

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
COUNCIL
OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

The Council of the Parish of Ascension, Louisiana, met in regular session on Thursday February 18, 2021 6:00 p.m., in the Ascension Parish Courthouse, 828 S. Irma Blvd, Gonzales, with Chairwoman Teri Casso presiding.

The following Council members were present:

Alvin Thomas	Joel Robert	Travis Turner
Corey Orgeron	Dempsey Lambert	Chase Melancon
Aaron Lawler	Teri Casso	John Cagnolatti
Dal Waguespack	Micheal Mason	

Councilman Corey Orgeron led the prayer and the pledge.

Chairwoman Casso had two items under Chair's Additions. The first was to add an item – **Approval to use funds in the 2021 Park Construction Budget from the Spray Park at Dutchtown (\$540,000) and the Spray Park at St. Amant (\$540,000) in order to accept the lowest responsive bid for the Lamar Dixon Expo Gym Renovations in the amount of \$3,340,000.00.** A motion to add the item to the agenda was made by Councilman Aaron Lawler. There was no objection to the motion. The item was added unanimously.

Chairwoman Casso also announced that she would pass on item (7f) – *Amendment No. 1 to Master Contract with H&O Grounds (Grounds Maintenance Services) for the additional scope of work –mowing of roadside ditches in the Parish – for an additional amount of \$140,000.*

Parish President Cointment proclaimed February 18th as “Mike Sage Day” in Ascension Parish. Mr. Sage coached numerous Soccer Teams, at Christmas time he bikes through neighborhoods dressed as Santa Claus. He builds and restores bicycles to donate to children in need. Mr. Sage was diagnosed with autoimmune hepatitis of the liver. He began receiving treatment at Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans. On January 30, 2016, Mr. Sage received a liver transplant. On January 30, 2021 to celebrate his new life, rode his bike 70 miles to Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans to show his appreciation to all of those who helped him and his journey to wellness and to raise awareness of the importance of organ donation.

Parish President Cointment also proclaimed “Supermarket Employee Day” in Ascension Parish in thanks and appreciation for working during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Parish President Cointment reported on DPW vegetation safety awareness training, Covid-19 testing, positivity rates in Ascension Parish, vaccines, new offices in the old Courthouse and relocations of offices. He announced that Congressman Garrett Graves now has an office in the Governmental Complex. President Cointment then invited Christel Slaughter to give a report on the creation of two new job titles, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Information Officer. She gave information on the job descriptions, qualifications and the need for these positions. There was a lengthy discussion on the presentation.

Councilman Lawler had questions for the Parish President on his position on approval of subdivisions. Councilman Lawler suggested doing follow-up on established subdivision's traffic studies to realize the accuracy of the studies. President Cointment said he would like to add drainage to that concept.

The Secretary read the Consent Agenda. Chairwoman Casso requested the removal of item 7w) Approval to dedicate \$35,000 to the new Prairieville Dog Park Recreation Committee Recommendation from Consent Agenda and reassigned it on the agenda as item 8c. Councilman Corey Orgeron requested the removal of item 7q) Amendment No. 1 to Master Contract for Professional Services with Craig Hebert Engineering, LLC for Critical Generator Installation to extend the original contract term by an additional six (6) months through June 30, 2021 (Infrastructure Director Ken Dawson) Utilities Committee Recommendation, item 7r) Approval of Change Order No. 1 Acadiane Renovations Ltd. for FEMA 1786 Statewide Generators Project to add 93 days and \$16,842.22 (Infrastructure Director Ken Dawson) Utilities Committee Recommendation and item 7u) Approval of Change Order No. 1 for Prairieville Park Lighting Project increase of \$2,500 to utilize matting to allow access to pole locations GeoSport Lighting Systems, LLC (Ricky Compton) Recreation Committee Recommendation. These items were reassigned as items 8d, 8e, and 8f.

The remaining Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously as follows:

- a. Adoption of January 7, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes
- b. Adoption of January 21, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes
- c. Approval of a new Phase 3 to the ERP Project to include EAM, Parks and Rec, 311 and myCivic software modules (Brandon O'Deay, IT Director) Finance Committee Recommendation
- d. Change Order #6 to Master Contract with The Lemoine Company for New Courthouse Construction for Reconfiguration of Staging/Holding Rm 129 for an additional cost of \$19,996.00 to be paid for by the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office (Gaspar Chifci, Project Manager) Finance Committee Recommendation
- e. Approval to execute a service contract with Acadian Total Security for GPS mobile monitoring service up to a total of 500 units with a not to exceed cost of \$12,500 per month or \$150,000 annually. The exact payment will be only for units that get GPS devices installed, and based on the rate in this contract utilizing the discounted rate of \$25 per unit. Units will be budgeted and paid for out of each department's budget separately, as it is done under the current GPS contract. (Jade Robin, Project Manager) Finance Committee Recommendation
- f. Amendment #1 to Master Contract with H&O Grounds (Grounds Maintenance Services) for the additional scope of work "mowing of roadside ditches in the Parish", for an additional amount of \$140,000.00 (Ron Savoy, Director of Public Works) Finance Committee Recommendation
- g. Approval of the "valued engineering" approach and to amend the budget to match the low bid amount of \$3,377,000 for the Lamar Dixon Gym Project (Dean Thomason, Project Manager) Finance Committee Recommendation
- h. Renewal of Contract with CK Associates, LLC for Storm Water Management Program Plan under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permitting Program. Total contract not to exceed amount of \$50,000.00 (Jerome Fournier, Planning and Development Director) Finance Committee Recommendation
- i. Amendment #1 to Master Contract with Tipton Associates (Ascension Parish OEP & Human Resources Relocation) for the addition of Phase II Complete Design Development, Construction Documents, Bidding and Negotiations, Fee of \$16,000.00 and Phase III Construction Administration and CloseOut, Fee of \$11,000. Total amendment amount is: \$27,000.00 with a total contract amount of \$35,000.00 (Ricky Compton, Director of Planning and Facilities Management) Finance Committee Recommendation
- j. Resolution for Designation of Authorized Signatory on Behalf of the Parish on Sales Tax Exemption Certificates (O'Neil Parenton, Attorney) Finance Committee Recommendation
- k. Amendment #2 to Management and Operating Agreement between Big Events, LLC and Ascension Parish Government to extend the agreement for an additional year through February 28, 2022, to continue as preferred food vendor for all food and beverages for concessions, catering projects or events and LDEC. (Kyle Rogers, General Manager) Finance Committee Recommendation
- l. Bid/Quote Items: To Accept Lowest Responsive Bid/Quote as Follows: (Cynthia LeBlanc, Purchasing Director and Devin Russ, Procurement Project Manager) Lamar Dixon Area Lighting Upgrade Parish of Ascension BidDoyle Electric, Inc., \$857,605.00 Finance Committee Recommendation

- m. Approval of Entity/State agreement for State Project No. H.014409 LA 933 at Joe Sevario Rd. (Joey Tureau, Director of Transportation) Transportation Committee Recommendation
- n. Approval of Entity/State agreement for State Project No. H.014422 LA 931 at Joe Sevario Rd. (Joey Tureau, Director of Transportation) Transportation Committee Recommendation
- o. Approval of Entity/State agreement for State Project No. H.014407 LA 621 at Roddy Rd. (Joey Tureau, Director of Transportation) Transportation Committee Recommendation
- p. Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District for projects on the west side of the Parish to provide potable water and improve drainage during heavy rainfall events (Infrastructure Director Ken Dawson) Utilities Committee Recommendation
- q. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
- r. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
- s. Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Impact Sports for Parish Recreational Baseball (Ricky Compton) Recreation Committee Recommendation
- t. Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Ascension Parish School Board for joint use of facilities (Ricky Compton) Recreation Committee Recommendation
- u. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
- v. Contract Agreement between ACHS and Parish of Ascension Recreation for Baseball, Softball, and Tennis Facilities and Equipment Usage at South Louisiana Fairgrounds Contract Period: February 12, 2021 – July 31, 2021 (Ricky Compton) Recreation Committee Recommendation
- w. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Devin Russ, Purchasing Project Manager, presented the **Approval of Request for Quote to accept the lowest responsive quote for Hillaryville Waste Water Treatment Plant Renovations DelCon, LLC**. He reported that on January 20, 2021, the Purchasing Department received three quotes for this item. The Purchasing Department recommended accepting the lowest responsive quote from Del Con, LLC and to authorize the Parish President to enter into applicable agreement or contract for this project. Councilman Chase Melancon made a motion to approve the low quote. The motion was seconded by Councilman Travis Turner. Councilman Corey Orgeron made a substitute motion to move this item to the next Council meeting to get clarification of the purpose. The substitute motion was seconded and passed with no objection.

Christy Burnett, Health Unit Director presented the **Resolution to authorize Parish President Clint Cointment to negotiate and renew contract with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for WIC Contract Ascension Parish Health Unit**. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion passed with no objection.

Ricky Compton, Planning and Facilities Maintenance Director, presented the **approval to dedicate \$35,000 to the new Prairieville Dog Park**. Mr. Compton said the Parish would receive invoices from Leadership Ascension for work completed at the park not to exceed \$35,000 and the invoices will be paid out of the General Fund. A motion to approve the dedication with the terms presented by Mr. Compton was made by Councilman Joel Robert. The motion passed with no objection.

Utilities Chairman Chase Melancon detailed the **Amendment No. 1 to Master Contract for Professional Services with Craig Hebert Engineering, LLC for Critical Generator Installation to extend the original contract term by an additional six (6) months through June 30, 2021**. He reported that this was only to extend the time line. After some questions from the Council, Councilman Chase Melancon made a motion to approve. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Joel Robert made a motion to approve **Change Order No. 1 Acadiane Renovations Ltd. for FEMA 1786 Statewide Generators Project to add 93 days and \$16,842.22**. The motion passed unanimously.

Ricky Compton, Planning and Facilities Maintenance Director explained the **Change Order No. 1 for Prairieville Park Lighting Project increase of \$2,500 to utilize matting to allow access to pole locations GeoSport Lighting Systems, LLC**. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Dempsey Lambert. After some discussion, the motion passed with no objection.

The Council unanimously agreed to hold a public hearing on March 18, 2021, Ascension Parish Courthouse, 828 S. Irma Blvd, Gonzales, to consider **Budget Amendment No. 2 – to amend the 2021 Budget** on a motion by Councilman John Cagnolatti.

The Council unanimously agreed to hold a public hearing on March 18, 2021, Ascension Parish Courthouse, 828 S. Irma Blvd, Gonzales, **to amend the Ascension Parish Unified Land Development Code (LDC) Appendix IV Subdivision Regulations, Section 174026. Family Partition D.2.c to repeal c. Predial Servitude Agreement** on a motion by Councilman John Cagnolatti.

The Council unanimously agreed to hold a public hearing on March 18, 2021, Ascension Parish Courthouse, 828 S. Irma Blvd, Gonzales, **to amend the Ascension Parish Unified Land Development Code, Appendix V Drainage, Section 17.5010. Construction Standards Permits for Culverts and Bulkhead Installation** on a motion by Councilman John Cagnolatti.

Legal Counsel O'Neil Parenton read the ordinance **Budget Amendment No.1 – to amend the 2021 Budget**. The public hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Michael Mason. There were no public speakers. The public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Joel Robert. The subsequent ordinance was adopted on a motion by Councilman Michael Mason:

**ORDINANCE
(BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1)**

AN ORDINANCE to amend the ordinance approving, adopting, and appropriating the 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Parish of Ascension, adopted by the Ascension Parish Council on the 19th day of November, 2020.

SECTION ONE. THE ASCENSION PARISH COUNCIL HEREBY ORDAINS, that the ordinance approving, adopting, and appropriating the 2020 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Parish of Ascension, is hereby amended, approved and appropriated as follows:

OPERATING BUDGET:

Fire District #3: (To establish the post-retirement health plan)

Expenditures:

Health Insurance \$ 2,500,000

CAPITAL BUDGET:

Office Building Construction Fund (Courthouse West Stabilization Project)

Expenditures:

Contract Payments –Non-Capital \$ 200,000

This ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Alvin Thomas, Joel Robert, Travis Turner, Corey Orgeron, Dempsey Lambert, Chase Melancon, Aaron Lawler, Teri Casso, Dal Waguespack, John Cagnolatti, Michael Mason

NAYS: None

NOT VOTING: None

ABSENT: None

And this ordinance was passed on the 18th the day of February, 2021.

/s/ Cinnamon McKey
Secretary

/s/ Clint Cointment
Parish President

Legal Counsel O'Neil Parenton read the ordinance **to amend the Ascension Parish Zoning Map from Light Industrial (LI) to Heavy Industrial (HI) Zoning Review ID PZ2497.20 – Lots 42A1 Of Ascension Commerce Center 5th Filing and Lots 5156 of Ascension Commerce Center 6th Filing for L.J. Grezaffi located on the East side of Industrial Drive approximately 1400' South of LA Hwy 73** The public hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon. There were no public speakers. The public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Michael Mason. The subsequent ordinance was adopted on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon:

ORDINANCE NO. ZM21-01

ZONING CHANGE ID PZ-2497.20, CHANGING THE OFFICIAL ZONING DESIGNATION FOR LOTS 42-A-1 OF ASCENSION COMMERCE CENTER 5TH FILING AND LOTS 51-56 OF ASCENSION COMMERCE CENTER 6TH FILING TO REZONE FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (LI) TO HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (HI) PROVIDES FOR SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

PURPOSE: This ordinance amends the official zoning designation for Lots 42-A-1 of Ascension Commerce Center 5th Filing and Lots 51-56 of Ascension Commerce Center 6th Filing per attached legal description from Light Industrial (LI) to Heavy Industrial (HI). This rezone is identified as Zoning Review ID PZ- 2497.20.

WHEREAS: Ascension Parish is a local governmental subdivision as defined by Article VI, Section 44 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and

WHEREAS: The Parish of Ascension is the governing and responsible body over the zoning and regulations within this jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS: Article VI of the Home Rule Charter of Ascension Parish, adopted May 4, 1993, identifies the process and manner in which to adopt ordinances regulating the lands of this Parish, and

WHEREAS: The official zoning map for Ascension Parish was last adopted on March 8, 2016 and

WHEREAS: The Parish Council reserves the authority to make changes to the official zoning map by ordinance, and

WHEREAS: This request has been processed in compliance with the procedures set forth.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ascension Parish Governing Authority that the official Zoning Map of Ascension Parish Louisiana is amended to reflect the property identified in Exhibit A as “Heavy Industrial” as the official zoning designation.

SEVERABILITY: In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is ever held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction over it, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be in full effect as permitted by law.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Legal Description
- B. Plat Map
- C. Aerial / Zoning Map

ADOPTION: This ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Yeas: Alvin Thomas Jr., Travis Turner, Dempsey Lambert, Teri Casso, Aaron Lawler, Joel Robert, Corey Orgeron, Johnny Cagnolatti, Dal Waguespack, Michael Mason, Chase Melancon

Nays: None

Not Voting: None

Absent: None

And this ordinance was passed on this 18th day of February, 2021.

/s/ Cinnamon McKey
Attest: Parish Council Secretary

/s/ Clint Cointment
Clint Cointment, Parish President

Legal Counsel O'Neil Parenton read the ordinance **to amend the Development Code, Appendix I, Table B Zoning Tables to add convenience stores with gas pumps in a Light Industrial (LI) Zoning District.**

The public hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon. There were no public speakers. The public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon. Councilman John Cagnolatti made a motion to adopt the ordinance. After an objection, a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

YEAS: Travis Turner, Dempsey Lambert, Chase Melancon, Aaron Lawler, Dal Waguespack, John Cagnolatti, Michael Mason, Teri Casso

NAYS: Alvin Thomas, Corey Orgeron

NOT VOTING: Joel Robert

The motion to adopt the ordinance PASSED 8:2 with 1 abstention.

**ORDINANCE NO. ZT21-01
PERMITTED USES BY DISTRICT ZONING TABLE REVISIONS OF THE PARISH UNIFIED LAND
DEVELOPMENT CODE, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this ordinance is to revise language in the Permitted Uses by District Zoning Table in Appendix I of the Unified Land Development Code.

WHEREAS: Ascension Parish is a local governmental subdivision as defined by Article VI, Section 44 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and

WHEREAS: The Parish of Ascension is the governing and responsible body within this jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS: Article VI of the Home Rule Charter of Ascension Parish, adopted May 4, 1993, identifies the process and manner in which to adopt ordinances regulating the lands of this Parish, and

WHEREAS: This code was incorporated as Appendix I – Zoning Tables of the Parish Unified Land Development Code adopted December 17, 2009, and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Ascension Parish Governing Authority that the Permitted Uses by District Zoning Table in Appendix I of the Unified Land Development Code is hereby amended as follows. These changes are adopted as follows:

See attached Zoning Tables – Exhibit 1

SEVERABILITY: In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is ever held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction over it, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision(s) and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion(s) of the Ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be in full effect as permitted by law

EXHIBITS: Land Use Tables – Appendix 1

ADOPTION: This ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Yeas: Travis Turner, Dempsey Lambert, Teri Casso, Aaron Lawler, Joel Robert, Johnny Cagnolatti, Dal Waguespack, Michael Mason, and Chase Melancon.

Nays: Alvin Thomas, Corey Orgeron

Not Voting: Joel Robert

Absent: None

And this ordinance was passed on this 18th day of February, 2021.

/s/ Cinnamon McKey
Cinnamon McKey, Council Secretary

/s/ Clint Cointment
Clint Cointment, Parish President

Legal Counsel O’Neil Parenton read the ordinance - **to create a Road Infrastructure District (RID) designated as Ascension Road Infrastructure District #IDD-2021-01 pursuant to the Ascension Parish Unified Development Code (LDC) Appendix IV - Subdivision Regulations, Section 17-4011 - Approval of Final Plat Procedure F. Infrastructure Development District – Riverton Subdivision.** The public hearing was opened on a motion by Councilman Michael Mason. There were no public speakers. The public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon. Councilman Michael Mason made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance was adopted unanimously.

ORDINANCE

PURPOSE: To create a Road Infrastructure District (RID) designated as Parish of Ascension Road Infrastructure District #IDD-2021-01 pursuant to the Ascension Parish Unified Land Development Code (LDC) Appendix IV - Subdivision Regulations, Section 17-4011. Approval of Final Plat Procedure. F. Infrastructure Development District.

WHEREAS: Ascension Parish is a local governmental subdivision as defined by Article VI, Section 44 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and

WHEREAS: Parish of Ascension is the governing and responsible body over Subdivisions, and

WHEREAS: Article VI of the Home Rule Charter of Ascension Parish, adopted May 4, 1993, identifies the process and manner in which to adopt ordinances regulating the lands of this parish, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Ascension Parish Governing Authority that a Road Infrastructure District designated as Ascension Road Infrastructure #IDD-2021-01 be created pursuant to the Unified Land Development Code (LDC) of Ascension Parish Louisiana, Appendix IV - Subdivision Regulations, Section 17-4011. Approval of Final Plat Procedure F. Infrastructure Development District, with the boundaries of the Road Infrastructure District (RID) defined as and made a part of the subdivision of Ascension Parish named Riverton Subdivision-1st Filing as more fully described in Exhibit A, Petition and Exhibit to Create an Ascension Parish Road Infrastructure District, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SEVERABILITY: In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is ever held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction over it, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provisions and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be in full effect as permitted by law.

This ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Yeas: Alvin Thomas, Joel Robert, Travis Turner, Corey Orgeron, Dempsey Lambert, Chase Melancon, Aaron Lawler, Teri Casso, Dal Waguespack, John Cagnolatti, Michael Mason

Nays: None

Not Voting: None

Absent: None

And this ordinance was passed on this 18th day of February, 2021.

/s/ Cinnamon McKey
Secretary

/s/ Clint Cointment
President

The Council convened into Executive Session on the pending litigation Kimberly London v. Stafford/Asc. Parish 23rd JDC Suit No. 114,573E with a unanimous vote as follows:

YEAS: Alvin Thomas, Joel Robert, Corey Orgeron, Dempsey Lambert, Chase Melancon, Teri Casso, Travis Turner, Aaron Lawler, Dal Waguespack, John Cagnolatti, Michael Mason
NAYS: None
NOT VOTING: None
ABSENT: None

The Council reconvened on a motion by Councilman Joel Robert. Councilman Aaron Lawler made a motion to settle the suit for \$44,481.79 plus incurred Court Costs. The motion passed with no objection.

The Council convened into Executive Session on the Delaune v. Ascension Parish Planning Commission et al. Suit #129606 with a unanimous vote as follows:

YEAS: Alvin Thomas, Joel Robert, Corey Orgeron, Dempsey Lambert, Chase Melancon, Teri Casso, Travis Turner, Aaron Lawler, Dal Waguespack, John Cagnolatti, Michael Mason
NAYS: None
NOT VOTING: None
ABSENT: None

The Council reconvened on a motion by Councilman Chase Melancon.

There was no action taken on the Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the Council of the Parish of Ascension, Louisiana, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm

/s/ Teri Casso
CHAIRWOMAN

/s/ Cinnamon McKey
SECRETARY