

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 16TH DAY OF MAY, 2016

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Matthew Linn, President, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Epperson, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Jackson.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Henry Walker, 441 Drexel Drive, Shreveport, came before the Commission to talk about the confederate monument that is located in front of the courthouse. He believes that one of these days, someone will destroy or vandalize the monument. He suggested to move it to the Stoner Cemetery in the section that has been set aside for the Confederate soldiers.

Mr. Rob Broussard, 451 Sandifer, Shreveport, expressed his thanks to the Commissioners that participated in the Broadmoor Neighborhood Association (BNA) forum they just had regarding corruption in politics. Mr. Broussard also announced that the BNA will be hosting a Movie in the Park Night at A.C. Steere Park this Friday. Finally, Mr. Broussard stated that the Governor will be attending a meeting with the BNA and Southern Hills Neighborhood Association. Mr. Broussard also thanked the Commission for providing funding to the BNA tutoring program.

Ms. Candy Peavy, 942 Ontario Street, Shreveport, came before the Commission to answer any questions regarding the animal ordinance. She stated that they have been working on this ordinance for about three years. If anyone has questions, Ms. Peavy can be reached by telephone.

Ms. Josie Harris, 6209 Nottaway Drive, Shreveport, talked about Resolution No. 47 of 2016, regarding electing the MPC board members. She stated that the voters will have the opportunity to select who they want to serve on the board.

Ms. Joyce Lawrence, 4107 Scenic Drive, Shreveport, also talked about Resolution No. 47 of 2016. She stated that she is in support of this resolution. She stated that the role for the MPC board members is to guide and plan development for all citizens. Ms. Lawrence also said that the representatives on the board are representatives of the public, and decisions should be representative of all citizens and not predetermined before a meeting. She reiterated that appointed members are held to the same standard as elected members.

Mr. Billy Wayne, 6144 Fairington Court, Shreveport, also came before the Commission to talk about Resolution No. 47 of 2016. He stated that he is in support of this resolution. He believes that the MPC members should be elected, not appointed.

Rev. C.L. Bryant, 2926 Milam Street, Shreveport, talked about the Confederate monument in front of the courthouse. He stated that sometimes history is painful, but it is still history.

Pastor Clyde Jones, Sr., 3007 Fisher Street, Shreveport, asked that the Commission look at the adjudicated property that he submitted an application in, but was never notified of the bid date. He stated that his church was going to use that area for a parking lot, but it is now unavailable. He would like the Commission to put the property back, so his church has an opportunity to bid on it.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Update—Adjudicated Property Program
Mr. Bryan Barrios, Chief Executive Officer
Civic Source

Mr. Barrios introduced himself to the Commission. He stated that there have been some discussion regarding the adjudicated property. He explained that his company works with Sheriff Prator's Office dealing with tax sales.

Mr. Barrios also explained that they were asked to help resolve an issue with the City of New Orleans that involved the placement of guaranteed title insurance on the property. In March of 2015, the City of New Orleans gave Civic Source 6,000 properties, all of which were prescreened, i.e. no redemption certificate on file, property has been adjudicated for at least five years, tax certificate on file, etc. Of those 6,000 properties, Civic Source was able to put 957 of them back into commerce; 201 were redeemed and the rest were sold.

He also said that St. Tammany, St. Peters, St. Mary, Bossier, and many more parishes are on the verge of being on their website. He explained that the governing entity provides them with a list

of properties, where they prescreen them. Out of the prescreened properties, the governing entity then tells Civic Source which properties they would like to be posted on their website. He also stated that they do not charge the governing bodies because their company is market-driven. If an individual is interested in the property, they go to the website, place a deposit which will initiate the pre-sale process; this takes approximately 120 days. He stated that the whole process is handled through Civic Source. He also explained that anything above the various costs for the sale goes to the Commission.

Answering a question from Mr. Jackson regarding the residents that do not have access to the internet, Mr. Barrios stated that there will be terminals in place for anyone that would like to see the properties but does not have access to the internet.

Mr. Jackson asked about computer illiteracy. Mr. Barrios stated that there is a customer service representative to help those individuals out. He also pointed out that there have not been any issues with computer illiteracy.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if Civic Source was more for adding value to the community or bringing in revenue. Mr. Barrios believes that putting blighted and adjudicated properties back into commerce add value to the community and bring in revenue. Mr. Jackson is concerned with absentee landowners; people that buy the properties, but do not maintain them. Mr. Jackson wants to ensure that the adjudicated properties that are sold, add value to their community.

Mr. Dominick believes "we're putting the cart before the horse". He suggested to send this to committee to be properly vetted. Mr. Dominick stated that the Commissioners have several questions, and the more appropriate way is to send this to committee.

- Update—Caddo Community Action Agency
Mr. Laurence Guidry

Mr. Guidry provided a copy of the CCAA Annual Report for the Head Start Program. He also said that this is not a financial report, but a progress report of the staff and the children. Currently, there are 1,648 total in the early Head Start and the Head Start Program. He was excited to announce that the first graduation of the early Head Start Program will be next year.

Mr. Guidry thanked the Commission for allowing them to administer the program on their behalf.

That concludes the Administration Report, my staff and I will answer any further questions that you may have.'

COMMUNIQES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Notice of Intent: Notice is hereby given that the Caddo Parish Commission of Caddo Parish, Louisiana (the "Parish"), plans to consider ordinances to adopt (levy) the Parish's ad valorem tax millages for properties within the Parish of Caddo, at the meeting on Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at the Government Plaza Building, 505 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana. At this meeting the Parish will consider adoption of its General Purpose Millages, Special Purpose Millages, and Debt Service Millage. The Parish will also consider adoption of the values fixed or to be fixed by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public service corporations and consider setting the assessments of property classified as timberlands

- Notification of alcohol beverage sales to minors. Alcohol Beverage Hearing set for June 6, 2016, at 2:15 p.m.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts invited all elected officials to the city-wide Stop the Violence Rally that will be held on Tuesday, May 24th at 6:15 PM at Winnfield Funeral Home, 3701 Hollywood Avenue, Shreveport. She stated that admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Commissioner Stormy Gage-Watt (318) 364-0334 or Commissioner Lyndon Johnson at (318) 218-0778. She also requested that Mrs. Grindley help publicize and be in attendance at the meeting.

- Prayers to all the family and those affected by the shootings, Mr. Middleton said. He pleaded with the public to stop the violence and senseless killings that have been circulating through the community.

Mr. Middleton also talked about allowing transgenders in the bathroom with what they identify themselves with. He stated that he has issues with the federal government telling the state, who in turn is telling the local governments they have to do this. He does not believe that this should be demanded by the federal government.

Mr. Middleton also talked about CPERS. He stated that the hot topics when he was running for his Commission seat was CPERS, health insurance, and travel. He commended Mr. Jackson

for bringing these issues to the floor when they were first sworn-in. Mr. Middleton stated that the people in the community are still wanting the money to be put back. He also suggested to have the Parish Attorneys handle this litigation instead of using the taxpayers' money.

- Mr. Epperson regrettably announced that Mr. Cleonius Banks, Neighborhood Assistance Team, passed earlier this week.

Mr. Cawthorne said that family hour/visitation will be at St. Peters Baptist Church from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 20th. The funeral will be held on Saturday, May 21st at 11:00 a.m., Union Spring Baptist Church.

Mr. Epperson also talked about CPERS. He stated that CPERS nor travel was a concern with his constituents. He believes that these issues are in litigation.

- Mr. Dominick reminded the Commissioners that the By-Laws state items for the agenda must be turned into the Commission Clerk's Office by Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Dominick also talked about the Juvenile Justice Committee Meeting that was held today. Discussion topics included the bill to raise the age to 17 for juveniles, as well as, a request by the Juvenile Court to fund a social worker. He stated that this will be brought to the floor in the near future.

- Mr. Jackson announced that the Economic Development Committee that was scheduled this evening will be postponed to Thursday. He also said that the NAACP will be held tonight at Evergreen Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the wave of violence that has been going on recently.

- Mr. Atkins reminded everyone that the deadline for the NGO applications is June 30th.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Linn reminded everyone of the Charter Review Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th at 12:00 noon in the Government Chambers Conference Room.

Mr. Linn also stated that there is a plethora of items on the agenda today. He suggested that some of the sensitive issues be sent to the proper committees.

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, that *Ordinance No. 5570 of 2016, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$475,000 to provide an appropriation for a sewer project for the Town of Greenwood and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for reconsideration. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, and Smith (10). NAYS: Commissioner Middleton (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning Case P-5-16, in regards to Ordinance No. 5583 of 2016, amending and re-enacting Chapter 54 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances concerning site plan review and to otherwise provide with respect thereto **died for the lack of a motion and second.**

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, that *Ordinance No. 5584 of 2016, amending the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances relative to the sale of adjudicated property to enact Division 3 of Article V, Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances establishing a procedure for the sale of such property pursuant to La. R.S. 47:2201, et seq., and otherwise providing with respect thereto be remanded to the Long Range Planning/Special Projects Committee.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, that *Ordinance No. 5585 of 2016, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to provide an appropriation for the Cedar Grove CDC and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson stated that this organization did go through the process last year. He stated that there is no new money; Five Phase did not want the funds allocated to them. Mr. Jackson is asking for the Commission's support on this ordinance.

Mr. Atkins stated that this is an NGO, and he would like all of the NGO's to go through the same process and be properly vetted through committee.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Linn (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Middleton, and Smith (4). None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 5586 of 2016, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund, the Capital Outlay Fund, and the Economic Development Fund to appropriate \$100,000 for a joint summer youth employment program and crime reduction/prevention activities and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson understands that this should have gone through committee, but this is not new money and is budget neutral. He said this money has already been allocated and the programs would be run through the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Jackson pointed out that this is a collaborative effort to help address the violence in this community.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed with Mr. Jackson. She asked that all of the Commissioners support this ordinance.

Answering a question from Mr. Dominick regarding the term "budget neutral", Mrs. Bryant said that the Commission approved \$100,000 for the Sheriff's Department for law enforcement equipment. She explained that this ordinance would cancel the appropriation for the Sheriff's Department and reappropriate it for the various programs that are listed.

Mr. Linn pointed out that he has emailed Sheriff Prator regarding this ordinance, but he has not received a response from him. He would like to get his viewpoint on this ordinance. Mr. Dominick agreed that the Commission should wait to hear from the Sheriff before moving any further on this.

Answering a question from Mr. Chavez regarding the forty-eight jobs, Mr. Johnson stated that this would be for student workers. He also stated that this is a learning tool for the kids about parish government, and it would also provide money for the kids when they go back to school in the fall. Mr. Chavez suggested a non-paid internship for the children.

Mr. Atkins is concerned with the perception that the Commission has for approving funding for an entity, then coming back and changing our minds and requesting that those funds be redirected. He believes that when allocations are approved, they should stay where they are without the Commission redirecting their funds. He believes that the different law enforcement bodies should determine what to use their funds on that the Commission approved.

Mr. Cawthorne would also like to get some clarity on what the Sheriff wants. He stated that this is an excellent option if the Sheriff does not want the money, but he would like to hear from him first.

Mr. Johnson would like to "tweak" some of the items within the ordinance. He stated that this a positive ordinance and proactive to help bring crime down. He stated that there is always a spike in crime once school lets out for the summer. He believes that involving children into different programs will keep the children from being at home with idle minds.

Answering a question from Attorney Frazier regarding the programs, Mr. Jackson stated that three of the programs are already ran by the Sheriff's Office.

Call for the Question by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mr. Dominick. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (8). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, and Dominick (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Linn**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *that Ordinance No. 5587 of 2016, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$300,000 to provide an appropriation for a monument honoring the U.S.S.*

Golet and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be remanded to the Long Range Planning/Special Projects Committee within thirty days.

Mr. Epperson would like this to go to Committee to have the public's input on this topic. He would like SRAC, the Community Foundation, the City of Shreveport, and citizens to be involved in this discussion.

At this time, Mr. Linn's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 5588 of 2016, authorize the Parish Administrator to execute a new cooperative endeavor agreement with Caddo Ward II Industrial Development Corporation concerning management and maintenance of parish owned property known as an industrial park, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.*

Mr. Dominick stated that this corporation owns and operates the industrial park. This is done periodically, and the corporation has to obtain permission from the Parish in order to cut timber.

Answering a question from Mr. Johnson regarding the time frame in which this expires, Mr. Dominick stated that this is a five-year agreement which expired approximately three years ago.

Answering a question from Mr. Epperson regarding a tax on the industrial park, Attorney Frazier stated that the park does not have a tax. She also said that the funds from the timber cut on the parish's property goes back to the Parish.

At this time, Mr. Dominick's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to table the following resolutions:

- *Resolution No. 40 of 2016, authorizing the termination of outside counsel contract in First Judicial District Court Docket No. 583,388, effective June 1, 2016, and otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 41 of 2016, urge and authorize mediation in First Judicial District Court Docket No. 583,388, and otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 42 of 2016, urge and request former and sitting Commissioners immediately repay parish matching funds that were deposited in their CPERS accounts between January 1, 2000 and April 1, 2015, plus interest thereon, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, and Smith (10). NAYS: Commissioner Middleton (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 43 of 2016, authorizing the Caddo Parish Administrator to approve the assignment, bill of sale and conveyance of State Lease 20279 to Indigo Resources, LLC, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be moved to Thursday's Regular Session agenda for approval. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 44 of 2016, authorize the acceptance of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire be moved to Thursday's Regular Session agenda for approval.*

Mr. Atkins requested some clarity on the LA Compliance Questionnaire. Mrs. Bryant stated that the legislative auditor requires this to be adopted during a meeting. She also said that the Commission is in compliance.

At this time, Mr. Dominick's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to remand the following resolutions to the Long Range Planning/Special Projects Committee:

- *Resolution No. 45 of 2016, authorizing the Parish Administrator to execute a contract with Archon Information Systems, L.L.C., and the City of Shreveport relative to the sale of adjudicated property and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 46 of 2016, authorizing the Parish Administrator to execute an amendment to the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Shreveport and other taxing entities regarding the sale of adjudicated property and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Middleton, *that Resolution No. 47 of 2016, urge and request the Louisiana Legislature to change enabling legislation to require that members of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission be elected by the votes, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's Regular Session agenda for approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Middleton, and Smith (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Dominick, and Linn (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, to *authorize the approval of Mr. Robert "Superman" Blount as a visitor for Thursday's Regular Session*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to *authorize Special Recognition for Mr. Gregory Wilson, 2016 Water System Operations Specialist of the Year North Award from the Louisiana Rural Water Association for Thursday's Regular Session*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1).

It was **moved by Mr. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *for the Commission to convene into Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy in First District Court Docket #583,388*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, Linn, and Smith (9). NAYS: Commissioner Middleton (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Bowman and Jackson (2).

CONSENT AGENDA

Zoning Case Appeal P-4-16, in regards to Ordinance No. 5578 of 2016, amending the zoning of an application which was denied by the MPC, of property located on the west side of Oak Lane, 230 feet south of Margaret Drive, Caddo Parish, LA, from r-A (SPI-2, Residence-Agriculture (Industrial Park Overlay) District to R-A-E (SPI-2), Residence-Agriculture/Extended Use (Industrial Park Overlay) District. The MPC voted 6-1 to deny this application. Applicant is appealing MPC decision. Garrad Sheet Metal, APPLICANT/APPLEANT

Ordinance No. 5579 of 2016, providing for the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016, of Caddo Parish, Louisiana; and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Ordinance No. 5580 of 2016, amending and re-enacting Chapter 8, entitled "Animals & Fowl", of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo

Ordinance No. 5581 of 2016, amending the Caddo Parish Personnel Policy to require that all parish employees hired, appointed or promoted to Parish Administrator/CEO, Assistant Parish Administrator, Parish Attorney, or Commission Clerk must be residents of Caddo Parish, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Ordinance No. 5582 of 2016, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

/s/ Todd A. Hopkins`
Todd A. Hopkins
Commission Clerk