

# Town of Abita Springs, La.

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CLERK OF COURT  
KATHY ARMAND  
  
FINANCIAL CLERK  
NIKI MENDOW  
  
COUNCIL CLERK  
LEANNE SCHAEFER  
  
ATTORNEY  
EDWARD DEANO  
  
CERTIFIED BUILDING OFFICIAL  
DAVID CHATELAIN  
  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
JOHNNY CLAY  
  
PUBLIC WORKS CLERK  
REE STANSBURY



ALDERMEN  
GINA KILPATRICK HARPER  
(MAYOR PRO-TEM)  
  
PATRICK BERRIGAN  
DANIEL J. CURTIS  
RYAN MURPHY  
LESLIE BLITCH WELLIVER  
  
UTILITY MANAGER  
DEBRA MACLEAN  
  
UTILITY CLERK II  
LINDA MEEKER  
  
PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR  
CINDY CHATELAIN  
  
TOWN MARSHAL  
JOE CANDILORA

The following minutes were taken at the regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen on July 21, 2015 at the Town Hall in Abita Springs. Mayor Pro-Tem Kilpatrick-Harper presided over the Town Council meeting in Mayor Lemons' absence and called the meeting to order at 6pm. Alderman Berrigan gave the invocation; the pledge of allegiance was led by Alderman Murphy.

## **ROLL CALL:**

Aldermen Berrigan, Murphy, Blitch Welliver, and Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper were present. Alderman Blitch Welliver moved to add a discussion of Historic Commission matters to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Murphy. The vote was unanimous. Alderman Murphy moved to accept the First Quarter 2015 Financial Report, seconded by Alderman Berrigan. Alderman Blitch Welliver moved to accept the June 17, 2015 Town Council meeting minutes, seconded by Alderman Murphy. All were in favor.

## **STPSO:**

Lt. Williams gave a brief report of calls and citations noting that the month was "fairly quiet."

## **FIRE DISTRICT 8:**

Chief Gorrondona reported that calls for the month were comparatively higher than last year's figures at fifty-eight. The Chief advised that Station 83 on Highway 59 is nearing completion and hopes to have it finished in approximately eight weeks.

## **TOWN MARSHAL:**

Marshal Candilora presented his monthly report of code violations. Also noted by the Marshal, were his efforts to inform business owners of the historic guideline prohibition related to blinking signage.

## **TOWN ENGINEER:**

Town Engineer, Jean Thibodeaux, informed the Board that the contract for the Road Overlay Project was awarded to Leon Lowe and Sons and the project should begin in August. The Sidewalk Lighting Project is still under State review. Alderman Blitch Welliver asked Mr. Thibodeaux the status of light selection. Mr. Thibodeaux explained that there were three styles from which to choose; a selection was made and forwarded to DOTD in May. A local resident mentioned that the ground adjacent to the sidewalks was eroding creating a safety hazard. Mr. Thibodeaux directed residents to contact Ree Stansbury to report specifics of the problem. Historic Commission Chairman, Ron Blitch, asked if the lighting plan was scheduled for further review by the Historic Commission. Mr. Thibodeaux said the design submitted was a conceptual plan and that he would defer to the Mayor for additional information. Additional questions were asked regarding past plans to light the roundabout. Mayor pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper offered to make inquiry to gather more details.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Alderman Berrigan introduced INSTRUMENT NO. 2015-004, AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE A PORTION OF CARNATION ST. NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF THAT PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, ST TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, seconded by Alderman Blitch Welliver.

Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper opened a discussion of A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "KEEP ABITA BEAUTIFUL" AN AFFILIATE OF THE KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL ORGANIZATION. Alderman Berrigan asked if the \$1000.00 application fee was secured through corporate sponsorship. As of the meeting, efforts to secure the funding were still underway. Adrienne Juttner addressed the Board, explaining the need for an organized effort to address the litter problem. The Board of Alderman voiced questions regarding the structure of the affiliation and future obligations. Ms. Juttner provided copies of the affiliate application and affiliation information packet to the Alderman. Alderman Blitch Welliver moved to defer consideration of the presented resolution, seconded by Alderman Murphy. The vote was as follows: Yeas: 3, Aldermen Berrigan, Murphy, and Blitch Welliver. Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Alderman Curtis, Abstain: 0. Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper acting as the presiding officer in the Mayor's absence did not cast a vote.

Alderman Blitch Welliver moved to accept A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE UPDATED ST. TAMMANY PARISH NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN, seconded by Alderman Murphy. The vote was as follows: Yeas: 3, Aldermen Berrigan, Murphy, and Blitch Welliver. Nays: 0, Absent: 1, Alderman Curtis, Abstain: 0. Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper acting as the presiding officer in the Mayor's absence did not cast a vote.

Alderman Blitch Welliver opened a discussion of the recent activities of the Historic Commission. Historic Commission Chairman, Ron Blitch, reported that the Commission unanimously agreed upon changes to the current requirements including an extension of the time for the submission of historic applications from ten days to fifteen days, the uploading of application documents, and the assessment of fees in the amount of \$10.00 for residential applications and \$50.00 for commercial applications. A local resident noted that state statute prohibits consideration of floor plans by the Historic Commission. Other residents voiced their opposition to the inclusion of consideration of interior arrangements.

#### **OPEN-ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Local resident, Regina Benton, initiated a discussion of the necessity of the installation of a hard surface road when subdividing property. Ms. Benton referenced the subdivision ordinance and explained that she does not find a requirement to install such a road in the case presented. Ms. Benton stated that her neighbor, Tom Hahn merely wishes to divide his property into two pieces and the intent of the original ordinance does not apply. Town Attorney, Edward Deano, and the Board of Aldermen directed Mr. Hahn and Ms. Benton to Planning and Zoning adding that it is not a function of the Council to draft subdivision regulations.

Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper noted that local resident Jackie Norton, who was not present, expressed a concern related to junk vehicles and our Town ordinance as it relates to lawn maintenance.

Alderman Berrigan reviewed upcoming events including the Farmer's Market, Cajun Dance, Men's Club, Ladies Progressive Club, Bingo, and the Friends of the Park Summer Concert in the Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Kilpatrick-Harper recognized local Boy Scout, Wesley Talley, from Troop 610 and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Alderman Blitch Welliver moved to adjourn the Town Council Meeting, seconded by Alderman Murphy.

MEETING ADJOURNED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 21st DAY OF JULY 2015.

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Kathy Armand, Town Clerk

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Honorable Greg Lemons, Mayor