

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 2nd DAY OF MARCH, 2020

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Chavez, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4).

The invocation was given by Mr. Taliaferro, and Mr. Burrell led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Hopkins reminded everyone that there will be a UDC Informational meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:00 p.m. It will be held at the Indian Hills Baptist Church.
- Mr. Atkins stated that the Economic Development Committee met today to discuss funding for the Kappa Alpha Psi regional convention. The funding request will be forwarded to the full body for consideration.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Chavez announced that an Alcohol Hearing is scheduled for April 6th at 2:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 5946 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation for the Southern Hills Homeowners Association (SHHA) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Chavez would like to amend the appropriation request to \$10,000.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know if this was a reallocation of an existing request. Mr. Chavez explained that was the confusing part. He said there was a request for \$20,000 for the Southern Hill Business Association, and they did receive it. The Southern Hills Homeowner's Association also submitted a funding request for \$20,000, but he would like to reduce the appropriation to \$10,000. He pointed out that this application was received late. Mr. Chavez also said that this is the only NGO funding that District 10 receives.

At this time, Mr. Lazarus withdrew his second on the original motion.

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance No. 5946 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation for the Southern Hills Homeowners Association (SHHA) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto and the appropriation request be reduced to \$10,000* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 5947 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to provide an appropriation to Strategic Action Council of Northwest Louisiana and to otherwise provide with respect thereto and amending the appropriation and reducing it to \$25,000* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson received a copy of the application. He said that the reduction is not anything against the Strategic Action Council, but he would like to "bring all of the organizations in line with one another" in regards to funding, i.e. African American Chamber of Commerce receives \$25,000; CoHab receives \$25,000, etc. He said that he would like to keep it consistent across the board. He also said that District 3 receives the most funding.

Mr. Taliaferro would like examples of the people or organizations that the SAC has helped in the past.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 5948 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$7,000 to provide an appropriation to Ivy Crown Community Services, Inc., and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson asked for more clarification regarding this organization. Mr. Hopkins explained that they do the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) program as well as provide a shoe bank for children who need socks and shoes. He said that this organization went through the committee and was voted unanimously to forward to the full body.

Mr. Burrell said that this organization does fantastic work for the community. Mr. Jackson agreed that this organization does great work for this Parish, he was just not familiar that Ivy Crown was the organization that conducted the RIF program.

Mr. Chavez also agreed that this is an impactful and worthwhile program. He will be voting to move this forward.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 5949 of 2020, an ordinance to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Resolution No. 15 of 2020, a resolution relative to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Local Road Safety Program; to authorize the Parish to participate in the program and to enter into any necessary agreements with Louisiana Department of Transportation, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Special Resolution of Recognition to Ms. Susan Moffitt for 2020 Time Dealer of the Year award* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Chavez said that this is supposed to be a surprise special resolution. He also pointed out that this is a national award, not just a regional award. He asked that the Commissioners move this forward.

Mr. Burrell clarified that this award is for the Mazda-Porsche dealerships.

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (4). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson would like to add an Executive Session on the Regular Session agenda regarding an update on the Confederate Monument.

He also congratulated Woodlawn, Booker T., Huntington, and Captain Shreve High Schools for their men and women basketball teams. He said that they are all district champions. He also congratulated Centenary College as their men will represent Caddo Parish in the NCAA tournament.

Mr. Jackson requested that Mr. Wesley, Parks & Recreation, provide an update on the list of activities that was sent last week.

He also requested an update on the incident with the dog mauling attack that took place this past weekend. Mr. Travis Clark, Animal Services, explained that they picked the dogs up within an hour and a rabies test was submitted within twelve hours. Mr. Jackson wanted to know what came of the incident. Mr. Clark explained that the animals were humanely euthanized in able to test for rabies. He also explained that the normal process would be to keep the animals for 10 days, but since the owner did not want the animals back and due to the severity of the case, the animals were humanely euthanized.

Mr. Jackson also requested that Mr. Alan Clark, MPC, provide him with an update on the information sent regarding tiny houses.

- Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know if there were any indications that these animals had rabies. Mr. Clark explained that the dogs were living in the house. Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know how did the dogs go from apprehension to euthanasia. Attorney Frazier explained that this investigation is ongoing and should not be discussed in a public forum.
- Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the dogs were in the same house as the victim. Mr. Clark said that they were.

He also recognized Pastor Brandon who was in the audience.

Mr. Burrell asked about the preparedness for the Corona Virus. Mrs. Bryant explained that they are working with the Department of Health & Hospitals and keeping abreast of the ongoing concerns. She also said they are working with HR to ensure there is a plan in place just in case the virus affects the workforce. She also said that they could provide a further update during Thursday's Regular Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Authorize appointment to the Metropolitan Planning Commission to fill the expired term of Mr. Ronnie Remedies. Term to expire January 1, 2026*
 1. *Ms. Lasonya Moore (Gage-Watts)*
 2. *Ms. Laura Neubert (Chavez)*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

/s/ Michelle Nations
Michelle Nations
Deputy Commission Clerk