

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

**126 E. Main Street, Ville Platte, LA
Minutes for October 11, 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, October 11, 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, Christina Sam, City Clerk Hilda Edwards, Police Chief Neil Lartigue and Chris Soileau, Fire Chief.

Absent were: 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.

Mayor Vidrine asked for a motion to amend the agenda to make Item No. 14 Appointment of Assistant Police Chief, at the request of Police Chief Neil Lartigue, and to change “Dog Pound – Committee update” from Item No. 14 to Item No. 15. That motion was offered by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Joseph and adopted without opposition.

1. Minutes-Regular Meeting of September 13, 2022

It was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilwoman Sam to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting as presented. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

2. Monthly Report for August/September 2022 (Budget to Actual)

The expenses for the month of July 2022 paid in August 2022 were \$247,321.00 and the expenses for the month of September 2022 paid in October 2022 were \$216,521.89. The expenses were \$41,543.89 less in the month of September 2022 than in the month of August 2022.

It was moved by Councilwoman Sam and seconded by Councilman Anderson to approve the September monthly report. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Vidrine announced that the “Mayor’s Comments” and “Council Comments” would be addressed after “Agenda Item No. 2”.

Public Comments on Agenda Items listed (4 minutes each) – Mayor Vidrine called for public comments on agenda items. With no one wishing to make public comments on agenda items, Mayor Vidrine moved on to Agenda Items.

Agenda Items:

The mayor then proceeded with the Agenda Items:

- 1. Resolution – ARPA Fund Expenditures** – Mayor Vidrine advised that the city had received its second funding of the ARPA (American rescue Plan Act) money in the amount of 1.3 million

dollars. Mayor Vidrine advised that the resolution would give the city permission to use some of the ARPA funds to pay off the balance of \$129,069.50 owed on the 17 utility trucks and the balance of \$77,739.65 owed on the backhoe for a total of \$206,809.15. A motion to approve the resolution was offered by Councilwoman Sam and seconded by Councilman Joseph. Without opposition, the motion was approved.

- 2. Cancellation of Expenditures** – Mayor Vidrine announced that because the city had paid off the trucks and the backhoe and had previously paid off over eight million dollars worth of bonds early we saved \$902,868.00 and that maybe Ville Platte was the only city in the state that is debt-free. She said “the money saved will go back into the community to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Ville Platte”. She said “we will be paving more streets and we will be building more parks and we will have better infrastructure, water wells, water plants, we will not have annual notes, we will not have monthly notes, and all of the money will be going back into the community. We will be helping with drainage, buying culvert cleaners, a big tractor with a side boom, we will be able to cut the grass in our ditches, outside the ditches, we will be able to put the machines inside the canals to clean the canals, so all of this will be done because we were fiscally responsible, fiscally frugal, looking at the budget, with our purchase order system and all, but more importantly, we got engaged with what is the model of the future, and that is public-private partnerships, and that’s how we were able to do what we did with those bonds and save us almost \$1 million a year. In fact, we have here, the private public partnership guys from Sustainability Partners, we have Mr. Bert Carson here, we have Mr. Eric Street here, and we have Mr. Jason”. Mayor Vidrine then asked them to please Stan and she thanked them for being here. Mayor Vidrine continued, “Four outstanding bonds that if we had not paid off we would have been paying until 2033. So we are paying these bonds off 11 years in advance, and that’s how we were able to save this money, but more importantly, we were able to do this pay out without raising taxes and without raising the revenues. So, all of this is because of this savings here. Not taking anything from the public, but putting this back into the community. So that’s why it’s a good day for the city of Ville Platte. and with that she began what she called her bond far.” She had the fire chief lite a fire in a gumbo pot and proceeded to burn what she called a bond from the Louisiana Department of health marked canceled. Next, she prepared to burn the next Bond and while doing so briefly reference the previous bond she burned as being worth eight point something million and then identified the amount of the current bond she was burning as \$2 million and then she referenced another bond that would be being burned for 1.2 million and then another one for \$1 million. she then referenced the next note that she was burning was for the 17 utility trucks and while doing so referenced a copy of the check that was used to pay off the note for the utility trucks which she was holding. She then referenced the backhoe and the note that we paid off with regard to the backhoe and she made note that because we were paying the backhoe off early we were saving \$5100. And then she proudly proclaimed Ville Platte we are debt free. She then commented that we wanted everyone to know that this was done with the support and the vision of the Ville Platte City Council and she thanked the council for that vision that has made the town now debt-free. She then took a moment to assure the public that this was not being done because it was an election year, that this was in fact always on the books to be done, and then we had Covid. Then she explained that once we got by Covid and the flooding and the freezing, with the monies provided for the Covid recovery and the savings that would be recognized from paying all this debt off early the city will now be able to fulfill its wish list and take care of the wishes of each councilman’s districts. And then she finally thanked Sustainability Partners for their assistance. She then reverted back to the “Mayors comments”.

Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Vidrine announced that the cancer walk would begin Saturday October 15 at the Martin Luther King Park with a 9 AM registration and the walk starts at 10 AM and along with the walk

and the meals any proceeds from the event would be benefiting the local Pink Sisters On The Rise Cancer Walk. She announced the city would be posting the route on its website. She said the walk would begin at Alton locks turning right on MLK Drive and then left on Dr. Carver and then right on Cotton Street then left on Court Street then right on Main Street and then turn right on Southeast Railroad Street and stop and take pictures at City Hall. The walk would then proceed down Southeast Railroad Street and take a right on Cotton Street and then go down and take a left on Harvey Lebas Drive and then a right on Hickory Street and then continue back to the MLK Community Center.

Council Comments

Councilwoman Lemoine had no comments to begin. Councilwoman Sam then asked about the piles of debris left over from the overlays and the process of removing same and Clerk Hilda Edwards advised that she had spoken with Toby Landreneau of the engineering firm and that the product would have to be separated before it would be removed and that they were in the process of making that happen. Councilwoman Sam then commented on all of the trash on the street and in the ditches and Mayor Vidrine advised that was one of the things we were addressing by buying the machine with the boom that would go into the ditches and scrape the ditches picking up all the trash and cut the grass as well. Councilwoman Lemoine then asked about the timeline of actually acquiring the machine and Mayor Vidrine advised that it had been put out for bids and Mayor Vidrine then asked Street Commissioner Don White for a timeline. Commissioner White advised that it would take about two weeks. The Mayor then suggested a motion to approve the purchasing of three machines once the bids were in. She advised that one of the machines would be a culvert cleaning machine, one of the machines would be a tractor with a side blade and the third one would be an excavator for cleaning out the ditches. Mayor Vidrine asked that the motion be specific to authorizing staff to prepare a purchase order and purchase the equipment from the individual giving the lowest bid. The motion was offered by Councilwoman Lemoine seconded by Councilman Joseph and without opposition approved.

Council woman Lemoine then asked to be recognized and asked about the demonstration Mayor Vidrine had talked about at the last meeting for cleaning the canals. Mayor Vidrine reassured Councilwoman Lemoine that the gentleman with the machine to clean the canals had planned on coming yesterday to do his demonstration but realized City Hall was closed. Mayor Vidrine said she was certain he would be here either Wednesday or Thursday or next week. Mayor Vidrine reminded everyone that this is something the city will have to do, the parish used to do it but the city has begged and begged the parish to do it and because they haven't the city will have to do it. The city will be contracting with the gentleman who has the machine that will go into the canals and clean out the canals.

Councilman Perron asked if it was the canals with the concrete side and Mayor Vidrine advised that it was in fact all the canals that would be clean, all 13 canals. The mayor assured the council that she would give them two or three days notice when the gentleman was coming to do the demonstration so they could attend the demonstration.

Councilwoman Lemoine then asked about the canals can with the erosion problems and Mayor Vidrine indicated that once the canals are clean the engineers can look at the erosion problem to try to come up with a resolution.

Councilman Joseph had no comments at this time.

Councilman Anderson had no comments at this time

Councilman Perron reiterated that he had already said his peace.

Councilman Riggs spoke briefly about working together and accomplishing things for the community as a whole. He said every day we should worry about leaving the city better off. He asserted that the citizen's involvement can be powerful. He said that when he's no longer a councilman he will have more power as a citizen than he has had as a councilman.

Councilman Perron took the opportunity to comment further. He said that after 16 years he only had three meetings left and he was glad he was leaving at one of the best times when the city was debt-free and a new council could start over. Mayor Vidrine then thanked Councilman Perron for his efforts in accomplishing all the city is accomplishing at the moment. She said the city's motto is Progress, Progress, Progress!, and asked all to "come grow with us, let us take you to new heights." She continued, "we are busting loose, we are getting fiber throughout the city so that people can move home and continue working in New York or wherever they are working, we are putting up more murals, we are getting grants, we are not using money from the city budget to do these murals, we are fixing all the drainage, we are doing everything we can do. Mayor Vidrine reiterated that Main Street and LaSalle Street are the responsibility of the State of Louisiana and that there's no city council or mayor who can do anything about the state roads. She did however reiterate that "we are on the states list and that those roads are going to be done." She said that she had been in touch with the White House and that through the ARPA funds they will be bringing more technology to the rural areas, she talked about a program called LATEC that would be helpful in bringing technology to the rural areas. She talked about the presidency of the LMA not being hers but being for the city of Ville Platte and giving us a seat at the table so that we could make all these great things happen for the city of Ville Platte. She talked about the \$10 million that we applied for, 5 million to rebuild all 21 of the lift stations and the other 5 million to fix all of our infrastructure so that we won't have sewage backing up anymore. She said "we'll have generators at all of the different water plants" and she talked about the grant for the \$400,000 to put in all of the parks and all of the pocket parks. She said "it's Christmas in Ville Platte, it's past time but we have an abundance of things happening in the city of Ville Platte. It's a good time for us. It's been a long time coming and I've been working hard, but it's a good time. All to benefit the people of Ville Platte. All, for all of us."

Councilman Riggs took the opportunity to discuss the state roads and he brought up that he had talked to the state about priorities and using those monies to fix our roads before we start adding shoulders to roads that didn't have shoulders before. He said he called out the DOTD on doing things like that.

Mayor Vidrine then talked about the roads that we were addressing like David Street, Carl St., and Blake Street in Councilwoman Sam's district, she said "those roads haven't been touched since the 60s, since they were built back in the 60s."

Council woman Sam spoke up and said "yes that is why I'm working so hard to improve those roads."

The Mayor reiterated "yes we were focusing on those roads that had been neglected for so long and making sure that those roads that had been neglected were included in the first round of overlays. That it is our mission to do every street, yes right now we are concentrating on the high

traffic areas and the areas that had been neglected forever, but it is our mission to do every street.” She stressed to the public “we are coming, just hang on because we are coming.” She did take the opportunity to say that Hickory Street was being addressed that we were going to try to put stripes down both sides of Hickory Street and we would be studying the process to potentially widen Hickory Street.

Mayor Vidrine then proceeded back to the Agenda Items.

3. Fire Chief – Chris Soileau

Fire Chief made the following report for September – 21 calls for the Ville Platte area, including 4 structure fires, 1 vehicle fire, 6 grass fires, 1 trash fire, 4 alarm activation calls, a hydraulic oil spill, and 4 service calls.

4. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement – Fire Dept.

Fire Chief Chris Soileau addressed a cooperative endeavor agreement between the city of Ville Platte and the Ville Platte volunteer fire department. He talked about an automatic aid agreement that we have with St. Landry parish and how in the past how we had donated some of our surplus equipment to Saint Landry Parish and now they are returning the favor, they are donating two trucks, one which will go to the Ville Platte volunteer fire department and the other to The Fire District. He said that would benefit us because for our fire ratings we were in need of a reserve fire apparatus and so our cooperative endeavor agreement with the volunteer fire department will allow us to consider that new apparatus as one of our fleet and therefore result in a better fire rating, in addition to having another engine in case one goes down during service. He reminded everyone that there was a ban in effect for the city, but agriculture burning was exempt. He then urged adoption of the cooperative endeavor agreement. Mayor Vidrine then called for a motion on the cooperative endeavor agreement and it was moved by Councilman Perron and seconded by Councilwoman Lemoine and without opposition the cooperative endeavor agreement was approved.

The mayor then said that while they had discussed adding the cooperative endeavor agreement before the meeting it had not been done so she asked that someone make a motion to formally add that to the agenda at that time and so it was moved by Councilman Riggs and seconded by Councilman Joseph.

5. Engineer’s Report – Ronnie Landreneau

City engineer Ronnie Landreneau approached the podium and advised that he would have some comments and then Todd Deville would come up and talk about the Parks project. Ronnie Landreneau talked about the Streets project. He said we hope that all of the street projects will be complete by the end of this week. He said we only have three or four streets left and, weather permitting, it should not be a problem. He did say we had some additional work to be done on Reed Street in Councilman Riggs district and that would be starting following the street projects. Mr. Landreneau advised the council that we had begun work today on the gas bore by Tobacco Plus for the Union Tank Car Company. He explained that the project was to bore a 6 inch line to supply more volume and pressure for a Union Tank Car. The mayor took the opportunity to explain that this was in conjunction with Union Tank Car’s efforts to expand, she said “after two other methods had failed, this was the best way to help them with their expansion, which means more production in Ville Platte and probably more jobs and anything that’s going to give more jobs to Ville Platte and more economic development and anything that was going to give Ville Platte this opportunity we wanted to make sure that we did our part in helping the company to make that happen.” Mr. Landreneau then presented to counsel a rendering of three parks, Hargrove Park, Hope Park, and North Side Park. He indicated the rendering showed the different

parks and the different facilities, basketball courts, pavilions, water and electrical outlets, splash pads, that would be going to each park. The mayor interjected and reminded everyone that this had been in the books, and now that Covid has passed we will be able to address these things, and that The pavilions at Southside will be finished with walking trails, splash pads, new playground equipment, and she said “in the middle of the facility to where you can be socializing at pavilions and still have your eyes on your children”, she said there will be state of the art equipment at both parks, Hargrove and Northside. She said “these are what’s going to happen at the three big parks, we are going to also be addressing the 4 pocket parks that I discussed earlier, we do not have a rendering of Heritage Manor tonight but that park will be included in the project as well.” Councilman Riggs took the opportunity to talk about the importance of the parks and how it was something that was very important in his young life and explained that’s why he is passionate about making the parks the best they can be. He talked about how when he left for the military and came back and the pool was gone, while the new pavilion was nice, it still somehow left the park a little less intriguing. And now, ever since getting elected to the council, he wanted to do his best to try to make improvements to the parks. He expressed that he was glad to see progress was being made. Councilwoman Lemoine took the opportunity to suggest maybe looking at the idea of converting those tennis courts that were not being used anymore to pickle ball courts. That generated some discussion about the new sport of Pickleball and also motivated Mayor Vidrine to remind the council that we were going to be purchasing equipment suitable for the elderly to help them to exercise. The mayor said some equipment will be for the handicapped and disabled. She reiterated that we want to have something for everybody in our parks.

6. LGAP Application

Mr. Landreneau explained that the LGAP grant application was being prepared and that a resolution was prepared as soon as the council decided exactly what they wanted to apply the LGAP Grant to and that it would be in the maximum amount of \$50,000. He did advise the counsel that November 21 was the deadline. He also advised the council that the water enrichment grant process deadline was November 21 as well. Mayor Vidrine took the opportunity to say in addition to these grants we were going to be adding more money to the capital outlay for more streets, big equipment and motor vehicles for the marshal’s office and more vehicles for the city as well. She also said we would be adding monies for computers for the police vehicles. Mr. Landreneau concluded his presentation.

7. Capitol Outlay

Was discussed during Engineer’s report

8. Date Change for November Meeting

Mayor Vidrine explain that it was necessary to change the date because of election day being on November 8. And so she urged a motion to move the November 8 meeting to Monday, November 7. That motion was offered by Councilwoman Sam, and seconded by Councilman Joseph, and without opposition adopted.

9. Election Day Closure

Mary Vidrine also urged a motion to close City Hall on election day, November 8. It was moved by Councilman Riggs second dead by Councilwoman Sam and without opposition adopted.

10. Pink Sisters On The Go

Mayor Vidrine covered the Pink Sisters On The Go Cancer Walk in her comments

11. Halloween Hours

Mayor Vidrine then urged a motion to set Halloween hours for October 31, Monday, from 6 PM to 8 PM. In addition mayor Vidrine advised there would be a Rock the Block Party Thursday, October 27 around the hundredfold café area from 5:30 PM to 8 PM. The mayor also advised that they were in the process of trying to bring back the Girls-Boys place haunted house. Councilman Perron suggested trying to have the haunted house on a night other than the Rock the Block Party or the Halloween trick-or-treaters. Mayor Vidrine indicated that this was in fact her intention. Mayor Vidrine took the opportunity to thank Mrs. Sawtelle for being there this evening and for their involvement in the Block Party. She thanked her for all of their Farmers Market activities and asked when would there be another one, to which Mrs. Sawtelle advised there would be a Farmers Market on the Saturday, November 19th from 8am to 1 pm before Thanksgiving.

The mayor then urged a motion for the Halloween hours being from 6 to 8 on the 31st. It was moved by Councilwoman Lemoine and second by Councilman Joseph and without opposition adopted.

12. Closing of Harvey Lebas St. and one way for Homecoming

Mayor Vidrine urged a motion to close Harvey Lebas Drive on Friday for the Ville Platte High homecoming from Cotton Street to MLK Street for safety reasons. The mayor explained there would be an exception from 7 AM to 9 AM for people who are renting booth space from Ville Platte High, in other words the proceeds going to Ville Platte high, for unloading and loading purposes. After 9 AM if anyone needed to bring something to or from their booths, they would have to do so on foot. Police Chief Neil Lartigue took the opportunity to ask the mayor and council to consider adding to their motion closing the remainder of Harvey Lebas all the way to Hickory Street after the schools closed. And so the mayor urged a motion to close Harvey Lebas Drive for the day from Cotton Street all the way to Hickory Street with the exception of 7 AM to 9 AM, making it a one-way from Cotton Street to MLK for loading and unloading for booth space and the closure would extend to the side streets off of Harvey Lebas Drive as well. The motion was offered by Councilman Joseph seconded by Councilwoman Sam and without objection adopted.

13. City Hall Closure

Mayor Vidrine urged a motion to close City Hall on Friday October 14 for homecoming. The motion was offered by Councilwoman Sam and seconded by Councilman Anderson and without objection approved.

14. Doug Pound – Committee update

Miss Sonia started by introducing blueprints for the repairs needed at the dog pound. Miss Sonia asserted that the blueprints were designed with the guidelines of the inspection from the state department of agriculture. She submitted a bid from Mr. McBride and a bid from Mr. Joey West. The mayor then advised that they had to wait to accept bids once all bids were in. She went ahead and gave them the bids they did have just so that the council members would have an idea of what to expect. The mayor did explain that according to state they could not accept them because they did need to receive all bids at the same time. Miss Sonia did give a detailed briefing of Mrs. Stevens architectural work for the improvements. Mrs. Karen Perron added her comments about the importance of the improvements. Councilman Riggs commented on the importance of the

project. Councilman Perron suggested the group having a fundraising activity which he indicated would be well received by the public. Animal control officer Aaron Baughman indicated that space was still a problem. Discussion evolved into looking into cleaning out the area where the old sewer plant was to expand the animal control operations. Control officer Baughman suggested an independent webpage for the animal control facility. Mayor Vidrine asked him to get back with her with a proposed approximate cost and she advised that he be sure to adhere to the social media website policy. The mayor took the opportunity to advise that the city would soon be having their own computer technology person and she advised that animal control officer Baughman get in touch with that person and let them help to develop the entire system. Mr. Baughman took the opportunity to announce that someone came and adopted one of the dogs that had been fixed and that it was the first adoption under the new policies. The group concluded their presentation.

Chief Neil Lartigue was then recognized to explain his item on the agenda to reinstate the assistant Chief position. He said sometime back the council had abolish the position of assistant chief. He had requested the abolishment but the paperwork had never been sent in to Baton Rouge and even though the paperwork never been submitted he wanted the counsel to reinstate the position just to be certain it was done appropriately. The chief urged the motion to reinstate the position of assistant chief. It was moved by Councilman Perron, second by Councilman Joseph and without opposition approved.

The chief took the opportunity to submit his report to the council: 734 calls for assistance, 13 citations, 13 misdemeanor arrests, 14 felony arrests, and 14 motor vehicle accidents. The calls were up 46, citations up 4, misdemeanor arrest up 7, felony arrest up 8, and motor vehicle accidents up 2. No fatalities. Chief attempted to conclude his remarks but then the council had some questions. Mayor Vidrine asked if there was any particular place where these accidents were happening the chief said "no, just everywhere." Councilwoman Lemoine asked about the small number of risk considering the amount of calls for assistance, Councilman Perron explained that a lot of the calls were ridiculous. Chief Lartigue explain that most of the calls don't require reports that the state only requires them to do reports for incidents that are going to lead to a criminal investigation. Chief Lartigue explained that the state mandates that a lot of these calls are just allowed citations. He said, "like maybe 40 citations for shoplifting, now that the people have learned that shoplifting is treated like a traffic violation." The mayor asked about calls for domestic violation saying that she gets calls two to three times a week for domestic violence. The chief insisted that those calls are taken seriously and that an individual, if there's any physical evidence, is arrested, and if an individual is charged with the Gwen's law application, the judge will not set a bond and has 10 days to take action. The mayor asserted that's what would upset her is when a woman calls for domestic violation and when the police officer gets there she decides she doesn't want him to go to jail. The chief said if there is evidence of a physical nature, a person will be arrested. The chief said once a complainant tells an officer on body cam that there was a physical assault, someone will be arrested. Councilwoman Faye Lemoine then asked the chief what was DTP, to which he responded disturbing the peace, which he said is also treated with just a citation. The mayor asked the chief to clarify disturbing the peace, she asked about loud music, fighting? The chief said fighting would include violence and that would be an arresting offense. He said, "hollering and screaming, using profanity in public is an arresting offense." The mayor asked the chief to please go over the curfew for the young children so that the public knows that we in fact do have a curfew ordinance in place. The chief said weekdays is 10 PM and weekends is 11 PM, and unless they are accompanied by an adult, those numbers are enforced. The mayor asked the chief to please have the officers stop these children because she gets reports that the officers pass by these children at 2,3 and 4 in the morning and don't even stop to ask the children what they are doing out. The chief insisted he would address that

situation. The mayor urged caution because she said if we're not getting all these young children off the street and they are burglarizing people's houses, the people are not gonna ask how old they are and next thing you know we're going to have a young person getting killed. And then whoever kills them is going to have to live with that. The chief said the burglary and assault activities have subsided in Ville Platte because the leader of the group has been arrested as an adult and two of his associates have been arrested in the Lake Charles area one on an aggravated assault and another on an attempted murder charge in an armed robbery attempt, and also one of the gang members was shot and killed in the Lafayette area. The mayor took the opportunity to announce to the council that she would be having a meeting with the sheriff, The DA and preachers and ministers in the community on October 18 in the council chambers At 10 o'clock in the morning to see if we could all get our heads together to combat some of this juvenile crime. The chief concluded his report.

Abandon properties

The mayor announced that a property had been demolished and cleaned at 607 Oak St. and that a house had been demolished on railroad and the grass had been cut on Edward Knotoe and that an overgrown lot on Laran was seen about in Councilman Riggs's district. Mayor Vidrine took the opportunity to reassure the public that the efforts were ongoing that we were still tearing down and cleaning up. She reassured the council and those in attendance that the city was moving on the list that was cited at the last council meeting.

Resolutions

None

Ordinances

The mayor advised that they were still working on a landlord ordinance she said legal was still looking at that and as soon as they finish looking at that it would be introduced.

Also advised that a lot of people want us to address some of these culvert cleaning systems and that sometimes it will result in breaking out driveways and legal would be looking into who would be responsible for repairing these driveways that need to be broken out to address the stop the culvert situation because a lot of the culverts were installed incorrectly without the cities involvement.

Councilwoman Lemoine then asked "isn't the culvert in the ditch which is part of the right away?" And the mayor said she wasn't referring to culverts that had been installed by the city. Mayor Vidrine asserted that she had asked the same question and that they said, yes it is the city right away, but if it was installed by the homeowner, there may be some liability on behalf of the homeowner.

Proclamations

None

Permits

Ortego Auto Cove - Retail Liquor Permit. The mayor asked if all the paperwork was in order. The clerk advised that everything was in order. A motion to approve was offered by Councilman Perron, seconded by Councilman Joseph and without opposition approved.

Sip and Savor Restaurant - Retail Beer Permit. The mayor asked if all the paperwork was in order. The clerk advised that it was. The motion was offered by Councilman Joseph seconded by Councilman Anderson and without objection approved.

New Business

None

The mayor did take an opportunity to advise the council that a podcast involving the city of Ville Platte had been done by the Louisiana Municipal Association and there would be more information coming on that soon.

She also announced that International Magazine would be here this week and then the Mayor and Ville Platte would be on the cover.

Adjournment

The mayor then entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Joseph, seconded by Councilman Anderson and without objection meeting was adjourned.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM

Approved By:

Jennifer Vidrine, Mayor

Attest By:

Hilda Edwards, City Clerk