

Following the Invocation and Pledge, roll called by Hilda Edwards, 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 Meeting of April 12, 2022 & Special Meeting of April 19, 2022

It was moved by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilman Perron to approve the minutes of April 12, 2022 and April 19, 2022 meetings as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

2. Monthly Report for March/April 2022 (Budget to Actual)

The expenses for the month of March 2022 were \$208,669.41 and the expenses for the month of April were \$194,586.08. The expenses were \$14,089.33 less in the month of April than in the month of March. The city did have one-time expenses of \$14,548.00 for a pump at a lift station and \$6,905.42 for expenses

at the Ardoin lift station and some maintenance on city generators. The Budget to Actuals for all departments and the **LAMP Report** were discussed as well.

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilwoman Lemoine to approve the May monthly report. All in favor, motion carried.

Items added to the Agenda:

Mayor announced council would review the fire department's cooperative endeavor agreement for the use of the Belaire Cove training center as a part of the fire chief's report (Agenda Item 1).

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Vidrine commented on the new phone system and its installation. Mayor Vidrine also commented on the June 3rd registration for participants in the Girls-Boys Place program which is scheduled to begin June 6. She advised that while the program is free, donations would be gladly accepted. Mayor Vidrine advised that the installation of the Smart Fusion System, new software to manage out utility systems, would be going live in early June. She explained the system would help manage all departments including purchase orders, center rentals, occupational licenses, etc. She advised while the phone system is new, the emergency number is the same and she reiterated someone is always on call. Mayor Vidrine commented on the demonstration earlier in the day of a new system produced by a company from Texas to clean culverts and help with drainage and she announced that another demonstration will be scheduled in the near future. She briefly discussed the Love Louisiana Outdoors grant application for \$400,000 the city is completing and the new monies available for sewer and water and the city's efforts regarding those monies. She discussed the \$300,000 Delta Regional Grant the city has been awarded for sewer repairs and discussed the a Louisiana Government Assistance Program (LGAP) and the Community Water Enrichment Program (CWEP) grants through which we will be making applications to purchase generators for both the water and sewer departments.

Mayor Vidrine then asked for a motion to add the fire department's cooperative endeavor agreement previously mentioned to use the Belaire Cove Training Center to the agenda as Item 1-A, motion was made by Councilwoman Lemoine and seconded by Councilman Joseph and the item was added without opposition.

Council Comments:

Lemoine: Councilwoman Lemoine expressed appreciation for efforts to secure funds for generators for the water and sewer departments and she expressed her enthusiasm regarding efforts to address our needs to alleviate culvert blockages.

Joseph: Councilman Joseph had no comments.

Anderson: Questioned about the Girls-Boys Place program, who's eligible and when? Mayor reiterated previous info.

Perron: Commented on need for culvert cleaner.

Riggs: Asked about progress on land use program (Mayor advised that we had met with Mr. Purvis Morrison earlier that day and he would be scheduling site visits and updating the council soon). Commented on the need for a side shredder and suggested personally going visit some roadside dealers in our area to see if we can negotiate a purchase. He commented on the need to put the street sweeper in use, generated some discussion about not using it on streets being repaired until repairs complete, but using it

on streets either complete or not in the repair program. Agreed to test sweeper in the Jefferson, Laran, Derouen Street areas. Commented on need for an additional trackhoe.

Mayor Vidrine added that we were starting our budget preparation and advised department heads etc. should submit wish lists. Thanked staff for efforts earlier in the day with culvert cleaner and advised she would be doing a walkthrough of all facilities in the near future.

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

The mayor then proceeded with the Agenda Items:

- 1. Fire Chief Report-** Fire Chief Chris Soileau made the following report for April – 20 calls for the Ville Platte area, including 1 structure fire call, 1 vehicle fire call, 4 grass fire calls, 8 alarm activation calls, 1 hazardous condition call and 5 service calls. He advised that they are continuing their annual pre incident plans with commercial occupancies. He reported they have completed host testing and will begin apparatus pump recertification soon.
- 1A.** After a brief explanation the council, on motion by Councilman Perron and Seconded by Councilman Joseph, and without opposition, approved the cooperative endeavor agreement between the Ville Platte Fire Department and the Evangeline Parish Fire Protection District 2.
- 2. Engineer’s Report – Toby Landreneau.** Mr. Landreneau commented on the street repair and overlay project. The mayor advised that the city would be applying for the maximum grant amounts for both the LGAP (Louisiana Governmental Assistance Program) for a generator for the sewer department and the CWEP (Community Water Enrichment Fund) for a generator for the water department. After a question by Councilman Riggs, Mr. Landreneau briefly commented on the parks projects as well

The council then proceeded to Agenda Item No. 4.

- 4. Change June Meeting June 14th for budget to June 13th.** – After a brief explanation, on motion by Councilman Joseph and seconded by Councilwoman Lemoine, and with no opposition, the council adopted the motion to move the June 14th meeting to June 13th.

The council then proceeded to Agenda Item No. 3.

- 3. Adopt 2022 Millages** – After an explanation by Chief Administrative Officer Dirk Deville, the Council, on motion by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Perron, and without opposition, the council adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2022 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the City of Ville Platte, Louisiana:

MILLAGE

General Alimony	7.060 mills
Streets and Drainage	9.870 mills
Waterworks Facilities	15.100 mills
Police and Fire	4.040 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Evangeline, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for year 2022, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Council members Anderson, Joseph, Lemoine, Perron and Riggs

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Council Member Sam

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the city council meeting held on May 10, 2022, at which meeting aq quorum was present and voting.

Ville Platte, Louisiana, this 10th day of May, 2022.

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

The council proceeded to Agenda Item No. 5.

5. **Approve Official Municipal Journal (The Gazette)** – On motion by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilman Joseph and without opposition the motion to name The Ville Platte Gazette as the official municipal journal was adopted.
6. **There was no report for Abandoned Property/Blighted/Overgrown Properties**

Resolutions

1. **Love Louisiana Outdoors Grant**

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Joseph:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION INDICATING THE INTENTION OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, AUTHORIZING MAYOR JENNIFER VIDRINE TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (LCDBG) FUNDING THROUGH THE LOVE LOUISIANA OUTDOORS PROGRAM AND TO GRANT MAYOR JENNIFER VIDRINE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE OFFICIAL SIGNING OF ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH SAID APPLICATION, INCLUDING ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS OBLIGATING THE CITY RELATED TO ENGINEERING NEEDS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SAID APPLICATION AND/OR PROJECT SHOULD GRANT BE RECEIVED.

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Office of Community Development (OCD) has made the City of Ville Platte aware of the Love Louisiana Outdoors Program grant opportunity through the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4546.2 of the Act, the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte State of Louisiana, desires to approve the appointment of Mayor Jennifer Vidrine to serve as a Director of the Authority and to approve the appointment of Hilda Edwards to serve as an alternate Director to act in the absence of the director herein above named;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, acting in such capacity: Does hereby authorize Mayor Jennifer Vidrine to apply for Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) funding through the Love Louisiana Outdoors Program and to grant Mayor Jennifer Vidrine signatory authority for the official signing of any and all documents associated with said application, including any and all documents related to engineering needs and costs associated with said application and/or project should grant be received.

The resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote being their own was as follows:

Yeas: Council members Anderson, Joseph, Lemoine, Perron & Riggs

Nays: None

Absent: Council member Sam

And the resolution was declared adopted on this 10th day of May, 2022

ATTEST: Dirk Deville
Title: Chief Administrative Officer

NAME: Jennifer Vidrine
Title: Mayor

Ordinances:

None

Proclamations:

None

Permits:

None

New Business

None

Reports

Chief of Police's Report-Neal Lartigue

There were a total of 726 calls for assistance in the month of April 2022---14 citations, 13 misdemeanor arrests, 10 felony arrests, officers responded to 17 automobile accidents with 0 fatalities. Calls were up 6, citations down 1, misdemeanor arrests were up 1, felony arrests were up 1, accidents down 1.

Mayor finally reminded all of budget hearing on June 13.

Adjournment

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

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Hilda Edwards, City Clerk