

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2009

The Caddo Parish Commission met in legal and regular session on the above date at 3:30 p.m. in the Government Chamber with Ms. Stephanie Lynch, President, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). ABSENT: None.

The invocation was given by Ms. Lynch, and Mr. Dominick led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Cox, *that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on October 29, 2009, and the Regular Meeting held on November 5, 2009, be adopted.* Motion carried.

COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS

At this time Administrator Woodrow Wilson came forward and reported that Mr. Andrew Minnifield, who has been an employee of the Parish in the Building Maintenance Department, is entering retirement after 33 years. He said that during all that time Mr. Minnifield has utilized public transportation to get to work every day, and never missed a day of work.

Mr. Wilson then presented Mr. Minnifield a plaque stating the Parish's appreciation for his years of dedicated service. Mr. Minnifield thanked Mr. Wilson and the Commission for the sentiments expressed, stating that he had greatly enjoyed his years with the Parish.

Mr. Wilson then stated that in response to a request from the Commission, Mr. Ken Ward, Parish Engineer, was prepared to present a status report on the Parish's quest for federal stimulus funds made available through the American Recovery Act.

Mr. Ward said that the news is good: the Parish applied for 17 grants with a potential value of \$4.1 million. Of that, \$1.5 million has been awarded. He said that some of that consists of projects ranging from DOT infrastructure to energy to diesel retrofits, down to law enforcement and summer workers.

The only grant that has been denied so far is a grant for the roof of the Government Plaza Building, due to a decision by the federal government to restructure the way it awards energy money. Instead the Parish received \$350,000 to perform energy audits and look for other opportunities to leverage that first round of money into some secondary money.

In the first quarter of 2010, Mr. Ward said, the State is going to have two new programs. In one, the State Energy Program, the State is going to be giving out \$71 million to focus on emerging energies and energy efficiencies. In the other, the State will administer \$13.8 million to local governments in the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. This will focus on the small towns of the Parish, he said, but some may return to the Parish. The Parish may have word on these possible grants by the end of the first quarter of 2010.

Another thing that is being explored, Mr. Ward said, is the second round of the DOT infrastructure grant. The first time around the Parish received more than \$700,000 to overlay Woolworth Road. That road project met all the applicable criteria for the grant. There is an opportunity for more grants in the second quarter. Also, he said, the Parish is seeking public works projects grants through the federal Department of Commerce.

There are grants available through the Department of Labor for energy efficiency training: there will be opportunities for the DOL to provide training to Parish employees in energy efficiency. In the middle of 2010 the Department of Transportation will be offering some energy efficiency projects to cut down on fossil fuel emissions, Mr. Ward said.

President Lynch thanked Mr. Ward for the extensive time he has spent pursuing these grants, in addition to his regular duties.

Mr. Jenkins pointed out that the spirit of the Stimulus Program was to create jobs. He asked if any information has been developed on projects that would do that. Mr. Ward said that he has not found that specifically, but the early monies received by the Parish have the purpose of identifying projects for the second round of funding, where the job creation will come in. A lot of the energy grants are not so much job -creating as they are job-retaining, which is equally important. For instance, he said, existing local contractors will be hired to do the energy audits.

Mr. Wilson said that the application itself provides a category for jobs creation and retainment.

Mr. Wilson then stated that in response to a request by Commissioner Jenkins, the staff was prepared to make a presentation on the Disadvantaged Caddo program. He asked Mr. Jack Adger, Purchasing Director, to come forward for that presentation.

Mr. Adger said that some current Commissioners were present on the body in 1999 when the Caddo Economic Inclusion Initiative was adopted by the body. Its purpose was to remove barriers for local disadvantaged business enterprises. It was based on economics; it is gender blind and race neutral. As a guideline it uses the State of Louisiana's LED Small Business Program. At the time of inception the business had to have a net worth of \$750,000 or less, and 51 percent of the ownership had to have individual net worth of less than \$200,000, he said. The initiative established a goal of 25 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation and local purchases, local being defined as Caddo, Bossier and DeSoto Parishes.

Since that time, Mr. Adger continued, there have been some changes to the program. The State has increased the limits; a business can now have a net worth of \$1.5 million, and the owners can have \$400,000 individual net worth, not including their residence. In 2007 Administrator Wilson opened up reciprocal certifications that allow prospective business owners to fill out only one set of papers for submission to all participating government agencies and programs, including Shreveport's Fair Share, the School Board's Opportunity Caddo program, and the State Economic Development and Small Emerging Business program, he said.

Now the Parish has 75 businesses certified under the Advantage Caddo program, Mr. Adger said. The State alone has 300, and the School Board has more than 100. The City has a similar number.

Part of the Parish ordinance specified an outreach effort, he said. Every year the Parish participates in the Minority Business Expo in November, and the annual North Louisiana Government Procurement Conference, a reverse trade show attended by 300 businesses each year. Last year, he said, the Parish participated with the Hispanic Business Council's expo, and the National Association of Women in Construction. Information is also provided through the Chamber of Commerce's Government Procurement Center, as well as the Parish's web site.

There are challenges with the program, Mr. Adger said, such as in certifying or re-certifying businesses. One challenge is that the word "disadvantaged" now has negative connotations—business owners do not want their businesses to be described with that term. The economic limits prevent the Parish from certifying certain companies that have to provide services that require large investments. There is a reluctance for businesses to share their financial information—they do not want their numbers in the hands of government.

There is also the problem of being confused with the City's program and the School Board's program, Mr. Adger said. Other people regard the program as being governmental bureaucracy and red tape, making it too much trouble to get certified. The Parish only has two forms to be filled out, and they can be done on the Parish web site.

In some areas where the Parish has an interest there are just not enough firms that have the capacity to qualify for a program, the major one being road construction. This is equipment-intensive, requiring large investments; the kind of people who invest in those business would not qualify under the personal net worth limits. Materials such as asphalt are bought by the Parish in large quantities, beyond the business net worth limits.

When the Parish buys heavy equipment, he said, few small businesses are involved in the sale of those items. The same is true for automobiles, and most auto dealers would not qualify for the program. Fuel sales and other equipment-intensive purchases are in a range beyond most small businesses, he said.

Insofar as how the Parish now stands, Mr. Adger said, the Parish has a 25 percent goal. In 2008 the Parish's DBE participation was 11.6 percent. Through the third quarter of 2009 it is 13.3 percent.

Over the life of the program, beginning in 2000, which was 3.1 percent participation has steadily improved—a 300 percent increase. By comparison, he said, the School Board's 2008-2009 score was 6.1 percent, and the City's third quarter score was 14 percent.

Mr. Adger said that the Parish's Public Works and Facilities and Maintenance Departments are the Parish's largest insofar as what they spend. They have both made respectable gains over the recent years. Architect and engineering services in Public Works totaled more than \$400,000 in 2008-2009, of which 85.4 percent was DBE.

Part of the struggle in the program is balancing legal requirements with participation, Mr. Adger said. State law does not have a selection method for materials and equipment up to \$10,000. Beyond that to \$29,999 requires a minimum of three quotes. Anything over \$30,000 has to be

bid. This makes it very difficult because this is a low threshold. Furthermore, he said, the Parish is required to accept bids on-line, which has opened up materials and equipment purchases to the entire nation to the detriment of local participation.

Legal requirements for public works—construction or renovation of a moveable property—mandate bids for \$150,000 and above, Mr. Adger said. This too must be posted on-line. Public works less than \$150,000 has no method prescribed by State law, but generally for any project above the \$15,000 to \$25,000 range three quotes are obtained, and they may be from Advantage Caddo vendors.

There are no legal requirements for professional services—architects, engineers and consultants---in State law, Mr. Adger said. These may be obtained through a request for statement of qualifications. Scoring those qualifications statements gives points to DBE status, he said. Some other non-professional services can be obtained through requests for proposals, and in some cases all the requests are sent to Advantage Caddo companies..

On occasion, he said, the Parish can buy equipment through a request for proposal process. State law allows this in the instance of telecommunications and data processing equipment. When the Parish bought a new telephone system in 2009 included in the request for proposals were points on the evaluation form for companies that were certified DBEs. The contract was awarded to a female-owned business, he said.

In the future the Parish will increase participation in the DBE, he said. The State increased its qualification limits, so businesses that were unable to qualify previously may now be eligible. Also, with the economic downturn there are may be individuals whose net worth has decreased. Also, he said, thought is being given to expanding the program into the entire northwest Louisiana region, such as in waste hauling or weed abatement.

Also being discussed is changing the nomenclature from “disadvantaged business” to “small and emerging business”, Mr. Adger stated. Another possibility is narrowing the focus to services. Materials, supplies and equipment is a very difficult area for small businesses to compete in. Services will keep all the money in the immediate area, he said. The Parish is always looking for areas in which it can improve, Mr. Adger said. One of those is in automotive repair, and another is pest control.

Mr. Jenkins thanked Mr. Adger for his report. He said that it is apparent that efforts are being made in the Advantage Caddo program. It is important to remember that this is an “advantage” program, he said. Its purpose is to give some advantages to businesses having some difficulties competing.

Mr. Jenkins said he would grade the program at this point as a “C-minus”. Some things have been accomplished but there is room for a lot more to be done. It appears that on an annual basis the goal of the ordinance is 25 percent DBE for all contracts, he said.

He said he believes that part of the problem exists in the definitions that are being used in the program. He said he would never advocate taking business from someone, or giving business to someone, based on the color of their skin. All he asks is fairness, he said, and it seems that the premise of the program centers on economics. When a disadvantaged business is discussed, that means an economic disadvantage, not a social disadvantage. These distinctions in definitions can make a big difference in the impact on the community, in getting business into the hands of people who have been deprived. Not all DBE businesses now getting contracts are socially disadvantaged, he said.

The ordinance is based on economically-disadvantaged businesses, Mr. Jenkins said. That is not Mr. Adger’s fault, he and his fellow Commissioners are responsible for addressing that, he said. That requires a will from this body to reach out to those who have been socially deprived of business over the years.

Mr. Jenkins said that discussion has touched on some of the challenges the program has faced: the certifying and re-certifying, and the availability of people within the specific areas of interest who have the means and the capacity to accept a major Parish contract. He challenged the Commission to do some creative thinking to come up with new opportunities in other areas. The goal of 25 percent should not just be numbers of people, it should represent amount of dollars as well, he said. In that vein, he asked to see all Parish contracts for 2008-2009, naming the contractors, with their inception date and termination date.

He said that he would also like to know more about the professional services hired by the

Parish. His desire, he said, is to feel that the Parish is doing what is right. There is enough work to go around if the Parish puts together a plan that is right and fair and straightforward. The current ordinance is legally flawed; the Commission has some work to do, he said. A program like this that helps to get people working and sharing the pie, can go a long way in creating jobs and building neighborhoods and communities, he said.

Mr. Escude said that in 1997 the Parish had no program in existence; it is unfortunate that the Commission did such a bad job in creating such a legally-flawed ordinance. The Parish has come a long way nevertheless despite the imperfect document, and he is proud of the result. The goal of 25 percent set by the ordinance was intended as a goal, and that is all it can be, because to make it finite would be unconstitutional.

He said he would prefer that this program remain in Caddo Parish; money generated by Caddo Parish taxpayers should remain in Caddo Parish. He said that if a regional approach is being taken, he would like to be assured that that would be permissible under the terms of the ordinance. He said that he would not object to reviewing the ordinance with a mind toward bringing it up to date, but the objective should be to provide fairness for all citizens of the Parish.

Mr. Thibodeaux said that Mr. Adger had stated that in some instances requests for proposals are sent out to obtain at least three quotes on certain professional services. Mr. Adger had said that in some cases proposal requests are sent only to Advantage Caddo businesses. He said it would appear that such a practice would inherently discriminate against non-Advantage Caddo companies. One form of discrimination is as bad as another, he said. It certainly is not fair to the person who has built a larger business as a result of many years of hard work and sound judgment. It is also not fair to the taxpayers if everyone does not have an opportunity to make a quote or bid on a project, because a lower bid at same or better quality may have resulted.

Mr. Thibodeaux said he is not interested in any program that discriminates against one sector of providers so that another sector of providers can be taken care of. He said he would like to see 100 percent of the Parish's tax dollars spent in Caddo Parish with 100 percent Caddo providers. The Commission, as a government body, should state the requirements and pledge to make everything fair insofar as to who does the work, and then get out of the way.

Government in general, at all levels, does nothing but hold back job creation, Mr. Thibodeaux continued. It is the private sector that provides jobs, not government. Anyone with a basic understanding of economics can see that when this country has been very successful it has been when the private sector was allowed to go out and create jobs.

Mr. Thibodeaux said he is not willing to discriminate against one group to satisfy another. He asked if Advantage Caddo can always guarantee the best quality at the best price.

Mr. Adger said that when there is a small business program such as Caddo Parish's, by definition, disadvantaged businesses cannot compete with large businesses. To have a program such as this, and to try to level the playing field and have any kind of participation by small businesses there are times when a part of the business has to be set up to be accessible by small businesses, allowing them to compete with each other. Even with a fully open bid the Parish cannot be guaranteed that it will receive the best result at the best price, he said.

Mr. Thibodeaux asked if Advantage Caddo businesses are held to the same standards of quality and performance as the non-Advantage Caddo companies.

Mr. Adger said that every company with which the Parish has a contract is held accountable to the levels specified in the contract.

Mr. Thibodeaux said that he does not feel his constituents sent him to this body to serve as a social engineer, and he does not believe that social engineering is a legitimate role of the Caddo Parish Commission. He said that he would prefer to encourage cooperation and teamwork between larger and smaller companies through sub-contracts or other arrangements until the smaller companies can grow to a point where they can operate on their own. He does not desire to hold people back, he said, and he believes that is what programs such as this do.

Mr. Pierson said that he does not consider getting 75 to 80 percent of the available work as being discriminated against. He said he knows a lot of men with skills, and most of these want to be contractors. Certainly sub-contracting keeps the bills paid, but if skilled and proven sub-contractors are not encouraged to become contractors, the Parish is not fulfilling the spirit of its ordinance. There are things that can be done, he said, and he would hope the Commission will continue to work toward that end.

Mrs. McCulloch said that she would like to commend Mr. Adger for having come to her for her assistance in seeking out small businesses in her community. She said she would like to have the points of his presentation put in a form to make available to citizens in then neighborhoods.

Mr. Adger said that he will work with any business to help them develop a plan for doing business with Caddo Parish. Obviously not every business is going to meet success, he said, but any that feel they have something to offer Caddo Parish should explore the possibilities.

Mr. Cox said that Mr. Adger has helped two small businesses in his district. He said that the big industries come and go, but small businesses are the backbone of Caddo Parish. More effort should be made to educate the small businesses of the Parish on how to become qualified to do business with the Parish and the City. Insofar as the ordinance itself, he said, times change and perhaps it is time to re-visit it.

Mr. Adger said he would like for small businesses to understand that in order for them to do business with the Parish they must first become known to the Parish. Also, he said, they should understand that they must earn the Parish's confidence by performing well on small jobs in order to compete for the larger jobs.

President Lynch said that Caddo Parish wants to be at the forefront of making sure that businesses owned by African-Americans, Asians, Hispanics, or women have a fair shot at getting work with the Parish. Consequently, she said, she is glad to hear that the Commissioners appear willing to work together to re-evaluate the program and its underlying ordinance. She then thanked Mr. Adger for his report and instructed the Clerk to present any communiques:

- Letter from Caddo Parish Fire District No. 2 Board advising of the selection process for recommending citizens to the Commission to fill vacancies
- Letter from Caddo Parish Fire District No. 4 Board advising of the selection process for recommending citizens to the Commission to fill vacancies
- Letter from Caddo Fire District No. 7 advising that Mr. Kevin Stewart is up for reappointment to the Board
- Letter from Caddo Waterworks No. No. 7 advising of the selection process for recommending citizens to the Commission to fill vacancies, along with a letter of recommendation and resume for Mr. Jimmy Edwards' reappointment time to the Board
- Letter of recommendation from Caddo Sewerage District No. 7 for Mr. Randy Magness to be reappointed to the Board
- Letter from Ms. Gail Griffin advising of her reappointment and accomplishments while serving as a member of the Shreve Memorial Library Board of Control

Mr. Dominick then asked Mr. Larry Raymond, Director of Parks and Recreation, to come forward and report on the Seven Trails and Christmas on Caddo.

Mr. Raymond said that on November 28 one of the Parks Department naturalists is going to lead a hike along all of the trails in Walter Jacobs Park. The park is especially beautiful at this time of year, he said.

On December 5 the Christmas on Caddo Fireworks Festival Committee is hosting their annual fireworks festival at Earl Williamson Park. Activities begin at 3:30 p.m. and the fireworks show will begin at 6:30. The event typically features about 40 vendors and lots of local entertainment.

VISITORS

At this time Mr. Kenneth Krefft, 157 Archer Avenue, Shreveport, came forward. He said that it has been 146 years since President Abraham Lincoln delivered his immortal "Gettysburg Address" at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery on a part of the Gettysburg Battlefield. He then donned top hat and chin whiskers and proceeded to recite the brief but profound speech given by President Lincoln.

Mr. Anthony Henderson, 3607 Ninock, Shreveport, came forward. He said that he believes the Naomi Jackson Housing Project should be restored. Its removal took away a significant portion of the population of the downtown area. Redevelopment of the area will never occur without bringing people back, he said. Progress should not be stifled for the sake of history, he said. Non-productive areas should be put to use, and public housing should replace these and idle historical sites.

PUBLIC HEARING ON CAPITAL OUTLAY AND OPERATING IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET FOR THE YEAR

At this time the President stated that the Commission would proceed, as advertised, with a public hearing on the Parish of Caddo Operating and Capital Improvements Budget for 2010. She asked that anyone wishing to speak in regard to the budget to come forward.

First there came Ms. Ann Fumarolo. She expressed her appreciation to the Commission for its ongoing support of SciPort. She said that 2009 was a difficult year for the agency due to the loss of significant governmental funding.

She then reported that during the past 15 months SciPort was named the eighth-best science center in the nation—the only one in the South, and the only one in a mid-sized city. It also received the Louisiana Association of Education award, the first time it was given to an entity rather than an individual. Public Broadcasting chose SciPort for its “Heroes of Hope” award, given to organizations that make a difference in their communities.

Ms. Fumarolo said that she wants it understood that the funds SciPort receives from the Commission are used 100 percent for Caddo Parish student admissions to SciPort’s “Terrific Tuesdays” program. Only Caddo Parish schools are allowed on that day, she said.

Next came Mr. Kirby Rowe, 1046 North Point Circle, Shreveport. He said he had come to express his concerns about the proposed budget, and particularly the operating budget, based on the information he has available. He said he is a life-long native of Caddo Parish, his children reside here, and he represents several businesses in the area that pay a significant amount of ad valorem taxes.

He said that he has read that the Commission staff has proposed an eight percent increase in the operating budget, and the possibility of a ten percent increase in medical costs—a significant amount of money. The Commission is also considering a five percent across-the-board pay increase for its employees, he said. From his perspective as a member of several boards on which he serves such increases are not warranted, he said.

Mr. Rowe said he would encourage Commissioners to examine the budget in close detail and not rubber-stamp a set of figures proposed by the Administration. In the current economic environment businesses and governments alike should be in an austerity mode, and he would encourage the Commission to consider that reality.

Mr. Ken Krefft, 147 Archer Avenue, came forward. He said he had hoped the Mayor of Shreveport would honor his commitment of September 30, 2006, in which he said he would fund restrooms at A.C. Steere Park. He said it would cost about \$12,500 to build a permanent restroom there.

There being no other citizens to speak on the 2010 Budget, the President declared the public hearing to be concluded. She pointed out that the Commission will meet in special session at 1 p.m. on December 10 to finally adopt the budget.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING CASES

- ZONING CASE P-31-07 in regard to Ordinance No. 4950 of 2009 (Shreve Park Road) property located on the west side of Shreve Park Road at its intersection with Tal Drive, BELLE CHERRI LAND COMPANY, APPLICANT.
Request to rezone property located on the west side of Shreve Park Road at its intersection with Tal Drive **from** B-3, Community Business District, **to** B-3-E, Community Business/Extended Use District (Limited to I-1 “Uses where all operations are enclosed within buildings and require no open storage of materials and equipment” only for lots 1 and 2 (northern portion of the site), and **from** B-3 Community Business District to I-1, Light Industry District for lot 3 (southern portion of the site) for proposed I-1 and I-2 Development.

The President asked if there was anyone present to speak in support of or in opposition to this zoning case, and there was no one. She declared the public hearing on zoning cases to be

concluded, and directed the public hearing on ordinances to proceed.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

- ❑ Ordinance No. 4951 of 2009 amending the Budgets of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund, Public Works Fund, Riverboat Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Building Maintenance Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund to terminate completed or lapsed Capital projects

The President asked if there was anyone present to speak in support of or in opposition to the foregoing ordinance, and there was no one.

- ❑ Ordinance No. 4952 of 2009 to revoke the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision in Caddo Parish

The President asked if there was anyone present to speak in support of this ordinance, and Mr. Robert Moffett, 504 Lloyd Lane, Shreveport, came forward. He said that his family owns the land on both sides of the dedication proposed for revocation, and no other property owners are involved. The dedication essentially severs his property, he said.

There being no others to speak in support of the ordinance, the President asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition.

Mr. Whitney Pesnell, 400 Travis St., Shreveport, came forward and identified himself as an attorney representing Mr. Allen Burch, one of the residents affected by the revocation. Other residents would perhaps be affected as well, he said.

Mr. Pesnell said that he had earlier in the day advised the Parish Attorney that he would appear at this meeting, and he had expressed a desire that the final decision on this case be delayed to allow time to gather additional information and make a more complete presentation at a future meeting as he had only become involved in the case earlier in the day.

However, he said, if the Commission is not going to grant that request he would like to present some pertinent points. He said that an examination of the plat will reveal that Fielder Lane is a short street that begins at Dixie Garden Road on the west and ends at the Red River Levee on the east. He said it is his understanding that Fielder Lane is a public street dedicated some 50 years earlier. All of the people who purchased lots on the street and built homes did so after that dedication was made and with full knowledge of it.

This dedication was also on the books when Mr. Moffett purchased his property, Mr. Pesnell continued. Mr. Moffett is not, however, seeking the revocation of the rest of Fielder Lane; it appears he wishes to enjoy the benefits of the dedication of Fielder Lane without any of the disadvantages or burdens.

He still is able to use the whole of Fielder Lane and cross the properties of the other people who live in the subdivision while denying them access to the levee, which is public property. These citizens have the right to access this public property, and they have in fact been enjoying that access through this public dedication, he said.

Mr. Pesnell pointed out that some entity, probably the Parish, has installed culverts along Fielder Lane and across the Moffett property some time ago. Those culverts were needed to solve drainage problems then, and they will need to be maintained and even expanded upon to serve the entire area. The Moffetts will not be able to build over this drainage without impeding future access to it for maintenance purposes.

There are valid reasons for the City to maintain this street, Mr. Pesnell said. It is difficult to see how it would disadvantage Mr. Moffett and his family if the dedication is maintained. If they build on their property, they will need additional services—sewer, telephone, gas, electricity. These things are ordinarily installed within the rights-of-way of public streets, he said. Such a right of way exists now, but they will not continue to be there if the dedication is revoked. That could present problems for the utility companies and for the Parish.

Mr. Pesnell said that excluding the public from public property, i.e., the levee, is tantamount to granting an annexation of that property to Mr. Moffett, with the right to exclude others. That is not something the Parish should condone or promote, he said.

There are many reasons why the Parish should maintain this public right of way, Mr. Pesnell concluded. It would seem, he said, that if the benefits and disadvantages of the public could be weighed against the benefits and disadvantages of the Moffett family, there is no real contest. The public will realize significant benefit from maintaining the existing dedication, while the Moffetts will not be inconvenienced in any serious or material way. He urged the Commission to defer action until these competing interests can be identified and evaluated.

Mr. Brad Zimmerman, 115 Fielder Lane, came forward. He said he would confirm the comments of Mr. Pesnell that the residents of Fielder Lane do use this right of way as access to the levee, and they have done so for many years. He said he had contacted Mr. Greg Windham at the Caddo Levee District to confirm that it is permissible for the residents to walk on the levee.

Mr. Zimmerman said that his is one of the last houses on the street, and the property line of the Moffett property comes to his driveway. There will be no room for turning around, or for emergency vehicles or service vehicles. There is already a gate across the right of way. All the residents on the streets oppose this revocation, he said.

Mr. Alan Burch, 122 Fielder Lane, came forward. He said that all five houses on this street signed a document opposing this proposed closing. It does not seem fair, he said, for the Parish to give this dedication to one person over and above the others who share an interest.

There being no further speakers regarding this zoning case, the President directed the Clerk to present the next ordinance for public hearing.

- Ordinance No. 4953 of 2009 declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator or a designee to sell the Parish's tax interest
- Local Assessment Ordinance No. 45 of 2009 to re-inscribe liens securing assessments for portions of Chanticleer Drive and Pilgrimage Way
- Local Assessment Ordinance No. 46 of 2009 to re-inscribe liens securing special assessments for Stoer Road in its entirety

There being no one present to speak in regard to the remaining ordinances, the President declared the public hearing to be concluded.

ZONING ORDINANCE: (For final passage)

ORDINANCE NO. 4950 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 51 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE PARISH OF CADDO, AS AMENDED, THE CADDO PARISH ZONING ORDINANCE, BY REZONING PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF SHREVE PARK ROAD AT ITS INTERSECTION WITH TAL DRIVE, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, FROM B-3, COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT TO B-3-E, COMMUNITY BUSINESS/EXTENDED USE DISTRICT **LIMITED TO "I-1 USES WHERE ALL OPERATIONS ARE ENCLOSED WITHIN BUILDINGS AND REQUIRE NO OPEN STORAGE OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT" ONLY**, FOR LOTS 1 AND 2 (NORTHERN PORTION OF THE SITE), AND FROM B-3, COMMUNITY BUSINESS TO I-1, LIGHT INDUSTRY DISTRICT FOR LOT 3 (SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE SITE), AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Chapter 51 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to wit:

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property as follows:

LOTS 1 AND 2 (northern portion of the site) REZONED TO B-3-E: Lots 1-6 Shreve Hills Commercial Subdivision, Unit #2, and Lots 1 and 2 Shreve Hills Commercial Subdivision, located on the west side of Shreve Park Road at its intersection with Tal Drive, Caddo, Parish, LA, is hereby changed **from B-3, Community Business District to B-3-E, Community Business/Extended Use District limited to "I-1 uses where all operations are enclosed within buildings and require no open storage of materials and equipment" only.**

LOT 3 (southern portion of the site) REZONED TO I-1: Lot 3, Shreve Hills Commercial Subdivision located on the west side of Shreve Park Road at its intersection with Tal Drive, Caddo Parish, LA, is hereby changed from **B-3, Community Business District to I-1, Light Industry District.**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the rezoning of the property described herein is subject to compliance with the following stipulations:

1. **Site development plan for each lot shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Commission prior to the issuance of any permits.**
2. **Approval is granted to display a maximum of 6 mini-trucks for sale for the property located at the NW corner of Shrevepark and Tal Drive.**
3. **Development of the property shall begin within a period of 2 years from the date of the adoption of this ordinance and the failure to comply with such stipulation will cause the rezoning herein described to become null and void, and the zoning classification will automatically revert to B-3.**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Cox, *that Ordinance No. 4950 of 2009, in regard to Zoning Case P-31-07, Belle Cheri Land Company, applicant, to re-zone property located on the west side of ShrevePark Road at its intersection with Tal Drive from B-3 to B-3-E and I-1, limited to I-1 uses where all operations are enclosed within buildings and require no open storage of materials and equipment, be adopted. That motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCES: (For final passage)

ORDINANCE NO. 4951 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGETS OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND, PUBLIC WORKS FUND, RIVERBOAT FUND, SOLID WASTE FUND, BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND, AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO TERMINATE COMPLETED OR LAPSED CAPITAL PROJECTS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission maintains an on-going capital improvement program; and

WHEREAS, this program is funded from a variety of sources; and

WHEREAS, Section 6.07 of the Home Rule Charter provides for the termination of capital appropriations; and

WHEREAS, several such capital appropriations are hereby terminated under the provisions of Section 6.07 of the Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the budgets of several funds in order to reflect the termination of these capital appropriations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budgets of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund, Public Works Fund, Riverboat Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Building Maintenance Fund, and the Capital Improvement Fund for the year 2009 are hereby amended as follows:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Capital Outlay Fund:	
Capital Expenditures	\$ (273,820)
Transfer to Public Works	194,333
Transfer to Riverboat	56,490
Transfer to Solid Waste	7,540
Transfer to Building Maintenance	7,055
Transfer to Capital Improvement Fund	4,525
Public Works Fund:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay Fund	194,333
Riverboat Fund:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay Fund	56,490
Solid Waste Fund:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay Fund	7,540
Building Maintenance Fund:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay Fund	7,055
Capital Improvement Fund:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay Fund	4,525

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Baker, *that Ordinance No. 4951 of 2009, amending the Capital Outlay Fund, Public Works Fund, Riverboat Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Building Maintenance Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund budgets to terminate completed or lapsed Capital projects, be adopted.* That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 4952 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO REVOKE THE DEDICATION OF A PORTION OF FIELDER LANE IN L. L. FIELDER SUBDIVISION, IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, a request for the revocation of the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision, as recorded in Book 800, Page 19 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, has been received by the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the revocation of the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision, as recorded in Book 800, Page 19 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, and finds that portion of Fielder Lane is no longer needed for Parish of Caddo public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the revocation of the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision, as recorded in Book 800, Page 19 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, and finds that the revocation of the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal

and regular session convened, that the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision, as recorded in Book 800, Page 19 of the Conveyance Records of Caddo Parish, in the Parish of Caddo be, and the same is hereby, revoked to the extent, and only to the extent, that said dedication was made for the public use for streets; said portion of Fielder Lane more specifically described as follows:

All that portion of Fielder Lane described as beginning at the Northwest corner of Lot 7 on the Southwesterly line of Fielder Lane and a point which is 20.0 feet in a Southeasterly direction from the Southwesterly corner of Lot 14 on the Northeasterly line of Fielder Lane, L. L. Fielder Subdivision and proceeding in a Southeasterly direction to the end of the dedication, as shown in hash marks on the attached plat marked Exhibit "A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance and plat marked Exhibit "A", displaying that portion of the dedication of Fielder Lane located in L. L. Fielder Subdivision to be revoked shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the property described hereinabove shall revert to the adjoining property owners or their successors, heirs or assigns subject to the reservation of the right of ingress and egress by the Parish of Caddo for the maintenance of any drainage structures beyond the revoked portion of Fielder Lane.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Escude**, seconded by Mrs. Baker, *that Ordinance No. 4952 of 2009, to revoke the dedication of a portion of Fielder Lane in L. L. Fielder Subdivision, be adopted.*

Mr. Escude stated that he had visited this site the previous day, and he would ask the Commission to support this revocation of dedication. He said that this case should not have gone to the Metropolitan Planning Commission, as it is not a zoning issue. He said that Fielder Lane dead-ends into some private property. The proposed revocation is a stretch of overgrown, unimproved terrain that no one drives on, and only occasionally walks on. The landowner wants to be able to connect his two parcels of property and build a house, he said.

Mr. Escude said that he has been assured by the fire chief that no fire security or other emergency vehicle passage would be compromised by the revocation. He then asked Mr. Jimmy Whittington, Public Works, if there are any compelling reasons why the Parish needs to retain ownership of this dedication.

Mr. Whittington said that there are no such reasons. He added that the Parish has reserved its right to access the drainage structures mentioned by Mr. Pesnell earlier.

Mr. Escude said that this issue concerns only Caddo Parish and the Moffett family. The other residents of the street are not involved, other than that they would like to have continued unfettered use of property they do not own.

Mr. Thibodeaux asked if citizens have a right of access to the levee. Mr. Whittington said he does not know about the levee, but insofar as the dedication itself, the Parish can exercise some control, but it cannot tell people to stay off the dedication.

Answering another question from Mr. Thibodeaux, Mr. Whittington said that the Parish will continue to have access to any drainage structures.

President Lynch then asked Mr. Charles Kirkland, executive director of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, to come forward and explain the MPC's involvement in this revocation.

Mr. Kirkland said that by law any land-use issue occurring within the MPC's jurisdiction, which includes five miles outside the city limits of Shreveport, is subject to review by the MPC. This includes any alley or roadway improvement that falls within the Transportation Plan administered by the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments. The MPC review serves to determine whether any road, alley or dedication is needed or will be needed within the Transportation Plan, he said.

Property 5: Lot 7, Blk 3, Fairfield Heights & Adj. ½ Abdn Alley, Heights Subd., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO 171413-069-0007)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$1,266.67 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$1,900.00**

Property 6: Lot 34, Pear Grove Subd., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO 171410-059-0034)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$1,266.67 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$1,900.00**

Property 7: W/2 of Lot 13 and E/2 of Lot 14, Ingleside Annex Subd., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO 171410-149-0071)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 8: Lot E, Eden Gardens, Unit 2-A, a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in Book 900, Page 81 of the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171330-086-0005)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$1,554.83 **APPRAISED VALUE: N/A**

Property 9: Lot 1, Blk 4, Linwood Park Subd., as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171414-074-0001)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$2,501.00 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$2,500.00**

Property 10: Lot 154, Belmont Grove Addn., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-038-0154)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 11: Lot 92, North Cedar Grove Addn., subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-057-0092)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 12: Lot 120, North Cedar Grove Addn., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-059-0120)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 13: Lot 6, Blk L, Southside Park Sub., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-095-0006)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 14: Lot 25 & ½ Abandoned Adj. Alley, Re-Subd. of Lots 10 to 15 inc. Blk F. Woodrow Place, of the City of Shreveport, as per plat recorded in the conveyance of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-112-0025)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$1,700.00 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$2,500.00**

Property 15: Lot 1447, North Cedar Grove Addn., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171424-117-1447)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00**

Property 16: Lot 31, Blk 3, T & P Subd., of the City of Shreveport, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171416-049-0031)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$3,199.65 **APPRAISED VALUE: N/A**

Property 17: Lot 33, Broadway Park, of the City of Shreveport, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171416-092-0033)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$2,563.29 **APPRAISED VALUE: N/A**

Property 18: Hideaway Harbor Townhouse Sub., Unit 1, Phase II, a subdivision of Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in Book 2050, Page 1, of the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171512-042-0020)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$466.67 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$700.00**

Property 19: Lot 12, Pecans Farms Sub., as recorded in Book 1600, Pages 93 and 95 of the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #141603-002-0012)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$1,333.34 **APPRAISED VALUE: \$2,000.00**

Property 20: Lot 39, Blk A, Washington Terrace Sub., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA

(GEO #171416-054-0039)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34

APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00

Property 21: Lot 7 Blk 1, Mandel Addn., a subdivision of the City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, as per plat recorded in the conveyance records of Caddo Parish, LA (GEO #171416-083-0007)

AMOUNT OFFERED: \$333.34

APPRAISED VALUE: \$500.00

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Escude, *that Ordinance No. 4953 of 2009, declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and authorizing the Administrator to sell the Parish's tax interest therein, be adopted.* That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

LOCAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE NO. 45 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO RE-INSCRIBE LIENS SECURING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THAT PORTION OF CHANTICLEER DRIVE AND PILGRIMAGE WAY, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has completed several street improvement projects on a special assessment basis: and

WHEREAS, liens were filed against the property abutting the improvement projects in order to secure the assessments; and

WHEREAS, several of the assessments secured have an outstanding balance remaining at the conclusion of the period allotted for installment payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened that the Parish of Caddo does hereby re-inscribe the original liens filed to secure the special assessment as follows:

Originally recorded by Local Assessment Ordinance No. 32 of 2000, Chanticleer Drive and Pilgrimage Way, as recorded under Caddo Parish Clerk of Court Registry No. 1701730 on May 3, 2000.

<u>Tract Number</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>GEO #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3	Rudolph W. Troup & William H. Roberts, Jr.	161526-14-3	\$ 509.72
4	Rudolph W. Troup & William H. Roberts, Jr.	161526-14-4	\$ 509.72
5	Rudolph W. Troup & William H. Roberts, Jr.	161526-14-5	\$ 509.72

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance shall be filed in the mortgage records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Smith**, seconded by Mr. Pierson, *that Local Assessment Ordinance No. 45 of 2009, re-inscribing liens securing assessments for portions of Chanticleer Drive and Pilgrimage Way, be adopted.* That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

LOCAL ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE NO. 46 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO RE-INSCRIBE LIENS SECURING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR STOER ROAD IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has completed several street improvement projects on a special assessment basis: and

WHEREAS, liens were filed against the property abutting the improvement projects in order to secure the assessments; and

WHEREAS, several of the assessments secured have an outstanding balance remaining at the conclusion of the period allotted for installment payments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened that the Parish of Caddo does hereby re-inscribe the original liens filed to secure the special assessment as follows:

Originally recorded by Local Assessment Ordinance No. 33 of 2000, Stoer Road, as recorded under Caddo Parish Clerk of Court Registry No. 1730923 on December 15, 2000.

<u>Tract Number</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>GEO #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10	John Alton Nugent & Christine Rader Nugent (formerly Thomas Rosenblath, et al)	151510-3-10	\$ 1,730.33
11	Thomas Gwin, Jr. & Rovenia Cody Gwin	151510-3-11	\$1,754.47
15	David Brian Holder	151510-3-15	\$1,752.66
16	Julian Gilmore Highsmith & Donna Jo Sales Highsmith	151510-3-16	\$1,688.50
20	Joseph Roy Maxey	151510-3-20	\$3,105.59
21 & Part of 22	Timothy James Wachtel & Mona Delilah Vines Wachtel	151510-3-26	\$3,080.59
	Tract of Land in John Michael Hay & Kimberly Diane Johnson Hay Sec. 10&11 (formerly Delbert Wayne Mathews, Patricia Anne Mathews, Robert Wayne Johnson, Shirley Ann Johnson) T15N, R15W	151510-0-45	\$3,673.65
1.	Brian Franklin Moseley & Dana Jolley Moseley	151511-3-1	\$1,068.68
3 & 4	Michael Melvin Tate & Sandra Kay Tate (formerly Jeffrey Lynn Johnson, Tammy Johnson, Wallace R. Lindsey)	151511-3-3 151511-3-4	\$4,294.78

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance shall be filed in the mortgage records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after

publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Smith**, seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux, *that Local Assessment Ordinance No. 46 of 2009, re-inscribing liens securing special assessments for Stoer Road in its entirety, be adopted. That motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCES: (For introduction, by title)

- Ordinance No. 4954 of 2009, declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the sale of the Parish's tax interest therein
- Ordinance No. 4955 of 2009 to authorize the transfer of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo to Women of Vision, Inc.
- Ordinance No. 4956 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Juvenile Justice Fund for the STAR Boot Camp in the amount of \$39,500 for the year 2009

WORK SESSION MINUTES: NOVEMBER 2, 2009 AND NOVEMBER 16, 2009

It was **moved by Mr. Pierson**, seconded by Mr. Cox, *that the Work Session Minutes of November 2, 2009, and November 16, 2009, be adopted. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 53 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2010 BUDGET OF SHREVEPORT/BOSSIER CONVENTION AND TOURIST COMMISSION, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened this 19th day of December, 2009, that it hereby approves the 2010 budget of the Shreveport/Bossier Convention and Tourist Commission, as presented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution, or application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Ms. Lynch**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 53 of 2009 approving the 2010 Annual Budget of the Shreveport/Bossier Convention and Tourist Commission, be adopted.*

Mr. Escude stated that he wished to direct some questions about this budget to Tourist Bureau President Stacy Brown. He said that the Commission has only partial approval power over the Tourist Bureau's budget, along with other local governmental bodies. As a result, he said, the Commission has no idea about the Bureau's day-to-day operations. However, he said, it appears that the Bureau is set to deplete two-thirds of its reserves, and the budget is not detailed enough to explain where that reserve is going, he said.

Mrs. Brown said that the Bureau is actually not using that much of the reserve; it is using \$365,986, or eight percent. She said that some items are carried forward through the budget, having been specifically designated in previous budgets for future projects. Also, she said, the \$400,000 operating reserve and the \$100,000 capital reserve are specifically dedicated to be used in case of an

emergency. The \$287,749 amount will be used as a capital outlay for the new building currently under construction, and there is \$95,000 in special marketing funds, also to be used in an emergency, she said.

Mr. Escude asked if the document presented by Mrs. Brown is the same information used by the Tourist Bureau board when they determine the agency's budget. Mrs. Brown said that is one of the documents they see.

Mr. Escude, being told that the board also sees previous years' expenditures during their deliberations on the budget, advised Mrs. Brown that it would be helpful if the Commission could see those numbers, and all other customarily relevant budgetary numbers as well. The budget as presented depicts no relativity, he said—there is no way to tell whether the budget is increasing or decreasing.

Mrs. Brown said that when drawing up the current budget, the board places the previous year's budget side-by-side with the proposed budget. Mr. Escude commented that in an age of sophisticated computing capability, that appears to be a primitive way of budgeting. He said he would suggest that the Tourist Bureau examine copies of the City of Shreveport's budget and the Parish Commission's budget and adopt some ideas on how to present budget information in a manner that allows the reader to assess the information in a relative, comparative and comprehensible manner.

Mr. Escude asked what percentage of salary increases the Bureau is budgeting for 2010. Mrs. Brown said they are expecting about a four percent increase. She said that the Bureau does not give cost-of-living increases.

Answering a question from Mr. Escude, Mrs. Brown said that the Bureau's 19 full-time employees receive full-benefit health coverage at a cost of about \$9,000 per person. Part-time employees do not receive health coverage, she said.

Mr. Escude asked how many of the Bureau's 19 employees are male. Mrs. Brown said that four of the 19 are male.

Mr. Escude then stated that the budget indicates that the Bureau's four administrative department employees receive salaries and benefits averaging \$91,000 per year. The next six employees average \$68,000 per year. The least paid, according the budget, would average \$66,000 per year. He said that the Bureau must be a good place to work, and he wonders what these employees do for these salaries.

Mrs. Brown said that she can assure Mr. Escude that these are not the salaries these employees are making. She said she would be glad to meet with Mr. Escude and provide details.

Mr. Escude replied that he drew his conclusions only from the information presented in the Bureau's proposed budget and from Mrs. Brown's responses to his questions. He said that all he asks is Mrs. Brown's assurances that in 2010 or 2011 the Bureau will find itself short of funds. The budget as presented shows an excess of expenditures over revenue, and without all the non-included supplemental data it is difficult or impossible to conclude that the agency will continue to be solvent, he said.

Answering a question from Mr. Smith, Mrs. Brown said that the Bureau is not getting a "new" building, it is adding on to its existing site. Most staff members will stay where they are now, and the new space will be used primarily as a visitors center.

Mr. Smith agreed with Mr. Escude that the Tourist Bureau's proposed budget is very difficult to comprehend and to derive an understanding of how the numbers were arrived at.

Mrs. Brown said that the business plan is what the Bureau uses to develop the budget, but it just arrived from the printers and was not available for distribution to the Commission.

President Lynch thanked Mrs. Brown for her comments.

Ms. Lynch's motion to adopt Resolution No. 53, approving the Convention and Tourist Bureau's 2010 Budget, then carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Pierson**, seconded by Ms. Lynch, *that the Commission's Work Session meeting on December 14th and its Regular Meeting on December 17th, be cancelled.* Motion carried.

It was **moved by Mr. Pierson**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *that December 24, 2009, and December 31, 2009, be designated as holidays for Caddo Parish Commission employees.* Motion carried.

It was **moved by Mr. Pierson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that the time of the Commission's December 10 Special Meeting to adopt the 2010 budget be changed from 3:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.* Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Stephanie Lynch
President

Jerry C. Spears
Commission Clerk