

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S  
LONG RANGE PLANNING/SPECIAL PROJECT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2019

The Caddo Parish Long Range Committee met in legal session on the above date, immediately after Work Session, in the Government Chambers Conference Room, with Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, Chairman, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). ABSENT: None (0).

Also, in attendance were Parish Administrator Dr. Woody Wilson, Assistant Administrator Randy Lucky, Parish Attorney Donna Frazier, MPC Director Alan Clark, Mr. Adam Bailey, and Commissioners Middleton.

The invocation and pledge of allegiance were held earlier in the day at the Work Session.

Chairman Lyndon Johnson stated that on March 7<sup>th</sup> the committee met but lacked a quorum but discussions with the MPC representatives regarding items in Article 16: Zoning Application Approval Processes numbers 114-127 were held and today we have the opportunity to move the aforementioned items forward to the full Commission.

Mr. Bailey stated that items 114-117 were related to Code Text Amendments, where it shows what it should do and map amendment.

**Moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to adopt amendments and move to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

**Moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, to adopt amendments 118-119 and move to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey stated that item 120 deals with the Zoning Application Approval Process, Special Use Permits and 121 also deals with the Special Use Permits in subsection 16.3.

Mr. Johnson stated that he is not comfortable adopting these two items at this time, just because the City attorney has signed off for the City does not mean this is good for the Parish. I would like the Parish attorneys to look at and give us their thoughts.

**Moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Dominick to postpone adoption of items 120 and 121 until next committee meeting. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey stated that item 122 giving the Authority for Administrative exceptions to the MPC Executive Director for variances where appropriate or when application of Code is unreasonable.

**Moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, to adopt amendment 122 and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey stated that the Site Plan Review changes came from the Town Hall meetings around the community where builders and developers asked for changes, so section will be repealed and replaced with the new information.

**Moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, to adopt amendment 123 and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey stated that on 124 just the last four words were removed as a cleanup.

**Moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to adopt amendment 124 and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey explained the changes dealing with the facades of buildings and how it will affect Site Plan Reviews. Minor façade changes would not have to go through a total Site Plan Review. Currently there is no cost for making façade changes, that would need to be done in a later section if that is what the Commission wants to do.

**Moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, to adopt amendment 125 and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey deals with modification of sites without approved site plans.

**Moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, to adopt amendment 126 with corrections and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Bailey stated that item 127 identifies the intent of the Certificate of Occupancy.

Mr. Clark stated that the Certificate of Occupancy basically states that structure meets all codes of construction and is safe for occupancy (use).

**Moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, to adopt amendment 127 and send to full Commission for final approval. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Answering a question from Mr. Jackson regarding certificate of occupancy waivers, Mr. Clark stated that waivers on not dealing with life safety issues.

Next item of business:

*Discuss proposed ordinance to support funding a Louisiana Board of Regents study committee to establish a Law School in Shreveport partnering with Southern University System.*

Mr. Jackson stated that he and Dr. Wilson participated in a conversation this morning concerning bringing a Law School to Shreveport and involving the Southern University System. Mr. Jackson informed the members that New Orleans is also interested in having a new Law School in their city. This afternoon, it was learned that Monroe is also interested in having a Law School there, so Caddo/Shreveport need to be very deliberate on deciding on whether we want to fight to bring a Law School to Shreveport. He believes we need to have a united front on this endeavor.

Mr. Jackson believes there is a need for a large region including northwest Louisiana, east Texas, and south Arkansas. Mr. Jackson stated that a study has to be called by the Regents but they want community buy in and that buy in runs about \$100,000 for the study for the Commission.

Answering a question from Mr. Dominick regarding why the Parish needs to pay for the study when the city and the mayor is all for the effort. Is the City of Shreveport going to help fund study?

Dr. Wilson stated that we talk about the City paying for things but they are in the red at this time.

Mr. Jackson stated that Louisiana State Constitution says that the Board of Regents has to do the Study for a Law School. There was a study done by the Southern System and they see it could work but earlier on resources were not there where now we see better forecasts.

Mr. Atkins believes if there is a real need and backing on this issue it would be a good \$100,000 investment in the community. Is it possible to do a verbal commitment but wait on validation before we have to spend money?

Mr. Jackson believes that if we can get the study done through the Board of Regents, it is likely we have a really good chance of securing the Law School here in Shreveport. There are groups like the ABA and others that may be willing to help fund the total cost put the Commission would need to offer the \$100,000 appropriation to get things moving. This move would set the money aside for a period of time and allow it to be there if the Board of Regents decides to do a study whether a law school is needed in Shreveport and northwest Louisiana. He believes the full cost of a study will run about \$200,000 and that is where other groups come in for the buy-in to the project.

Answering a question from Mr. Atkins regarding it having to be with a 4-year university, Mr. Jackson stated that there are hybrid models available that could help this situation along with commercial models available.

Answering a question from Mr. Cawthorne regarding having a Law School with Southern System or another system, Mr. Jackson stated that he prefers the Southern System because of the ground work that has been done so far but the LSU System or another system could come to the table and that is a win-win situation as far as he is concerned.

Mrs. Gage-Watts stated that she supports this issue and hopes that she, as the President

or the Caddo Commission, will be included in future discussions as they are scheduled.

**Moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to support an ordinance funding a Law School feasibility study in Shreveport up to \$100,000 and send it to the full Commission for introduction and approval.

Mr. Atkins stated that he would like to make sure that when the ordinance is drawn up that it states that the \$100,000 is set aside for study.

Ms. Frazier pointed out that money would be set aside but another ordinance would have to be done to actually appropriate money when time comes.

The group pointed out that money needs to come out of the General Fund.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson and Lyndon B. Johnson (7). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Bowman (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

          /s/Todd Hopkins  
Todd A. Hopkins  
Commission Clerk