

Minutes
Special Meeting
115 N. Thomson, Iowa, LA 70647
City Hall Meeting Room
March 15, 2021 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Paul Hesse and Town Council met in special session this date in compliance with all requirements as to notice.

Present: Mayor Paul Hesse; Council Members: Gerald Guidry, Julie Fontenot, and Daniel Hennigan; Assistant Town Clerk Kim Guillory; and about 15 citizens. Absent was Council Member Joe Becnel and Vernessa Guillory.

Invocation by Mayor Paul Hesse, followed by Pledge.

Mayor Hesse announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

It was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to adopt agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Julie Fontenot, seconded by Daniel Hennigan, to approve regular minutes of March 8, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING FOR PROPERTIES FOR CONDEMNATION:

Mayor Hesse explained that this meeting is for the hearing and documentation of property owners to see if there is action to be taken or if time will be given to property owners for repair or demolition.

Mayor announced the first address, 310 West Third. The owner came forward. Mayor addressed the property owner and said that Corporeal Crooks had sent him a letter about the upkeep of the property. Corporeal Crooks announced that the notice was sent to the owner listed on the Parish web site. The past owner told him it was sold to Mr. Joseph Keith Begneaux. Mr. Begneaux explained he bought it 2 weeks prior to the hurricanes. Mayor asked the amount of time it would take him to repair. Mr. Begneaux said he didn't know how long it will take him but he does intend to repair it. Mayor asked if four months would be sufficient time allowed to begin repairs or give an update on the repairs. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to allow owner four months to give an updated status to the ordinance officer. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor announced the next address, 108 S Storer. He asked if the owner was here. The owner was not present. There was discussion between the Town Council, Town Attorney, and Officer Crooks about the condition of the property, notification process, and if there would be a different way to serve notice. Town Attorney asked the condition of the property. Officer Crooks explained the issues with the building. It was **moved by** Daniel

Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer 108 S Storer to Parish board inspection. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced the next hearing of 512 Railroad. He asked if the owner was here. The owner came forward and gave his name, Jermaine Latigue. Mayor asked for a status update. He said he was cleaning it up. There was discussion about all the properties listed on Railroad being one property. He said that 512, 506B and 506C are all being removed. He is waiting to hear from family about 506A. Mayor said he like to include all 3 addresses with one motion. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **Seconded by** Julie Fontenot to grant the property owner of 512, 506B, 506C Railroad four months to address the conditions of the property. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor stated the problem he had with 506A Railroad, it is a travel trailer. There was discussion if the travel trailer was there prior to the ordinance not allowing residence of camper in the Town of Iowa. Mr. Latigue said that it will probably be moved. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer 506A Railroad for 30 days. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced the next item was 410 S Sherman. He asked if the owner was here. The owners, Valory Jansen-Lord and Tanner Cates came forward. Miss Jansen said the notice went to the previous owner and they purchased it on December 1, 2020. Officer Crooks asked about some of the work has already been done. Mr. Cates told the Council what he has done so far and what he has plans to do. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to grant a four months stay for 410 S Sherman. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address, 402 N Lightner. He asked if the owner was here for this address. Nobody came forward. Mayor Hesse said they would continue on and move this to the bottom of the list.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address, 202 S Knapp. Nobody came forward. Mayor Hesse said they would continue on and move this to the bottom of the list.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address, 100 W. Hwy. 90. Nobody came forward.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address, 104 W. Hwy. 90. Nobody came forward.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address, 106 Larry. The owner, Aaron Peloquin, came forward. He explained that he intends to tear both the mobile home and the shop. Officer Crooks explained that the owner is in the process of eviction of the tenant in the mobile home. Mayor asked the owner how much time he will need to demolish it. He said that as soon as he can have the tenant removed, he would demolish the buildings. The owner asked about condemning the building so he could have the tenant removed. Attorney Bouquet, after questioning the owner and his knowledge of the condition of the building and his agreement to condemn the building with no objection of the process of the

condemnation; It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to condemn 106 Larry. The motion passed unanimously. By unanimous vote the Council ordered the condemnation of 106 Larry. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to give him four months to demolish the buildings at 106 Larry. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced the next address to hear from the owner of 500 Railroad. He asked if the owner was here. Mr. Miller came forward. Officer 02 Railroad. Mr. Miller explained his plans for tearing the buildings down on both properties. He requested four months to do it. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to give Mr. Miller four months to take the activity to tear down the buildings on 500 and 502 Railroad. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced the next item on the hearing list, 410 S Welty. He asked if someone was here for this address. Nobody came forward.

Mayor asked if anybody was here for 310 W Hwy 90. Nobody came forward.

Mayor announced that they would address the owners of properties not present. Mayor asked Officer Crooks to summarize each property. Mayor started with 402 N Lightner. Officer Crooks stated the condition of the property at 402 N Lightner. Council Member Julie Fontenot and Attorney Bouquet asked questions about the proper notification. There was discussion concerning the proper notification for condemnation of buildings. Mr. Bouquet asked that we double check the process and we are doing everything properly. Mr. Bouquet suggested that parish building inspector look at this. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer 402 N Lightner to Parish building inspector. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor said the next one is 202 S Knapp. No report from Officer Crooks was found for this address. After discussion it was concluded that there was error in address. It should have been listed as 202 W Hwy 90. Officer Crooks said it was the old Dounut Wheel. He said that the owners have begun tearing it down. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot since the demolition has started on 202 W Hwy 90 that the next special meeting that an update be given on that address. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor asked Officer Crooks about address 100 W Hwy 90. Officer Crooks said that 100 and 104 W. Hwy 90 is owned by the same person, Lil Reds building. Council Member Gerald Guidry stated that he talked to the owner's son and the owner said he will be tearing it down. Mayor asked if the Council wanted to give him four months to tear it down. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot **seconded by** Gerald Guidry to give the owner of 100 and 104 W Hwy 90 four months to demolish the building. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor asked Officer Crooks about 410 S Welty. Officer Crooks said it is an apartment complex and it was not destroyed by the hurricane. It was in poor condition before the hurricane. It was **moved by** Julie Fontenot, **seconded by** Daniel Hennigan to have 410 S Welty up for inspection by the Parish Inspector for the process of condemnation. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor asked Officer Crooks about 310 W Hwy 90. Officer Crooks talked about the condition of the property. There was discussion of the owners of the property. It was **moved by** Daniel Henningan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to defer this property to Parish Inspector for the process of condemnation. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hesse announced that the next item on the agenda was to review other structures of concern. There was discussion about the next group of submitted addresses for condemnation. Mr. Bouquet suggested that the council review the submitted properties and have discussion for condemnation either at the regular or special meeting. It was **moved by** Daniel Hennigan, **seconded by** Julie Fontenot to accept the report of 21 properties as listed for review and consideration of condemnation. The motion passed unanimously.

No further business to discuss, it was moved by Daniel Hennigan, seconded by Julie Fontenot to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paul Hesse, Mayor

Kimberly Guillory, Asst. Clerk