

**Minutes of February 8, 2022 – Regular Meeting  
Mayor and Board of Selectmen  
City of Plaquemine, Louisiana**

The Mayor and Board of Selectmen met for a Regular Meeting at Plaquemine City Hall, second floor courtroom, 23640 Railroad Avenue, City of Plaquemine, Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, 70764 on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., with the following members present:

Present: Mayor Edwin M. Reeves, Jr. and Selectmen Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade, Jimmie Randle, Jr. and Selectwomen Geraldine H. Mellion and Wanda B. Jones

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Clerk's evidence of proper notice for the calling of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (MUST REGISTER WITH THE CLERK).**

There were no public comments.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES.**

Director of Utilities Travis Bourgoyne introduced two new employees in his department: Ron LeRay and Justin Mendoza.

Fire Chief Darren Ramirez introduced a new employee in his department: R. L. "Trey" Downs, III.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. asked Mayor questions concerning the City Attorney/City Prosecutor appointment. Mr. Rivet also asked that the appointment of City Attorney/City Prosecutor be placed on the meeting of Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

**DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVE CHAD BROWN CONCERNING STREETS WITHIN THE CITY AND RELATED MATTERS.**

State Representative Chad Brown and Keith Palermo, Project Engineer with Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) addressed the concerns of the Mayor and Board pertaining to streets within the city.

**PUBLIC HEARING – TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE MINOR SUBDIVISION CORRECTION AT 59820 AVERY JAMES; PERSON APPLYING: CHARLES ARTHUR & ELIZABETH D. ROUSSELL.**

Item tabled until meeting of Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

**TO APPROVE THE 2022 CLASS B ALCOHOL BEVERAGE PERMIT FOR MSW, INC. D/B/A PELICAN SHOPPETTE LOCATED AT 23135 HWY. 1; OWNER MAHMOUD ALHEIIDARI.**

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine approve the 2022 Class B Alcohol Beverage Permit for MSW, Inc. d/b/a Pelican Shoppette located at 23135 Hwy. 1; owner Mahmoud Alheiidari.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE TO ENTER A PRIVATE SALE OF IMPROVED IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY MUNICIPAL ADDRESS 58393 COURT STREET AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc:

**RESOLUTION**

AN RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF  
PLAQUEMINE TO ENTER A PRIVATE SALE OF IMPROVED  
IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY MUNICIPAL ADDRESS  
58393 COURT STREET AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine has previously declared the improved parcel of immovable property, identified by municipal address 58393 Court Street, Iberville Parish Assessor's Parcel

#0300515681, no longer needed for public purposes, pursuant to La. R. S. 33:4712. The said immovable property (hereinafter referred to as the "Property") is more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

**ONE (1) CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF GROUND**, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, situated at the corner of Marshall and Court Streets of the Town of Plaquemine, PARISH OF IBERVILLE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, and being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the property and measuring south eighty (80') feet on its easterly side of Marshall Street by a depth between parallel lines of forty five (45') feet, being bounded on the North by Court Street, on the West by Marshall Street, on the East by the property owned, now or formerly by John and Josephine Zito, and on the South by the property owned by James Rivers and Trinese Edwards Rivers by act recorded at COB 525, Page 839; See also COB 523, En. 30; COB 525, En. 236; COB 532, En. 226; COB 532, En. 227; COB 532, En. 228; COB 646, En. 12.

MUNICIPAL ADDRESS: 58393 Court Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana 70764

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Selectmen, pursuant to LSA R. S. 33:4712, offered the above-described property for sale, at public auction, for a minimum price of \$22,000, which was its appraised price, the public auction, after due publication, was held November 9, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, no bids were received for the above described property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Selectmen, have received a conditional offer from Ronald Richardson for \$8000 to acquire the above described property;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine believe it is in the best interest of the City to sell the Property to Ronald Richardson, on the following terms and conditions, to-wit:

1. The sales price for the Property is \$8,000.
2. The Property shall be sold "as is" and "where is." The City of Plaquemine makes no warranty, express or implied, on the Property. The additional terms and conditions are set forth in the Non-Warranty Cash Sale Deed available for inspection and review by the Ronald Richardson and incorporated herein by reference.
3. Ronald Richardson agrees to save the City of Plaquemine harmless from any and all actions, claims, debts, demands, judgments, liabilities, costs and attorney's fees arising out of, claimed on account of, or in any manner predicated upon loss of or damage to the property and injuries, illness or disabilities to or death of any and all persons whatsoever, including members of the general public, or to the property of any legal or political entity, in any manner caused by or contributed to by the Bidder and/or Purchaser, its agents, servants, employees, or any person subject to its control while in, upon or about the sale site or while the property is in the possession of or subject to the control of the Bidder and/or Purchaser, its agents, servants, employees, or any person subject to its control.
4. Ronald Richardson's responsible to ascertain and comply with all applicable laws.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine directed the City Clerk, at its regular meeting held on January 11, 2022 to advertise three (3) times, in the Official Journal for the City of Plaquemine, the Private Sale of the Property on the terms and conditions set forth above.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine advertised the Private Sale of Property on January 20, 2022, January 27, 2022 and February 3, 2022 in the Official Journal for the City of Plaquemine.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine has not received any objection and/or opposition to the Private Sale of Property on the terms and conditions set forth above and as advertised in the Official Journal for the City of Plaquemine;

**WHEREFORE, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Board of Selectman of the City of Plaquemine, Louisiana, legal session, that Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., Mayor of the City of Plaquemine, is authorized on behalf of the City of Plaquemine, to enter a Private Sale of Property, on the terms and conditions set forth above and as advertised in the Official Journal for the City of Plaquemine to Ronald Richardson for EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$8,000.00) and other terms and conditions as contained in the Non-Warranty Cash Sale incorporated herein by reference.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

TO AMEND SECTION 4.5 OVERTIME OF THE PERSONNEL MANUAL TO CHANGE THE FIREFIGHTER PAY PERIOD FROM 28 DAYS TO 14 DAYS.

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. that the City of Plaquemine amend Section 4.5 Overtime of the Personnel Manual to change the firefighter pay period from 28 days to 14 days to become effective March 8, 2022.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR ENGINE REPLACEMENT FOR BUCKET TRUCK #6, 2008 CHEVROLET 5500, TOTALING \$32,856.38 AND RELATED MATTERS.

Selectman Thomas D. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr.:

RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO REPLACE AN ENGINE FOR BUCKET TRUCK #6 AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor, Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., hereby certifies that an Emergency exists requiring the replacement of the engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 for \$32,856.38 for the following reasons; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, acknowledge that its current engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 is inoperable; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, find that it does not have an engine to replace the engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, find that the need to be able to utilize Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 is critical in providing consistent, dependable, and stable power to the City Light and Water Plant customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, have been advised and believe that the normal bid process can take a substantial amount of time from the time an order is placed for the replacement engine Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 to the time it is delivered to the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, find that it is essential necessary that it acquire a replacement engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 as soon as possible to maintain consistent, reliable and stable power to the City Light and Water Plant customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, find and acknowledge that any delay in obtaining a replacement engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 places the residents and businesses at a grave risk in receiving power from the City as well as costing the City approximately \$4,500 per month to rent a replacement Bucket Truck; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Plaquemine, through its Mayor and Board of Selectmen, hereby declare an Emergency to acquire a replacement engine for Bucket Truck #6, 2008 Chevrolet 5500 for \$32,856.38 and further authorizes the Mayor, Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., authority to implement this resolution on the terms and conditions as necessary to satisfy this resolution set forth herein.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

DISCUSSION – MARK A. “TONY” GULOTTA BAYOU WATERFRONT PARK EVENT HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2022 AND RELATED MATTERS.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. addressed concerns of a function held at the Mark A. “Tony” Gulotta Bayou Waterfront Park held on January 15, 2022.

DISCUSSION – MAYOR PRO-TEM SCHEDULE AND RELATED MATTERS.

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones moved, seconded by Selectwoman Geraldine Mellion that the City of Plaquemine amend the agenda to appoint Mayor Pro-Tem.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: Thomas D. LeBlanc

Absent: None

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine rescind motion adopted on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 appointing Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. as Mayor Pro-Tem until December 31, 2022.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: Thomas D. LeBlanc

Absent: None

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones qualifies her vote: “I like it to be noted that I did not say December 31, 2022, one year. I didn’t say that. I like that to be noted in the minutes.”

Selectwoman Wanda B. Jones moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine appoint Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. as Mayor Pro-Tem until December 31, 2024.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: Thomas D. LeBlanc

Absent: None

UPDATE ON DRAINAGE IN CITY OF PLAQUEMINE.

Tony Arikol of PEC supplied update on drainage in the City of Plaquemine.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

a) PEC

Tony Arikol of PEC provided status of ongoing projects.

b) UTILITY DIRECTOR TRAVIS BOURGOYNE

Utility Director Travis Bourgoyne provided status of ongoing projects.

c) PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR RICHARD ALLEMAN

Public Works Director Richard Alleman provided status on ongoing projects.

d) FIRE CHIEF DARREN RAMIREZ

Fire Chief Darren Ramirez briefed Mayor and Board regarding his department and related matters.

e) CHIEF OF POLICE KENNETH PAYNE

Chief of Police Kenneth Payne briefed Mayor and Board regarding his department and related matters.

f) FINANCE DIRECTOR LAUREN BERTHELOT

Finance Director Lauren Berthelot provided monthly budget to actual financial update.

g) CUSTOMER SERVICE DIRECTOR AUDRIANE WILLIAMS

Customer Service Director Audriane Williams briefed Mayor and Board regarding her department and related issues.

ACKNOWLEDGE POLICE AND FIRE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2022.

So acknowledged.

APPROVE PAYROLL VOUCHERS FOR THE CITY OF PLAQUEMINE FOR JANUARY 2022.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine approve payroll vouchers for January 2022.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2022 (REGULAR MEETING) AND JANUARY 26, 2022 (SPECIAL MEETING) WITH NECESSARY CORRECTIONS.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, second by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the reading of the minutes of January 11, 2022 (regular meeting) and January 26, 2022 (special meeting) were waived and approved as accepted with necessary corrections.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Lindon A. Rivet, Jr. moved, seconded by Selectman Shannon P. Courtade that the City of Plaquemine adjourn at 8:04 p.m.

The foregoing was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Lindon A. Rivet, Jr., Geraldine H. Mellion, Wanda B. Jones, Thomas D. LeBlanc, Shannon P. Courtade and Jimmie Randle, Jr.

Nays: None

Absent: None

CITY OF PLAQUEMINE

/s/Edwin M. "Ed" Reeves, Jr., Mayor

/s/Roxane M. Richard, City Clerk