

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 15th DAY OF APRIL, 2019

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mrs. Gage-Watts, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Smith, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Chavez.

VISITORS

Ken Krefft came before the Commission regarding the Raise the Age Act. He suggested that the Caddo Commission put on the ballot for the citizens to vote on an increase in the millage to help fund the operating costs to hire

Curtis Joseph came before the Commission in support of the proposed HCR 24 for the study of law school in Shreveport.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Dr. Wilson provided a copy of the monthly quarterly financials to the Commissioners.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- 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, May 23, 2019 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 assessment of property classified as timberlands.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mr. Middleton, *that Zoning Case P-9-19, amending the zoning of property located at the three thousand eight hundred block of Old Mooringsport Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-1-7, Single-Family Residential Zoning District* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 5869 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$100,000 to provide an appropriation for a Law School Feasibility Study* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson clarified that this is not a law school at Southern University at Shreveport. He also pointed out that a study must be completed in order to move forward with this law school. He asked that the Commission support this proposed appropriation. He also explained if the Board of Regents does not want to construct a school here, no funds will be expended.

Mr. Middleton suggested reaching out to the adjoining parishes to show more solidarity to get this school here.

Mr. Atkins stated that this is an opportunity where the Parish could make an investment which could lead to an asymmetric return. He said that this could be a long term economic contributor if they are able to secure a law school here.

Mr. Bowman said that this area is a major thoroughfare with I-20, I-49, and I-220. He said that a law school would make this place more viable. Mr. Bowman is glad to see the solidarity of the Commissioners on this proposal.

Mr. Dominick agreed with all of the other Commissioners. He said that there are four law schools in the southern part of Louisiana. He would like to see one in north Louisiana. Mr. Dominick said that he is in support of this ordinance.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also agreed with everyone. She also pointed out that this would be an investment for the future, and she is in support of this ordinance.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 5870 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to provide an appropriation for Taco Wars* be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Chavez explained that the economic impact study came back, and the numbers were not where they needed to be.

At this time, Mr. Cawthorne's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (10). NAYS: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, *that Ordinance No. 5871 of 2019, to amend Ordinance Nos. 5754, 5755, 5757, 5758, 5766, 5783, 5784, 5790, 5799, 5825, 5826, 5827, 5839, 5853, 5856, 5857, and 5861, relative to zoning matters and the Unified Development Code, by amending the reference to Uniform Development Code to read Unified Development Code wherever it appears, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Jackson asked for additional clarification on this ordinance. The Clerk of the Commission explained that the ordinances listed have already been approved, but were found to have a technical error in the title. He further explained that this ordinance just changes the name in the title to "Unified Development Code" not "Uniform Development Code".

Substitute motion by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to englobo and move the following ordinances to Thursday's agenda for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 5871 of 2019, to amend Ordinance Nos. 5754, 5755, 5757, 5758, 5766, 5793, 5784, 5790, 5799, 5825, 5826, 5827, 5839, 5853, 5856, 5857, and 5861, relative to zoning matters and the Unified Development Code, by amending the reference to Uniform Development Code to read Unified Development Code wherever it appears*
- *Ordinance No. 5872 of 2019, to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo*
- *Ordinance No. 5873 of 2019, to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo*
- *Ordinance No. 5874 of 2019, to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending Section 15.1 Code Text Amendment regarding The Amendment Process; by amending Section 16.2 Zoning Map Amendment regard The Amendment Process; by amending Section 16.5 Administrative Exception to Zoning regarding Process and Standards; by amending Section 16.6 Site Plan Review regarding Process and Standards; by amending Article 16 Zoning Application Approval Processes to enact Section 16.11 Certificate of Occupancy*

At this time, Mr. Middleton's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 25 of 2019, to amend Resolution No. 27 and No. 77 of 2018 approving Calumet Shreveport Refining, LLC and Calumet Branded Products, LLC for participation in the Industrial Tax Exemption Program at 3333 Midway Street and 10411 Hwy 1, Shreveport of the project sites* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Louis Johnson, Middleton, and Smith (9). NAYS: Commissioners Jackson and Linn (2). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Bowman**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 26 of 2019, urging members of the Northwest Louisiana Legislative Delegation and the Louisiana Legislature to support House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 24 relative to requesting the Louisiana Board of Regents to*

study establishing a Southern University Law Center Campus in Shreveport be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Judge Shonda Stone came before the Commission to address the law school. She said that extending legal education to diverse populations is a great thing because it provides more public access to the courts. She also said that law schools makes the area more attractive to young people and entrepreneurs. More professionally trained individuals helps this community. She also said that legal education will help more areas of the economy. It will also "stop the brain drain" that has been going on in Caddo Parish. She also said that she is speaking as Shonda Stone, not Judge Stone.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson said that the Commission has something to present to her, so she will need to be in attendance for the Regular Session on Thursday.

Mr. Dominick pointed out that there is not a law school in northern Louisiana. Judge Stone said that she comes across several people who would like to go to law school, but cannot make it Baton Rouge or New Orleans. Mr. Dominick also said that a law school would bring a myriad of other programs that could help the indigent. She agreed. She also said that a law school would "put Shreveport on the map".

Mr. Jackson said that this law school is not just about creating more lawyers; it is about having a community with more critical thinkers and more professional degrees. He also explained that developers look at the number of professional degrees in communities. Mr. Jackson said that there are several individuals who have never practiced, i.e. City Clerk Art Thompson, Mayor Adrian Perkins, Environmental Services Wes Wyche, Juvenile Services Director Clay Walker, etc.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that this would be a great investment for our children and our future. She said that Shreveport deserves to have this law school in this community. Mr. Bowman agreed.

At this time, Mr. Bowman's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Resolution No. 27 of 2019, to amend the Caddo Parish Commission By-Laws regarding Standing Committees* be postponed.

Mr. Dominick wanted to know if a Bu-Laws amendment is needed to set up a committee. Attorney Frazier explained that the request was to set up a standing committee, which requires a By-Laws amendment. She also explained that an advisory committee could be set up without a By-Laws amendment. She said that a standing committee is from here on out, and an advisory committee has a specific mission with an end date after a recommendation is made.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Middleton**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, *that Resolution No. 28 of 2019, a resolution proclaiming and supporting April 14-20 as "National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week" and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Substitute motion by Mr. Dominick, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and move the following resolutions to Thursday's agenda:*

- *Resolution No. 28 of 2019, a resolution proclaiming and supporting April 14-20 as "National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week" and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 29 of 2019, declaring "County/Parish Health Day" in Caddo Parish, Louisiana*
- *Resolution No. 30 of 2019, declaring "National County/Parish Government Month" in Caddo Parish, Louisiana*
- *Reappoint Mrs. Erica Bryant to the Caddo-Bossier Port Commission Board. Term to expire June 30, 2025*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance to Ralph Balentine*

Mr. Dominick thanked Mr. Louis Johnson for the Special Resolution of Remembrance to Mr. Ralph Balentine. He said that family has done so much great work in the community, and it is a huge loss.

At this time, Mr. Dominick's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Bowman announced that the Appropriations Committee will meet on Thursday, April 18 at 2:00 p.m. He also announced that he will be hosting a District 5 Community Meeting on Tuesday, April 30 at the Boys & Girls Club.
- Mr. Louis Johnson announced there will be a District 12 Community Meeting, along with a health fair. He will provide more details at Thursday's meeting.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts announced that the Juvenile Justice Committee will reconvene on Thursday, April 18 at 1:30 p.m.
- Mr. Atkins announced there will be a Finance Meeting on Monday, May 20 at 1:00 p.m.
- Mr. Middleton requested that Dr. Wilson reach out the first responders and be in attendance for Thursday's Regular Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 5865 of 2019, in regards to Zoning Case P-4-19, amending the zoning of property located on the southwest corner of Lakeshore Drive and Interstate Two Twenty, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agricultural District to R-1-7(PUD), Single-Family Residential District*
- *Ordinance No. 5866 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$15,000 to provide an appropriation for the NORWELA Council, Boy Scouts of America*
- *Ordinance No. 5867 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$20,000 to provide an appropriation for the Stuffed Shrimp Festival*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

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